



Ben Kweller at NMU

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Amanda Shellnut/NW

FANCY DANCING Senior economics major Chad Nedeau, a fancy bustle dancer, performed at the annual "Learning to Walk Together" traditional powwow. This was held Saturday and Sunday in the Vandament Arena and put on by the Native American Student Association. This year marked the 16th yearly powwow at Northern Michigan University.

Sexual assault underreported

by CASSANDRA STUROS
associate news editor

A column was published recently in the Los Angeles Times arguing that, contrary to national statistics, it is impossible for one in four college-aged women to be sexually assaulted in their lifetime. At Northern, however, those numbers seem fairly accurate.

Sexual Assault Program Manager Lori Connelly who works at the Women's Center of Marquette said that about one in four women are sexually assaulted in Marquette. Those numbers are pretty accurate, but it is very difficult to ever really know the proper numbers because so many people don't come forward.

"There's no way we're ever going to be able to accurately assess [the numbers]. That's one of our problems with sexual assault," Connelly said. "It's very underreported and the most misunderstood crime."

About 50 percent of the women who come into the

Women's Center are college-aged women who come to talk about their experience with sexual assault, Connelly added.

Don Peterman, Crime Prevention Specialist for Public Safety and instructor of the Rape Aggression and Defense (RAD) class on campus said that during RAD many women speak openly about the impact of sexual assault in their lives.

"I've done at least 56 RAD classes and everyone has seen some form of sexual assault," Peterman said. "Every hand has always gone up; it's either happened to them, a friend or somebody they know. It sure seems there's a lot of it going on."

Sexual assault isn't overwhelming on this campus, but that doesn't mean it isn't a problem, Peterman said.

"It happens all too frequently; it shouldn't be one in 100, it shouldn't even be one in 10,000," he said. "I think it's a crisis if it's one person. If it's you, a friend, a

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Online syllabi now available for fall

by CLAIRE ABENT
assistant news editor

On Friday, ASNMU will officially launch the online syllabi database pilot-program in time for Fall 2008 registration.

The data pilot program will allow students to view the syllabus of a certain course before they take it, said Mary Raymond, chair of the online syllabi committee and senior business management and pre-medicine major.

Currently, only syllabi from 13 history courses are available for students to view and download. The hope is to have syllabi from the departments of modern languages and literatures, education and business online by the time course registration for winter semester 2009 begins.

The goal of the database is to inform students about course content, beyond what is already available in the under-

graduate bulletin.

"As a student, if you're not familiar with a department, like the history department, but you want to take a class to fulfill a liberal arts requirement, you don't really know what you're getting," said Raymond.

ASNMU faced a problem of where to host the database so that only NMU students and faculty could see it. Faculty expressed concern about people besides NMU students seeing the database because the syllabi are the intellectual property of their creator.

"One of the big obstacles is making sure only NMU students and faculty could view the Web site ... Eventually, we found out we could put it on our own Web site and limit IP [internet protocol] addresses," said Raymond.

This means that the syllabi can only be accessed by computers connected to

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Car parts stolen across Marquette

by CASSANDRA STUROS
associate news editor

When Samuel Simmons, an NMU sophomore sociology major, started up his Jeep Cherokee the Monday after returning from spring break, he was shocked to hear an extremely loud noise beneath his hood. After bringing his car to a repair shop the next day he was surprised to hear that his catalytic converter had been sawed out.

Simmons soon learned he wasn't alone as reports filed with Public Safety on March 10 indicated six other cars at NMU had also been stripped of their catalytic converters, said Public Safety Investigator Victor LaDuke.

Two suspects have been identified by Public Safety, but they are not yet in custody, LaDuke said. There had been other attempted thefts off-campus by the same individuals, which were reported to the

Michigan State Police, Chocolay Police and Marquette Police departments, he added.

The catalytic converters have been retrieved from a local junkyard, Simmons said.

The parts are currently being reviewed at the Marquette State Police Forensic Lab, LaDuke said.

Car parts being stolen on campus isn't all that uncommon, and it's more likely to happen toward the end of the semester or the end of the year because that is when most students are leaving for breaks. If someone's battery dies and they can't afford a new one they may get desperate and decide to just steal one in order to get home, LaDuke added.

"We've had car parts stolen in the past, that happens every year. But having someone hit seven or eight vehicles is somewhat unusual," LaDuke said.

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RAPE

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loved one, anyone you know, to me it's a crisis. One is too many."

The reason that some universities don't openly discuss sexual assaults on their campuses is because they don't want people to know about it, Connelly said. It makes the campus un-sellable.

"A lot of universities do cover it up because they don't want people to know how pervasive this is," she said. "A lot of girls will not report it to police because they don't want their parents knowing about it. They don't want to go home; they want to finish out their college careers."

Nine of every 10 rape victims were female in 2003, according to the Rape Abuse and Incest National Network.

So many people think it can't happen to them and that's why people are so judgmental, Connelly added.

"We think because we don't

wear low-cut blouses or have tattoos on our stomach it won't happen to us," she said. "But it can happen anytime anywhere, sex is non-discriminatory," she said.

After many RAD classes women have come forward and told stories they had never shared before of sexual assault happening to them, Peterman said.

"The first thing we try and let them know is it's not your fault, it's never your fault," he said. "It doesn't matter if you've been drinking or did something to add to it, the way you dressed or acted, it's never your fault," he said.

In addition to being less judgmental, women can take steps by using the buddy system or making sure friends aren't in any danger, Connelly said.

"We as women need to look out for ourselves and look out for other women," she said. "Women are harder on other women than men are ever going to be; we're always in competition with one another. What we

need to do is support each other and make sure our friends are safe."

It is also very important to believe someone if she says she has been sexually assaulted, Connelly said. The best thing for rape survivors to do is tell someone and seek help early on to prevent them from having difficulties later on in their lives, Connelly said. The Women's Center helps women understand their options.

"They need to realize they are strong women and they can stand up on their own two feet after these things have happened to them," she said. "They can take the power back and make their own choices and not let people make the choices for them."

More women should come forth, even if it's only to do a police report, because then the perpetrator has to acknowledge what he has done, Connelly said.

"It holds them accountable for their actions and a lot of times that's what we need.

ASNMU

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the Internet through the NMU network, said Neal Glatt, member of the online syllabi committee and senior marketing and Spanish major. It can also be accessed through the Nortel VPN Client for students who are not on campus. The HelpDesk can help students set the Nortel VPN Client up on their laptops, said Glatt.



STORVES

The process began in the 2006-2007 academic year, but it was not until this semester that it really got off the ground, said Raymond. Many other universities have put their syllabi online, including Yale and Stanford Universities. ASNMU communicated with these schools and received guidance on the project from them, Raymond said.

Chris Storves, president of

ASNMU, praised the program and the value of making the syllabi available to students.

"This is a fantastic program. Mary Raymond, Neil Glatt and everyone else on Academic Affairs have really done a fantastic job creating this database. ASNMU is geared towards helping students and this is another way to help students gather more information about classes when registering," he said.

Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Terrence Seethoff, also sees the importance of the history department placing some of its syllabi online.

"The History Department's plans for online syllabi are right on target. Having the ability to retrieve a syllabus electronically fits nicely with our high tech environment at Northern, and I applaud the Department for this important step forward," he said.

Students are encouraged to check back regularly, as the syllabi for more classes will be added in the near future. The ASNMU online syllabi database can be viewed at <http://asnmu.nmu.edu/syllabi>.

THEFT

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A catalytic converter is part of a car's exhaust system and helps clean up pollutants from the car's engine.

Simmons was told that the cost to replace his catalytic converter would be \$279.20, including labor.

However, the amount of

money someone could receive for selling a catalytic converter ranges from \$13 to \$190 depending on the condition and what car it came from, according to Superior Auto Parts in Negaunee.

Simmons said Public Safety was very helpful in this situation, but that Northern could possibly prevent this sort of

thing from happening in the future by installing cameras in the parking lots or patrolling them more.

"I imagine they did it really late at night crawling around under cars," he said. "I'm not upset with the university; I just wish there were security cameras so they could've seen something."

Correction

In the March 13, 2008, edition of The North Wind, Eric Schmoldt's e-mail address should have read, "eschmold@nmu.edu."

CAMPUS CRIME MAP

Map Key

1. On March 14, a rear window was broken on a vehicle in Lot 1 by an unknown cause. The case is still open.
2. On March 15, two male students, both minors, were consuming alcohol in the Payne/Halverson lobby. They have been referred to the Dean of Students Office.
3. On March 16, two 22-year-old female students got into a verbal argument at Norwood Apartments that escalated into physical violence. The victim had minor injuries. It has been referred to the Dean of Students Office.
4. On March 18, two 24-year-old male students got into a verbal dispute in Spooner Hall that turned into a physical assault. There were no serious injuries. It is being reviewed by the prosecuting attorney's office.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Public invited to Chili Challenge

The 7th Annual Chili Challenge will take place on March 25 from 3 – 5:30 p.m. in the Jacobetti commons area and is hosted by NMU's hospitality management students. Dana Wynn, a senior hospitality management major, is helping lead this year's event and emphasized that the Chili Challenge isn't just for students, but open to the whole community. "There are students in the program participating, students outside of the program participating and restaurants from all over the Upper Peninsula participating," Wynn said. The public is also invited to attend the challenge and taste the different creations. Wynn added that there is no entry fee for those who wish to compete, but there is an admission cost of \$4 for anyone who wants to sample the chili. Free cornbread and testing dishes will be supplied by the Culinary Students of NMU (CSNMU). "Anyone can come and try chili from all over the U.P., with many different styles, many different ingredients and possibly something you have never had before. It could be a good snack, lunch or dinner. How can you pass up chili, cornbread and drinks for \$4?" For more information about the Chili Challenge, contact Wynn at dwynn@nmu.edu, call the NMU School of Technology and Applied Sciences at 227-2190 or e-mail tos@nmu.edu.

—John Pann

Group collecting used cell phones

The student organization Project Hot Seat (PHS) is hosting a cell phone collection until Friday, March 21. Students can drop off their old cell phones, working or not, at the designated drop off locations in the Payne/Halverson lobby, the Gant/Spalding lobby, the Wildcat Den, TCF Bank, the Marquette Food Co-op and the Peter While Library. "PHS is a local branch of Greenpeace's international climate change campaign," said Betsy Ott, NMU and Marquette area student organizer for PHS. Ott said that PHS is collecting the old phones to have them recycled safely. "The phones will be recycled by GRC Wireless Recycling, a company based out of Florida. [Recycling the phones] is important because if e-waste isn't properly disposed of, harmful chemicals can leak into the soil and ground water supplies," he said. Currently, PHS is working on asking Congressman Bart Stupak to help preserve Michigan's lakes and communities by supporting The Safe Climate Act (HR 1590), Ott said. The goal of the safe Climate Act is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the climate. PHS will use the money from the collection to bring the documentary "Oil on Ice" to campus on April 15. The organization will also use the money to help fund their photo petition, he said. "Currently we are collecting photographs of students and community members holding word bubbles that say 'Stop global warming' inside of them. When we reach our goal we'll make them into a 'climate scrapbook' for Congressman Stupak," Ott said. For more information about the collection or PHS, e-mail Ott at bott@nmu.edu.

—Sarah Eberhard

Grant offers help with childcare

Single parents attending NMU have a chance to receive help with childcare costs because of a fund created by ASNMU. Each semester the Anne Marie Cream Childcare Fund is awarded to either one or multiple applicants, depending on the funding, according to the group's Web site. The fund was founded for single parents and is supported by fundraisers held by ASNMU during the year along with private donations. ASNMU has continued to support this fund since 1995, according to the Web site. "Childcare for student parents on campus is very expensive and ASNMU serves the student body so it is important that ASNMU helps all types of students," said Neal Glatt, Academic Affairs Chair for ASNMU. Any single parent attending NMU is encouraged to fill out an application. They can be picked up at the ASNMU office and local childcare centers. Printable versions are available at asnmu.nmu.edu. Applications are due at the ASNMU office in 1203 University Center by March 21. Once the application is completed and received, the government will contact the applicant and set up an interview. After an applicant is chosen the money awarded is paid directly to a licensed childcare provider to make sure it is being used in the intended way. The awarded student's name will also be listed on the ASNMU Web site. Students interested in donating to the Anne Marie Cream Fund can do so online at the ASNMU Web site or by calling the office at 227-2452.

—Brooke Gudwer



Spencer Bouchard/NW

Kerry Kennedy, daughter of Robert F. Kennedy, and author of "Speak Truth to Power," spoke Wednesday night in Jamrich about human rights. There was also a reader's theatre which accompanied Kennedy's speech.

Women's rights still not perfect in America

by CLAIRE ABENT
assistant news editor

Students were called upon by Kerry Kennedy, humanitarian, author and daughter of Robert F. Kennedy, to confront issues of national and international human rights violations.

Kennedy spoke to a crowd of students Wednesday night in Jamrich about injustice and human rights violations. The main focus of her speech was women's rights in the United States and abroad.

"Violence against women is the greatest challenge faced by the international community today. The failure of governments to stop the violence makes discrimination all the more pervasive and accepted," she said.

Violence against women, more specifically rape, is being used as a tool of warfare throughout the world for leaders to gain political power, Kennedy said. In most of these cases, the soldiers who commit these offenses go unpunished, while the women are ostracized by their communities, their families and their government, she added.

Those women who try to improve conditions for other women across the globe often risk imprisonment or death, she said. Kennedy calls these women "the Eleanor Roosevelts and Elizabeth Cady Stantons of their countries."

Conditions in the United States are not ideal for women. In the United States alone, there were 5.3 million cases of domestic violence last year, she said. More alarmingly, she added, 30 percent of female veterans were raped while on active duty in the U.S.

military. Women still only make .77 cents for every one dollar a man makes, she said, and in her home state of New York, women must pay out of pocket for birth control, while Viagra is covered by insurance.

Kennedy also spoke about the importance of voting in the presidential election, especially for women and students.

"We abdicate our right to vote at our peril. Particularly, students and women have seen their rights diminish over the last eight years," she said. "Because of what happened with the primary in Michigan, November, for Michigan, is more important than ever. So, we really need to get out there and exercise our right and organize here and assure that we have a candidate who is going to be concerned about creating a more just and peaceful world."

Kennedy stressed the power of the people in affecting human rights worldwide. It is not enough to sit idly by and wait for the government to do something, she said. She cited examples of the fall of Apartheid in South Africa and the fall of communism in Eastern Europe.

"All of these changes came about because people fought for them, not because the government wanted to," she said.

A play, "Speak Truth to Power," was performed before Kennedy took the stage. The play is taken directly from the book of the same name, which consists of interviews done by Kennedy. "Speak Truth to Power," details the trials and successes of 50 human rights activists from more than 35 countries. The play was

accompanied the portraits of these activists, taken by Eddie Adams, a Pulitzer-Prize winning photographer.

"My experience has been that the play is very moving and inspiring," said Kennedy.

"What started as a compilation of human rights issues and problems around the world quickly became, for me, much more of a spiritual journey about the capacity of the human spirit to triumph even under the most horrendous and cruel of circumstances. That is, universally, what people walk away from this play with: that uplifting sense of what humanity is capable of at our very best."

Women for Women, a student organization composed of the five all-female houses in the residence halls on campus, presented the speech. Eleven NMU students participated in the reading of the play and represented many different student organizations across campus.

Kate Sartori, member of Women for Women, has wanted to bring Kennedy and "Speak Truth to Power" to Northern for some time.

"I saw 'Speak Truth to Power' in 2003 and it opened my eyes to man's inhumanity to man. Since then it has been a dream of mine to bring Kerry Kennedy and 'Speak Truth to Power' to Northern. I feel that this program will empower others to act on behalf of those with no voice," she said.

Kennedy encouraged students to find a cause worth dying for and to work for justice no matter how insurmountable the cause. If they do, she added, every day will be worth living.

ABC anchor speaks on Americans' rights

by KYLE WHITNEY
interim editor in chief

The majority of the federal regulations placed on private businesses do more harm than good, and may actually hinder the operation of a free-market economy, said John Stossel, co-anchor of ABC's "20/20."

Stossel spoke at NMU on Wednesday and drew a standing-room-only crowd to Jamrich 102, a room with a seating capacity of 487 people.

A Princeton graduate with a B.A. in psychology, Stossel left college with the belief that government played an important role in protecting the people and policing what he viewed as money-hungry capitalists.

"But then I watched the policemen work," Stossel said. "It took me too many years to see the damage that they cause, but I now conclude that all the well-intended regulation helps some, but hurts many more."

One example Stossel gave of unnecessary government regulation is the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). It now takes 15 years for a drug to gain approval from the FDA and become legalized, he said, and those years can be valuable time for some people.

Stossel mentioned a theoretical scenario in which a new FDA-approved heart drug could save 14,000 American lives each year.

"Nobody at the press conference [would stand] up to say, 'That's great, but didn't that also mean that you killed 14,000 people last year? And the year before?'" Stossel said.

He argued that people should be given the choice to take whatever medication they want, without having to break the law or wait for over a decade for the release of a drug.

Debate to cover controversial topics

The "NMU Political Review" will hold a political debate between the College Democrats and the College Republicans in Jamrich 103 on March 26 at 7 p.m.

Jason Morgan, a member of the "Political Review," said the group will prepare and host the event for neutrality. "'The Political Review' is hosting the debate because we feel that we are a neutral body which both sides can trust to plan things fairly," Morgan said.

The actual questions will not be presented until the debate begins so the debaters will not know them beforehand, Morgan said. He added that this election year is an important one so the debate will cover many topics.

"With this election year being so important and so heated, we want students to know where the Democrats and Republicans stand on the issues so that they can make educated decisions in the fall," he said.

"Whose choice is it, anyway? In this free society, don't we own our own bodies? Shouldn't it be our choice what risks we take?" he said. "Patrick Henry never said, 'Give me absolute safety or give me death.' Why do we give government the power to say, 'No. You can't put that in your body?'"

"The government, by protecting us from bad things, protects us from good things, like innovation," he said. "And that kills more people than it saves, by 100-fold."

Businesses will often end up trying to please the government so much that they begin to fail in other, more important areas, Stossel said.

"Companies and creators

The government, by protecting us from bad things, protects us from good things, like innovation.

— John Stossel, co-anchor of ABC's "20/20"

spend their energy not trying to make a more interesting product or a better one," Stossel said. "All the energy is spent trying to manipulate Washington or manipulate Lansing. It strangles the juice of an economy and the innovation that makes our lives better."

Stossel also spoke about the current war on drugs in the United States. He said that while he doesn't know if it has had any positive effects, he clearly sees the drawbacks. Drug crime, according to Stossel, actually stems from drug laws.

"Ninety-nine percent (of drug crime) is because the drugs are illegal," he said. "The sellers can't rely on the police to protect their private property, so they arm themselves and form gangs. The buyers steal to pay the high prices. The laws cause the drug crimes."

While Stossel does not person-

ally condone drug use, he said that all drugs, from heroin to methamphetamines, should be legalized.

Stossel, who defines himself as a libertarian, holds a wide range of views that aren't always broadly accepted. His distaste for government and universal healthcare place him at odds with mainstream liberals, but he is unable to call himself a conservative, either.

"I'm a lousy conservative. I think drugs should be legal. I think prostitution should be legal," he said. "I think homosexuality is fine. I'm not sure if it was a good idea to go into Iraq."

Stossel, who has won 19 Emmy Awards in his career, even took a moment to apply his libertarian philosophy to current NMU issues, such as a possible smoking ban that could leave students unable to smoke in their own cars.

"You can't smoke in your own car unless the windows are up, because the little bit of smoke that leaks out would hurt someone?" Stossel said. "I (should) like

smoking bans because I don't like smoke and I don't smoke, but don't minorities have some rights in America?"

Stossel, who was brought to campus by the NMU Economics Department and the Office of the Provost, concluded his speech by saying that nothing in history has improved people's lives more than business.

"What I've learned from reporting is that America's heroes are not [politicians] in Lansing and Washington who want to run your lives," he said. "America's heroes are free people like you. If you make something work a little better or sell it for a penny cheaper or get it to someone a second sooner, you make America richer and you save lives. And I hope you fight for that freedom that made America possible."

The topics will include Iraq, the cost effect of universal healthcare, federal deficit, jobs and U.S. trade policies, civil unions, immigration and stem cell research, Morgan said. He added that the Review is still taking topic ideas.

There will be six debaters, three from the College Democrats and three from the College Republicans. The Republicans' debaters will be Kyle Bonini, Jordan Schwarz and Mitch Foster. Marcella Krupski, Cameron Fure and Lauren Mattioli will debate for the College Democrats.

The two moderators for the event will be David Cooper, a philosophy professor, and William Ball, a political science professor.

Morgan said that the goal of the "Review" is to educate students about important topics.

"We want people to get talking about the issues" he said.

—John Becker



Spencer Bouchard/NW
John Stossel, co-anchor of ABC's "20/20," spoke Wednesday night in Jamrich about how laws regulation aren't always beneficial to Americans.

Registrations begin for fall and summer

Monday, March 17 marked the first day to register for the summer 2008 semester. Summer courses begin on May 19 and are broken up into two sessions: May 19 through June 28 and June 30 through Aug. 9.



FRICK

"[Summer courses] allow you to get a jump on your degree," said John Frick, director of Career Services. "The sooner you take the credits you need the sooner you get to get on with your professional life."

Frick added that taking summer courses also shows initiative to future employers.

Registration for the fall 2008 semester begins Friday, March 21. Frick said students should prepare to make registration as stress-free as possible.

"Students need to sit down

with their undergraduate bulletin and make sure the courses they are taking apply towards graduation," he said. "I think it wouldn't hurt for a student to sit down with their adviser to make sure they're on track with their course of academic study."

Monday, March 28 is the last day for any NMU student to drop a full semester class(es) to reduce his or her course load for a "W" grade. Frick said there are a wide variety of reasons why students would choose to take a "W" grade.

"First, students want to protect their academic record from an F," he said. "[But] if students take too many 'W's, it takes them longer to graduate. When an employer asks for a copy of your transcript and if you have too many, employers want to know why you dropped so many courses."

Students who wish to drop a class should visit or contact the Student Service Center in Hedgcock.

—Jamie Reed

Departments receive funds for flu research

by ASHLEY BERKEN
news editor

Northern's biology and chemistry departments were recently approved for a pharmaceutical grant for \$60,000 for the influenza study that is currently in progress on campus.

Professors from the two departments applied for the Merck/American Association for the Advancement of Science for the Undergraduate Science Research Program grant in November. Their applications were based on the on-going influenza study, led by Associate Professor of biology Osvaldo Lopez.



LOPEZ

Northern Michigan University was one of 14 colleges to receive this competitive grant, Lopez said. This money will be spread into \$20,000 installments over a three-year span, which will allow the departments to hire four undergraduate students each summer and pay them a \$2,000 stipend.

The money received from the grant that isn't used to pay student researchers will allow the departments to begin antibody studies on mice, he added. Lopez will be working with three other professors in the biology and chemistry departments, each will be working on a different part of the study, Lopez said.

Merck is a worldwide pharmaceutical research company that will be awarding grants on a yearly basis until 2009, according to its Web site.

Lopez said that even though the money was awarded through a pharmaceutical company it won't have an effect on the results.

"Merck didn't tell us what to do; we told them what we were going to do," Lopez said. "Merck is not the one that decides to whom the money goes to. They give the money to the American Association to the Advancement of Sciences who has scientists who decide on the winning colleges. We are not working for Merck."

Associate Professor of chemistry Mark Paulsen said he believed receiving this money was important not only for the future of the influenza study but for Northern Michigan University as a whole.

"I think this is a part of a larger movement on campus to bring in more external funding to raise the visibility of NMU in research communities," he said. "The more we are successful to bring in this external funding, the more we bring attention to NMU."

Professor of biology John Rebers will analyze the gene sequence of the antibodies. He stated this study would help the students involved in more ways than just sitting in the classroom would.

"We do as much as we can in classes and formal laboratories to do things to help students understand science," Rebers said. "However, a project like this gets the students 'in the game' rather than just watching from the sidelines."

Professor of chemistry Lesley Putman will also be working on the study and looking at the strength of the antibodies, said Paulsen.

Putman said she hopes this study will encourage more work between the two departments.

"I hope the students have a positive learning experience and that this will be the beginning of other interdisciplinary research between biology and chemistry," she said.

marquette music scene

Thursday, March 20

Northland Pub:
UpFront & Company:
Vango's:

Billy Alberts, 8:30 p.m.
Buzz Factor, 10 p.m.
Jim & Ray, 9:30 p.m.

Friday, March 21

Longshot Saloon:
Matrixx — Skyboxx:
UpFront & Company:

Overtones, 9 p.m.
Wisecrack, 10:30 p.m.
Greg Waters and the
Broad Street Boogie, 10
p.m.

Saturday, March 22

Matrixx—Skyboxx:
Upfront and Company:

Wisecrack, 10:30 p.m.
Greg Waters and the
Broad Street Boogie, 10
p.m.

Monday, March 24

Lagniappe Cajun
Creole Eatery:

Zydecology, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, March 25

Longshot Saloon:

Hozz, 9 p.m.

Wednesday, March 26

Matrixx — Skyboxx:
UpFront & Company:

Wisecrack, 10:30 p.m.
Four Finger Five, 10 p.m.

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**FRANCISCAN
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Editorial

Parking lots need security

On the evening of March 9, seven catalytic converters—a part worth hundreds of dollars—were stolen from cars parked on NMU’s campus. All were taken during the same time period and all the vandalized vehicles were in the same parking lot.

While this many crimes in one night is unusual, vandalism and theft to vehicles parked in NMU lots are nothing new.

Hardly a week goes by without a crime involving a motor vehicle being reported on Northern’s campus, whether it is vandalism to the vehicle itself, or having items stolen from inside the vehicle.

Over the course of this academic year, there have been 42 cases of vandalism or theft in campus parking lots reported to Public Safety.

Although NMU Public Safety was able to identify suspects in the converter thefts, the process may have been complicated by a lack of witnesses or surveillance equipment. Due to this fact, the time of the thefts could not be pinpointed.

This is just one reason why surveillance cameras should be placed in NMU parking lots, especially those that are in secluded areas of campus.

The administration could begin by installing these cameras in a selection of isolated parking lots, including Lot 20, where the converters were stolen. This way, a time frame for any crime taking place in an NMU parking lot could be specific, rather than based on the time between when the owner parked the car and when the owner returned to it. In cases of students with motor vehicles who live in Northern’s residence halls, this time difference could be days.

Surveillance cameras would also provide Public Safety officials with a physical description of the suspect, if not the actual identity, as well as visual evidence of a crime taking place.

Though the price of adding security to campus parking lots may deter any thoughts of installing surveillance cameras, the investment is certainly worth considering.

It’s time for Northern to begin making its campus a safer place for all its students, faculty and visitors, as well as their property. Students at NMU are warned to lock their dorm room doors in order to protect their belongings. And while the university cannot lock its parking lots, student vehicles parked on Northern’s campus should be at least partially protected by the university.

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Shane Nyman
 opinion@thenorthwind.org

Letters to the Editor

Adjuncts appreciated

I wish to correct some factual errors in the story titled “Group formed to help part-time faculty,” as well as the graph that accompanied the story.

First, rather than the 57 part-time faculty reported in your story; there were 54 part-time instructors in the English department last fall semester; there are 46 part-time instructors teaching in English this semester. More significantly, of these instructors for both fall and winter, 36 were teaching assistants last fall (there are 35 this semester), which means the actual number of adjunct faculty in our department for fall was 18, while this semester it is 11.

Teaching assistants, as graduate students, are in an entirely different category with a very different benefits package. The article leaves the impression that there were 57 adjunct faculty in English last fall. The group of part-time faculty the article covers are adjunct faculty, and only adjuncts are quoted in the story.

I would also like to say on record that my full-time colleagues and I have the greatest respect and appreciation for the adjuncts who teach in our department, many for several years. Some of them, in fact, are consistently among the highest-rated English faculty on student and peer course evaluations, and several of them have generously volunteered to serve on committees even though doing so is neither required nor expected. Our dedicated adjuncts are very important contributors to our department, and we hold them in very high esteem. They are colleagues, and

we do everything we can to treat them as colleagues.

James Schiffer
 Professor and Head
 Department of English

In reporting last week’s story, The North Wind relied on data obtained from NMU’s Office of Institutional Research; those numbers include teaching assistants among part-time faculty. As Dr. Schiffer notes, teaching assistants, while part-time, are distinct from the contingent faculty featured in last week’s article. The paper regrets any confusion.

– Editor

Coulter still divisive

I honestly am not interested in playing editorial ping-pong, and I do understand and cherish the principles of free speech. But there is another principle we need to honor as well.

Free speech is not exactly free when it incites hatefulness, intolerance and possibly violence. I

have no problem or issues with opposing views, but am concerned when some hide behind a sacred principle like free speech when their agenda is promoting hatred and intolerance. Our airwaves are already loaded with similar messages from similar “shock jocks.” Equally true is that we have many who can represent what Ms. Coulter is supposed to represent (a conservative Republican view) with far more integrity and much more respect for what free speech is meant to be. I wonder if my colleague would also consider some of the most vile and hate-filled comments she makes against Jews, gays, victims of Sept. 11 carnage, etc. if he belonged to any of these populations. I do respect Mr. Robyns’ efforts to promote peace and justice, but I feel that his recent letter, (March 13, 2008) promotes neither.

Mohey Mowafy,
 Professor HPER
 Department

web poll question

Do videogames cause bad behavior?

- Oh yeah. The last time I played Super Smash Bros., I punched my roommate in the face.
- I’m not sure. The research is so conflicting.
- No way. I’ve played videogames all my life, and I’ve never killed anyone.
- Hang on, I’m about to get my epic mount.

web poll results

Should part-time faculty receive better benefits?

- Yes, they should receive the same benefits as full-timers.
 12 votes
- Yes, but they shouldn’t receive the same benefits as full-timers.
 7 votes
- It sounds like a good idea, but how will NMU pay for it?
 6 votes
- No, they aren’t full-timers for a reason.
 6 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.

Bush's jokes not too funny

For What It's Worth



by Jackie Stark

President Bush has been on the proverbial rollercoaster ride throughout his entire presidency. At times we loved him; more often, we didn't. And now, with approval ratings as low as they've ever been, it seems as though Bush has come to terms with the fact that the American people are ready for a new president, giving himself license to do basically whatever he wants.

So these days, he stops updating himself on issues that aren't so important, like gas prices; he dances for the press as he waits for John McCain; and he gets angry at the press for having the audacity to ask him questions and expect him to be able to answer them.

But his latest form of mockery has taken this presidential nonchalance way over the line. The New York Times posted a link to a video of Bush singing about his presidency. (To see the video, go to YouTube, and type "Bush farewell, gridiron club dinner." It will be the only video to appear on the screen.)

And while this in itself seems little more than Bush actually recognizing his own short-comings, what he jokes about is not funny in the least.

".... there's Dick Cheney, with documents he's been withholding..." was one line that engendered a lot of laughs from the crowd, which was made of mostly well-known media officials (so much for objectivity, guys). Though I'm glad the president has a sense of humor concerning the unreasonable amount of secrecy of his administration, I'm sure that if the doors were open, the public

would find little to laugh about.

Though the line about Cheney wasn't too bad, what Bush said next was so ridiculous I thought for a moment I may have heard him wrong: "I awake and look around me, at the oval walls that surround me/And I realize I was only dreaming/There's Condi and Dick, my old compadre, talking to me about some oil-rich Saudi..."

Thousands of American men and women have died in Iraq in the years since the initial invasion, and their deaths fall directly on the president's shoulders. Without him, our troops would have stayed where they had a right to be: Afghanistan. The little quip about "Condi and Dick ... talking to me about some oil-rich Saudi" is so incredibly inappropriate and offensive to any man or woman wearing a uniform, I can't believe he even thought to use it as a lyric. And the military personnel standing behind him throughout the song had every right to just push him off the stage.

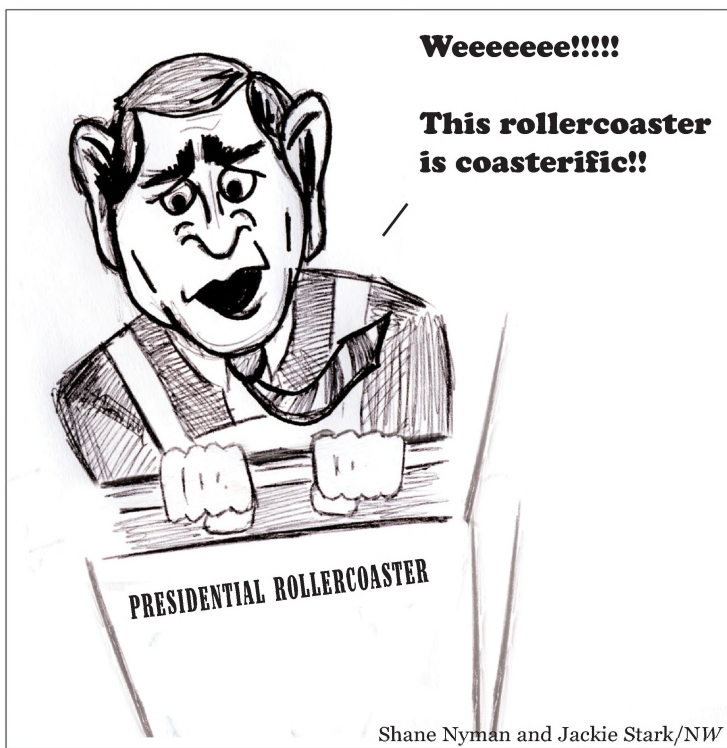
And while the president reiterated several times in what was the chorus of this appalling song that "You're all going to miss me. The way you used to quiz

me," he can rest assured that we won't miss him that much. So, if he wants to "...touch the brown, brown grass of home," as he so often states in the song, there won't be many people standing in his way.

Even if the public dreamed of re-electing Bush to a third-term, I'm pretty sure the president has had many occasions to touch the brown, brown grass of home, as he's been on vacation more than I have in my four years as a college student. According to the Washington Post, Bush has been on vacation for a part or all of 879 days since he first took office. Since I first started attending college in 2004, I've had roughly 450 days of summer vacation, and I haven't been trying run a country.

In reality, President Bush is not going to go down in history as one of the top five presidents of all time. He's more likely to be at the bottom of that particular barrel. And while I acknowledge and admire his ability to take a step back and laugh at himself, that admiration is tempered by the subjects which he chooses to joke about.

Fortunately, there won't be too many people who miss Bush when he's gone.



Shane Nyman and Jackie Stark/NW

Videogames are not sex machines

Staff Column



by Josh Snyder

On Jan. 21, the Fox News show "The Live Desk with Martha MacCallum" ran a segment titled "Se'xbox?" which looked at the popular videogame "Mass Effect." The show falsely claimed the game featured a sex scene which "left nothing to the imagination" and gave players the ability to engage in "full, graphic sex." Psychologist Cooper Lawrence was interviewed, claiming sexual content in such games teaches adolescent boys to consider women as sexual objects. Both MacCallum and Lawrence admitted they've never played the game.

To anyone who's played "Mass Effect," those arguments contain a number of false statements. The sex scene lasts only 30 seconds in a 30-hour game. Clearly, the game isn't filled with pornography.

These lies were so blatant that publisher Electronic Arts demanded a correction from Lawrence and Fox News. Lawrence later retracted her claims after watching someone else play the game, stating that it isn't any worse than anything you can see on cable TV.

Although Lawrence admitted she was wrong, the damage had been done. Her words are being used as the latest uneducated argument for people to censor what they don't understand; in this case, videogames.

Videogame developers have always had to fight against the ridiculous idea that their games are murder simulators. Now,

thanks to ignorant comments by quacks like Lawrence, they have to fight against the preposterous idea that they're rape simulators.

According to some critics, children play mature-rated videogames and then act out sexually. Parents use these false assumptions to blame videogames for when a child acts violently, instead of accepting the blame themselves.

But according to the Electronic Software Association (ESA), there have been numerous third-party studies that prove there is no link between violence and sex in videogames and children's behavior. Also, 85 percent of games sold in 2007 were rated below a mature level, further proving not all videogames are filled with sex.

Critics insist children who play excessive amounts of videogames develop psychological problems, but that's simply not the case. According to the ESA, 36 percent of parents say they play videogames, of which 80 percent play with their kids. And 66 percent claim playing them has brought their families closer. If anything, videogames sound like the replacements for board game nights.

The fact is that it's not up to anyone except the parents to determine if it's OK for their child to play mature-rated videogames. It's not difficult for a parent to determine how violent or sexual a game may be. Each game is rated by the Entertainment Software Rating Board, with clear, easy to understand ratings. These are displayed on the front of every box, so parents have no one but themselves to blame if their child plays a game intended for adults.

The argument perpetrated by Lawrence has no basis in fact. If the media is going to do reports like these, they should get people who have actually played the game to discuss them.

SOUND OFF

What is your stance on immigration?

— Compiled by Spencer Bouchard



James Taggart
senior, business administration/management

"There should be a legal way to appeal to the needs of immigrants."



Jennifer Leppanen
freshman, undeclared

"I agree with legal immigration, but illegal immigration steals from the U.S. economy, bringing wealth elsewhere."



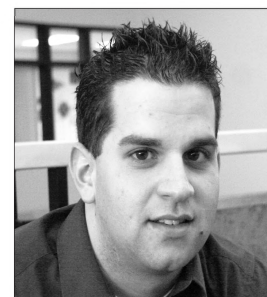
Peter Thomas
senior, broadcasting

"It's a catch-22. We need migrant work, but our population increases exponentially because of it."



Katie Williams
freshman, biochemistry

"I feel that there should be more border control, but for the immigrants already here, they should have a path to citizenship."



Mark Bullion
sophomore, electronic journalism/speech communication

"I think our country needs to implement more and better security measures to our nation's borders."

Immigrants forgotten in talks on reform

Guest Column



by Anne Bradley

Immigration has become an issue of gigantic proportions. The flood of people entering the United States illegally is growing, with no sign of slowing down anytime soon. Over one million people are legally admitted to the states every year, according to the Census Bureau, with millions more coming in under the radar.

When immigrants are discussed in a political forum, they take on mythic qualities and become more like objects than people. In all cases of discrimination, there is a process of dehumanization which makes it easier for people to hate and deride those from other countries. It's a lot easier to hurt a 'wetback' rather than a Salvadoran refugee or Guatemalan worker.

We should treat immigrants like human beings, not objects. They are not animals, they are people, and it's high time we started trying to understand them rather than rounding them up like cattle. What we seem to forget is that we are all immigrants, with the notable exception of the American Indian population. Germans are no better than Mexicans, simply because they immigrated in mass numbers a few decades ago.

The history of America bears out a cycle of violence and acceptance toward those not naturally born in the states. The Irish were denied jobs. The Chinese worked through inhuman conditions to build railways. Japanese citizens were placed in internment camps during World War II as if their citizenship meant less than any other. However, these groups have almost seamlessly blended into the melting pot of American society, most likely because of the recent animosity toward Mexican and Latin American immigrants.

However, flight to the United States has become almost a neces-

sity for supporting a family south of the states. According to national statistics, a huge portion of the El Salvador economy is made up of money sent back home by those who emigrated to the United States. Political situations in these countries are often so volatile that normal citizens are

It's a lot easier to hurt a 'wetback' rather than a Salvadoran refugee or Guatemalan worker.

caught in the crossfire.

One story by Mario Bencastro, a Salvadoran novelist, tells of a woman who was married to an Army officer. She was threatened by the Army not to help political rebels upon pain of death, and also threatened at gunpoint by the rebels to help them or die. Caught between a rock and a hard place? We don't even know the half of it.

These immigrants are often poverty-stricken people with no options in their home countries. Money problems can be hard enough to deal with, even without

the political considerations thrown into the mix. Opportunities are scarce in these countries; as screwed up as our country can sometimes appear to us, it is still viewed as the land of opportunity by most of the world.

People are divided on this controversial issue as much as any other. Views range from advocating open borders to building an impenetrable fence over the whole of the Mexico/United States border. In response to the question "How do you feel about illegal immigration?," students exhibited a surprising range of answers. One media production student recommended the use of rubber bullets, shooting everyone coming across the border. Decreasing the red tape associated with immigrating along with more restrictions for employers looking to hire illegal immigrants for cheap labor was another student's idea for change.

Legal immigration is beyond difficult for most people looking to change their country of residence. The Immigration and Naturalization Service's Web site is so confusing I couldn't even

figure out what I should do to become a citizen, and English is my first language. Restrictions on immigrants are so tight most choose to illegally come into the country because they either don't have money for the citizenship fee, can't read the forms or can't fulfill any of the other multitude of requirements for legal immigration. Even when some illegals are scheduled for trial, they can still be sent home. But once they're sent away, how can the government ensure finding one illegal immigrant among the mass of undocumented workers?

Candidates for president have wildly different ideas about what should be done about the immigration problem, but one thing is for certain - these workers are not going away, and our economy is dependent on the scores of undocumented workers that keep our infrastructure moving. What is done about the illegal immigrant population could well determine the direction our country moves in the years to come.

Let's reduce the red tape and focus more on dealing with the people here than trying to keep the others out.

 *writers needed.....* 

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February Volunteer of the Month



The NMU Volunteer Center and Casa Calabria would like to congratulate February's Volunteer of the Month, Michelle Christunas. She is a junior social work major from Marquette. In addition to being a full time college student and volunteer, Michelle raises two young boys. In the past Michelle has been a Boy Scout leader, has volunteered every Friday to provide refreshments to Superior Hills Elementary School students, and has worked on the school yearbook the past four years. Currently, she is a yearbook advisor at Graveraet and volunteers regularly at Medical Care Assess Coalition as an enrollment specialist. She plans to volunteer with her children at the Marquette County Humane Society this summer. We would like to congratulate Michelle for all of her wonderful commitments to service in the campus and the community, and award her with the NMU Volunteer Center Volunteer of the Month for February.

If you know a volunteer who should be recognized, please e-mail volctr@nmu.edu.
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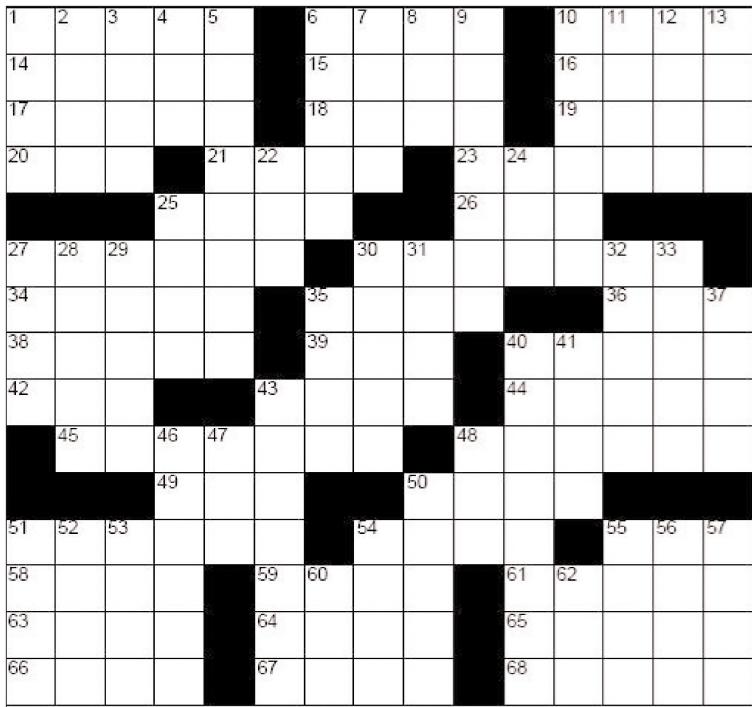
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Crystal Gochenour/NW

- 7 Canal
- 8 Hearing part
- 9 Freaks
- 10 Flood
- 11 6th month (Jewish calendar)
- 12 Stable gear
- 13 Ceases
- 22 Spots
- 24 Attila the ___
- 25 Pulpit
- 27 Coffeehouse
- 28 Calms
- 29 Swelling
- 30 Horse-like animal
- 31 Pixies
- 32 Listing
- 33 Madder
- 35 Prayer ending
- 37 South American country
- 40 Proud
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- 46 Largely
- 47 Brew
- 48 McDonald's "Big ___"
- 50 Contradict
- 51 Skin
- 52 Upon restful furniture
- 53 Took to court
- 54 Ghetto
- 55 Self-righteous
- 56 Floating ice
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- 60 North American Indian
- 62 Usage

ACROSS

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- 17 Artery
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- 19 Put down
- 20 Hotel
- 21 Sugar plant
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- 27 Grooms
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- 44 Outside layer
- 45 Tropical grassland
- 48 National capital
- 49 Wing
- 50 Plant fiber used in ropes
- 51 Ball thrower
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- 61 Vapor
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- 64 Decorative needle case
- 65 Take
- 66 Swirl
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- 68 Tall

DOWN

- 1 Baths
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- 4 Adjust
- 5 Mediterranean bulbous plant
- 6 Lotto

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Getting to know **Ben Kweller**

The young, yet veteran musician performs at NMU on March 22

by JAMIE REED
managing editor

In 1991, Nirvana released their second and most popular album, "Nevermind," which featured the hit single, "Smells Like Teen Spirit." That same year, 10-year-old Ben Kweller listened to the grunge anthem and gained musical inspiration, all while strapped in a pair of roller skates.

"The first band from our generation that was really my band was Nirvana," Kweller said. "I first heard them in 1991 when 'Smells Like Teen Spirit' came out and I was at the roller skating rink."

The now-26-year-old Kweller, who has since gained fame as a rock musician, will perform Saturday, March 22 in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center. The Texas native has recorded three albums, with his newest, "Changing Horses," expected to be released later this year. Kweller said his passion for music stems from the days of elementary school, when he was writing songs and listening to The Beatles on his dad's turntable.

"I remember standing in front of my dad's record player listening to 'All You Need is Love,'" he said. "I was about nine years old and it made me cry. I was only nine; I didn't know what they were talking about. But I could tell it was so emotional and I wanted to do that. I wanted to touch other people like that music was touching me."

Six years later during high school, Kweller and his then-band Radish landed the big break that every high school garage band only dreams about: Kweller and his bandmates were given the opportunity to make their music heard worldwide.



People have gone all over the place with describing my sound ... to me, it's all rock 'n' roll.

- BEN KWELLER

"We got a record deal and got to tour around the world so actually — this is kind of crazy — my parents let me basically drop out of high school to pursue rock 'n' roll. But it all worked out, luckily."

When the days of Radish were over, Kweller took the plunge and headed east to New York, where he didn't know a soul and experienced his first taste of being on his own. While the switch from band member to solo artist might be nerve-racking for some, Kweller said the transition was surprisingly smooth.

"It was really natural," he said. "It was at a time when I decided to leave Texas and move to New York and try something new with my life. So when I first got to New York I didn't know anybody and I didn't have a band or anything."

"I was writing all these songs in my apartment and they were very autobiographical. I made a little CD in my apartment and when I looked around the room and realized that nobody was there with me I said, 'Well, I guess I'm Ben Kweller then.'"

Now, even with several nationwide tours under his belt, people still seem to have a hard time describing his sound, a subject that Kweller himself still ponders.

"I try to think about if I ever meet someone in an airport or at a grocery store and they ask, 'Oh what do you do?' and I say 'I'm a musician' and if they ask what kind of music I play I usually just say classic rock," he said.

"Like really melodic, sort of rock 'n' roll. That's really the most simplified way that I can describe my music. People have gone all over the place with describing my sound from pop-punk, to acoustic-punk to alt-country. I don't know. To me, it's all rock 'n' roll."

And while his musical genre remains somewhat of a mystery to some, even more baffling are some of his lyrics, which range from, "Sex reminds her of eating spaghetti," to "Won't you be my friend? Won't you be my neighbor?"

"I don't really think about what I'm saying," Kweller said. "I just keep spitting out lyrics. It's sort of like stream of consciousness. It is the most satisfying

thing to start a song and finish it and have it be so good where it's like 2 a.m. and you want to call all your friends and play it over the phone because you love it so much. That's the best feeling."

And while Kweller has played and belted out his lyrics on some impressive stages in front of thousands of fans, he said he still likes playing for smaller audiences on campuses.

"I love playing for college crowds," he said. "I think maybe some of it is the fact that I never went to college and I feel like it's really fun to go to a college and perform."

"There are a lot of progressive thinkers out there on our college campuses right now. They usually tend to be really open-minded and smart. And they like to have a good time because they're in college and they have to always study and that's a pain in the ass."

The show will start at 7 p.m., with indie group Company of Thieves, indie-pop band Inspector Owl and solo artist Cory Phare opening the show.

How to nail the big interview

by AMANDA LOBSINGER
contributing writer

Your undergraduate years of college are coming to an end; the graduate school application has been completed and mailed. Now all that's left to do is wait to hear if you've been admitted, right?

Wrong. The admission process for graduate schools has changed over the years. The smaller programs are becoming competitive and more graduate schools are making an interview mandatory before their final admission decision. If you have sent your application in, it's time to start preparing for an interview.

John Frick, director of the NMU Career Center, said that more and more students who are looking at graduate schools are coming to the center for résumé reviews and interview guidelines.

"Many graduate schools do require you to interview nowadays," Frick said.

The first thing students need to do is think about the school and program; reconsider why you chose it and why you would fit in there.

"The number one question students need to be prepared to

answer at a graduate school interview is why they are going on for a graduate degree," said Frick.

This means considering your personal goals and attributes. Don't sell yourself short; rather, be ready to speak highly of yourself without appearing arrogant. With few exceptions, every activity that you've done in college has probably given you some kind of experience that will contribute to your success in a graduate program.

For example, you could talk about how living in the on-campus apartments surrounded you with a diverse body of students; or how you've developed your event planning skills by being involved in a student organization.

You will also want to go online and research the university and program's Web sites. Explore the Web site thoroughly, looking at everything from extra-curricular opportunities at the school, to your specific program's faculty.

Rodney Clarken, the associate dean of the education department, said that when their department is interviewing candidates, they are mostly looking to see if the student has chosen the proper field for their career goals and if the student is a match for their program. Plenty of research online can ensure you don't go to the interview, only to find you are mis-

matched with the program.

While doing research and constructing questions, take notes. Writing down information, along with compiling and organizing questions to look over later will make you feel more prepared to talk about the school and program.

Amanda Moraska, a senior double major in physiology and Spanish, agreed. Moraska just finished her medical school interviews — similar to many graduate school interviews.

"I think the best preparation was just knowing my application well, thoroughly researching the schools and programs and organizing my thoughts about a few of the typical interview questions," said Moraska.

However, it won't matter how much you know if you look like a mess, so finding an appropriate outfit is key. Frick said he suggests a "business professional" look. He said for men a suit and tie works well and for women a business suit.

"A first impression is a lasting impression," he said.

If you can't afford a business suit, check out different secondhand stores. You could also try to borrow one from a friend or family member. Remember: professional, clean and comfortable. You don't want to be the person who appears to be struggling to look nice.

The day before your interview is all about preparation. Find out where you need to be the next day and arrange transportation. To make sure you won't be late,

allow time for unexpected occurrences, such as traffic. You should plan on arriving 20 minutes before the interview. If you have rented a car, remember that parking may be an issue on college campuses. Prepare for obstacles and carefully think about the next day's events and what you need to bring. You should bring a pad of paper and pen to an interview, extra copies of your resume, and a map of the campus, according to NMU's Career Center Web site.

When you finally arrive on campus, explore and meet current students. This is your day to evaluate the school just as much as the school is evaluating you. Mind your manners and stand tall. Remember that when you are interviewing, there is always a chance someone is watching you.

Present yourself like a graduate student who has what it takes. Greet interviewers with firm handshakes. Speak clearly and take time to answer questions if you need it. Interviewers would rather you take a second to answer a question than spit out the first thing that comes to mind. Demonstrate your will and ability to learn and grow in graduate school.

At the end of the day, make sure you've sincerely thanked those you have met at the university. To really seal the deal, you may want to send a handwritten thank-you to your interviewer as soon as possible, Frick said. Then it's time to breathe a sigh of relief and wait.

Best of the Best:

Top grad schools by major

Education:

1. Teachers College, Columbia University (NY)
2006 Ph.D. & Ed.D. acceptance rate: 22.1%
Application Fee: \$75
Average GRE verbal: 540
Average GRE quantitative: 637
Average GRE analytical: 641

2. Stanford University (CA)
2006 Ph.D. & Ed.D. acceptance rate: 9.1%
Application fee: \$105
Average GRE verbal: 589
Average GRE quantitative: 565
Average GRE analytical: 598

3. Harvard University (MA)
Application fee: \$75
Average GRE verbal: 589

Average GRE quantitative: 655
Average GRE analytical: N/A

3. Vanderbilt University (TN)
Average GRE verbal: 555
Average GRE quantitative: 633
Average GRE analytical: 656

5. University of California, Los Angeles
Application fee: \$60
Average GRE verbal: 520
Average GRE quantitative: 582
Average GRE analytical: 639

Biological Sciences:

1. Stanford University (CA)
2. Massachusetts Institute of Technology
2. University of California, Berkeley

Psychology:

1. Stanford University (CA)
2. University of California Berkeley
2. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

English:

1. Harvard University
2. University of California, Berkeley
2. Yale University (CT)

Nursing:

1. University of Washington
2. University of California, San Francisco
3. University of Pennsylvania

— USNews.com



NMU Graduate School

Admission Procedures:

1. Submit a completed application for admission to the College of Graduate Studies.
2. Determine from the Graduate Bulletin the degree sought and the major (area of concentration) to be studied.
3. All degree-seeking applicants must send a \$50 application fee. Non-degree students do not need to submit an application fee. However, when changing status from non-degree to degree-seeking, the \$50 application fee will be assessed.
4. Request the registrar of each college previously attended, with the exception of Northern Michigan University, to send official transcripts directly to the College of Graduate Studies.
5. Have other supportive papers, such as entrance examination scores, letters of recommendation or teaching certificates, as required by the specific department sent to the College of Graduate Studies.

To be admitted into NMU's graduate program, students must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year institution or an equivalent foreign institution. Additional requirements are different for every department.

If You Have This T-Shirt...



You're Invited to the TCF Cash Vault Party!

WHO: All NMU Super Fan T-shirt Owners* Get your Super Fan t-shirt at TCF Bank, inside the University Center! Just flash us your student id card. While supplies last.

WHAT: The TCF Bank Cash Vault, Pizza, Prize, Super Fan Party!

Jump inside the TCF Cash Vault and get all the whirling, swirling cold hard cash you can grab! Yeah, you get to keep the money.

The \$1,000 Super Fan Winner will also be drawn at the end of the night! Super Fan must be present to win!

WHEN: TONIGHT! Thursday, March 20, 2008 from 9 PM - Midnight.

WHERE: Peter White Lounge inside The University Center.

HOW: RSVP to KBURT@TCFBANK.COM

Be sure to wear your Lime Green NMU Super Fan T-shirt for admission to the TCF Cash Vault Party. No shirt. No entry.

FYI: Visit www.nmu.edu/athletics and click on Super Fan to see how having and wearing a Super Fan T-shirt can win you a lot of swwwwweeeet stuff.



Widespread sub-par on 18th album



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

by SARAH O'NEILL
contributing writer

With Widespread Panic's tenth studio album, "Free Somehow," they prove that no matter how long a band has been in the business, it's still possible to make a sub-par album. This so-called "ultimate jam band" has been involved in the youthful event Bonnaroo and will play the upcoming Rothbury Festival. However, what works on stage isn't always so stunning on record. Although there are a few standout tracks on the album, listeners may often find themselves on what sounds like a musical-induced acid trip straight out of the '60s.

When hearing the band for the first time, listeners might guess the members were twenty-somethings rather than balding men who have been in the music business for 22 years. However, that is what typically gives them an advantage. No one can disrespect a band that has been making music together for as long as they have, still touring and incorporating

instruments that were thought to be long dead. And while Widespread offers some of their own noise, they mostly borrow from old influences. From the Grateful Dead to Guns 'n Roses, the band seems to sound like a different rock band in every song on the album.

The song "Walk on Flood" sounds like Led Zeppelin and Lynyrd Skynyrd's love-child. That may seem amazing, but when put to the test, it isn't such a great thing. While the music is down-home southern rock, lead vocalist John Bell tries to channel Robert Plant. The howling screech that kicks off the song can only be achieved by the Zeppelin frontman himself, and should never be duplicated under any circumstances.

After the initial shock of the combination, the song actually becomes better. Bell's voice is quite pleasant when he stops trying so hard to sound like someone else.

"Tickle The Truth" is another track that falls flat. Once in a while it hits a patch where people may wonder if Barry Manilow is the guest vocalist. The lyrics don't help, either. "You know, these cool shades make you look bitchin'/She split from our table/Mumblin' remember to tip/I had a twenty in ready/But I said I might just skip/Some people act funny when you're just tryin' to be hip."

Words like "bitchin'" and "hip" were only legitimate when used 40 years ago, and the song-writing skills are about as original as the music in the background. Toward the end of the song, Bell sings, "Don't look now/I'm ripping off Dylan."



Photos from Rolling Stone
Widespread Panic performs in Tinley Park, Ill., in 2005. Widespread, along with Dave Matthews' Band, will headline the Rothbury Festival this July in Rothbury, Mich.

They're not lying — because only Dylan could sing such a pointless story and make it meaningful.

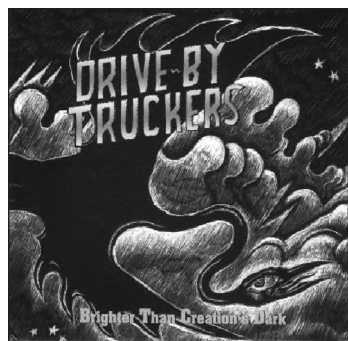
There is no doubt that Widespread Panic is composed of incredibly talented musicians and they show this by using instruments such as the piano, trumpets, bongos and harmonica. Most mainstream musicians have failed to play anything but the guitar and standard drums for decades. In the song "Dark Day Program," the band displays what the whole album should really sound like. Bell sounds soulful and bluesy, but innovative. The music is slow, modern rock with meaningful words that make perfect

sense. It's a shame they couldn't have included more tracks like this.

When they're not playing four-minute guitar solos that seem as though they should be set to psychedelic colors and images of mushrooms, the music is impressive. And when they don't seem to be mimicking rock gods from music's past, they sound good. However, in competition with modern music, good is not enough.

No matter how great Widespread Panic may sound on stage, classic rock is called classic for a reason. Trying to make it brand new, as they do on this album, only ends up ruining it.

Truckers master their unique sound



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

by ADAM DOMPIERRE
contributing writer

Country music, much like rap, is a genre that relatively few people succeed in. For every Johnny Cash or Hank Williams, there are dozens of artistically-bankrupt, interchangeable, glorified pop stars in cowboy hats. But, as with rap, there is no substitute for a great country song.

Georgia's Drive-By Truckers are far more rock 'n' roll than Merle Haggard, for example, but eight albums into their career, the group still embraces their country roots. It's a dark brand of storytelling here, to be sure, but the songs on "Brighter Than Creation's Dark" maintain a desperate optimism in the face of a world gone wrong.

As they've done in the past, Patterson Hood and Mike Cooley trade off songs on the album, but new to "Creation" is bassist Shonna Tucker's first three song-writing contributions.

Hood has always been the group's most prolific writer, and he again turns in a number of gems. Opener "Two Daughters and a Beautiful Wife" rides a simple acoustic guitar rhythm and nuanced piano chords into a wistful meditation on family, life and loss. "The Righteous Path" could pass for vintage Tom Petty, while "Daddy Needs a Drink" might be Hood's best song on the album. "Daddy needs a drink to deal with all the beauty," he sings over a mournful slide guitar, "To deal with all the madness/To keep from blowing up."

Tucker has a voice made for

That said, "I'm Sorry Houston" and "The Purgatory Line" show promise, and her soft tone is a nice change of pace when paired with Hood and Cooley's rugged delivery.

Cooley is the real star of the album. "Self Destruction Zones" is one of the few irreverent tracks, carrying a barroom melody about hippies and dragons over a steady drumbeat.

Other Cooley songs focus on a motley crew of ne'er-do-wells, from the arms dealer in "Check Out Time in Vegas" to the aloof title character in "Bob." Cooley has the ability to say more about a character in one line than most people could in a book (Bob "always had more dogs than he had friends," for example), and his songs are every bit as good as his lyrics.

Creation is a dark place, and the Drive-By Truckers make no attempt to pretend otherwise. But that's only half the story. As Hood sings on "The Monument Valley," "When the dust all settles and the story is told / History is made by the side of the road / By the men and women that can persevere/ And rage through the storm, no matter how severe." If "Creation" is any indication, expect the band to persevere for some time.

Cooley has the ability to say more about a character in one line than most people could in a book.

country music, and though her vocals fit the group's sound well, she is not yet equal to her bandmates as a songwriter.



Photos from Rolling Stone
Patterson Hood of the Drive-By Truckers performs at Lollapalooza in 2005. The band will be touring this summer, including a stop in Michigan for the Rothbury Festival.

Dr. Seuss' 'Horton' fun for all ages



★★★★☆

by JOSH SNYDER
staff writer

Animated computer generated (CG) films always worry me. Chances are, if it's not Pixar at the helm, it'll be a disaster. I try not to hold everything to these high standards, but when Pixar consistently puts out quality films while other studios shovel out flops like "Doogal," it's hard not to.

I'm equally as leery about Dr. Seuss adaptations. The late author had a wonderful imagination perfect for books, but films like "Cat in the Hat" prove they should stay as books. Nonetheless, first-time directors Jimmy Hayward and Steve Martino decided to attempt the impossible: make a good CG adaptation of "Horton Hears a Who!" The film is actually entertaining, but it never achieves the heights of Pixar's films.

While going for a swim, Horton the elephant (Jim Carrey) hears something odd as a tiny speck floats past. Curious, he catches the speck on a flower and learns that there's life on the speck – Whos. Whos live in Whoville and are led by The Mayor (Steve Carell).

The Mayor and Horton are able to communicate with each other and both are amazed to find life they didn't know about. But not everyone believes them. The Mayor tries to convince the residents of Whoville that their world is in grave danger and they need to take shelter, while Horton must protect the speck from no-nonsense Kangaroo (Carol Burnett). If they are both going to survive, they have to help convince each other that life really does exist, whether it's on a speck or beyond their sight.

For the most part, the film feels like a Dr. Seuss story. There's a constant sense of the fantastical along with Seuss' trademark humor. And it's well paced with an endearing message. But "Horton" tries to cram as many morals into the film as possible. For younger viewers, this won't be a problem. For adults it means some cliché moments, but thankfully there aren't enough to ruin the experience.

I was also surprised at how preachy the film sometimes seemed. Sometimes I felt like I was listening to someone's philosophy on life rather than a heartwarming children's film. Still, the message came through without ever feeling like they were totally beating you over the head.

A crucial element to any CG film is its voice actors. While Carrey and Carell do

a fantastic job with the rhythmic nature of the script, I couldn't help but feel like these actors were cast because their characters were the stereotypical goofballs they always play. Horton is a CG version of Ace Ventura while The Mayor is Seuss's version of Michael Scott from "The Office."

It would have been nice if the directors found actors who were acting out of their comfort zone. Not surprisingly, the only actor to do this is Will Arnett, who voices Vlad the vulture. His voice work is the best in the film.

Thankfully, technology has reached a point where CG films aren't as concerned about visuals as they used to be. Although it may not look the best, "Horton" defi-

nately gets the job done. The art direction is simple – characters and settings lack a fine detail, but this is done to make the film feel more like a Seuss book. As a contrast, there are some vibrant colors which make "Horton" come alive, specifically in the scenes in Whoville. "Horton" definitely proves that any director wanting to adapt a Seuss book should abandon live-action films and stick with CG.

"Horton Hears a Who!" is an entertaining kid's film that certainly won't bore adults. It may not be as captivating as Seuss's books, but it's worth watching at least once.

If anything, it will help CG fans pass the time until Pixar's latest masterpiece, "Wall E," finally reaches theaters.



Photos from Yahoo! Movies

The mayor of Whoville, voiced by Steve Carell, has to convince the rest of the Whos that their town is in grave danger thanks to a warning by Horton the elephant, voiced by Jim Carrey.

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NMU boxers stay busy and bring home two silver medals from Nationals -pg. 18



Greger Hanson celebrates after Matt Butcher scored the winning goal in overtime in East Lansing against the No. 6 ranked Michigan State Spartans (according to USA Today poll). Georgia Rhodes/The State News

BACK TO THE JOE

NMU hockey stuns defending champs

by KYLE WHITNEY
interim editor in chief

It took three days, nine and a half periods of hockey and an overtime goal to complete the task, but the Northern Michigan Wildcats



KYLE

bested the defending national champion Michigan State Spartans in East Lansing and advanced in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA) Playoffs last weekend.

Sophomore NMU forward Matt Butcher netted the winning goal just over 11 minutes into the first overtime of Sunday night's decisive third game.

Midway through the overtime, NMU head coach Walt Kyle watched his top power-play line skate off the first 90 seconds of an advantage without much production.

"We get our second power play (line) out and now the clock is ticking, down to about six seconds left," he said. "I'm actually on the bench thinking, 'OK. The next call is going against us. We just missed a great chance and

we're going to have to kill [a penalty]."

It was then—in the waning seconds of that overtime power play—that Butcher took a long pass from teammate T.J. Miller and sped into the Spartan zone.

"I threw the puck back to [forward Greger Hanson], because he was the high guy," Butcher said of the series-winning play. "He did a great job getting it back to me. I kind of leaned in and shot and the next thing I knew, I saw the red light coming on."

And while Butcher may not have the most vivid recollection of the play itself, he certainly remembers the emotions that followed.

"It was just total excitement and total awe that we did it," he said. "Everybody was just so happy."

The overtime thriller came after the two teams split Friday

and Saturday's games, with Michigan State winning Friday's contest 5-1 and NMU squaring the series with a 2-1 victory on Saturday.

One of the most important things the 'Cats were able to do after Friday's loss was to completely forget about it, Kyle said.

"That one was in the bank. As soon as the clock hit 60 minutes on that one, it was over," he said. "And the way [the guys] rebounded speaks volumes."

It was the second time in as many weeks that Northern lost the first game of a playoff series before fighting back to advance to the next round.

"It isn't just this series," Kyle said. "When you look at the Ohio State series (March 7-9), and you look at this series, and you look at our year, these guys have shown a tremendous amount of guts and character. I couldn't be prouder with the character of this team. To me, that is what

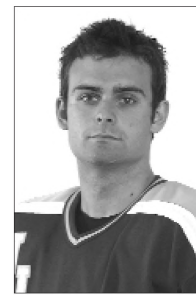
Northern hockey is about and that is what gives us the opportunity to potentially win a championship right now."

Another facet of the team that may help down the road is the ability for any player to contribute on any given night, Kyle said.

Butcher netted the deciding marker on Sunday, while Saturday's game-winner came off the stick of sophomore forward Ray Kaunisto. Senior forward Andrew Sarauer also netted a goal on Sunday. Heading into the weekend, those three had combined for just 15 goals on the year.

"You know Nick (Sirota) and (Mark) Olver will definitely score," Butcher said. "But I think the biggest part of our team is that everyone contributes and no one cares who scores the goals, so long as they go in."

With the victory, the Wildcats earned a return to CCHA semi-final play in Detroit's Joe Louis Arena after a one-year hiatus. On the other hand, this weekend will mark the first time in 17 years—



BUTCHER

I couldn't be prouder with the character of this team...That is what Northern hockey is about and that is what gives us the opportunity to potentially win a championship.

—Walt Kyle

NMU head coach

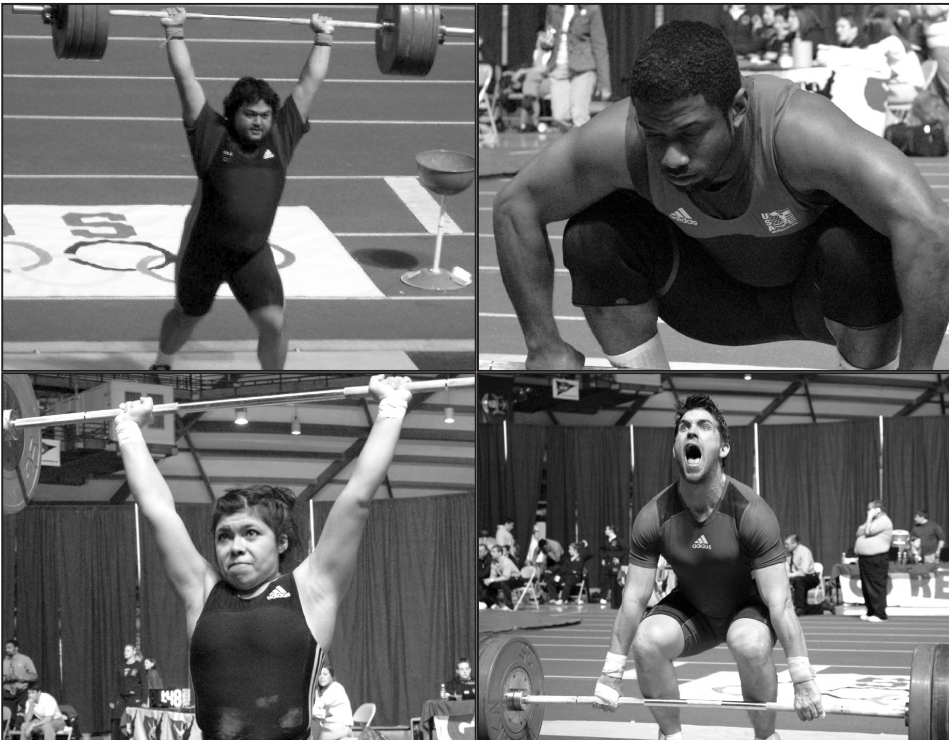
and just the second in 27—that the Michigan State Spartans will not be playing in the Joe at some point during the postseason.

Heading into the weekend, the Spartans were 49-4 in home play-off games and had never lost a series in East Lansing's Munn Arena.

"It's definitely a big deal," Butcher said of the victory. "If you look at their home playoff record, it's 49-4 before we came in and that's intimidating in itself. To win those two games gives everybody on the team the confidence that we can do a lot with this run."

On the Air

Listen to the NMU Wildcats on the road at the Joe Louis Arena on The Bear, 94.1 WUPK and 93.1 WIMK. Watch the 'Cats live on Fox Sports Network Friday at 8 p.m. CCHA championship game at 7:30 Saturday. (Channel 33 on Charter Cable)



Photos by Amanda Shellnut except top left provided by Colin Ito/NW NMU weightlifters from the USOEC (above) will compete in front of a hometown crowd next April when Marquette hosts the USA Weightlifting National Collegiate Championships.

NMU wins bid to host championship

by CARSON LEMAHIEU
assistant sports editor

Earlier this month, it was announced that the United States Olympic Education Center (USOEC), along with the City of Marquette will host the 2009 USA Weightlifting National Collegiate Championships at the Berry Events Center.

The competition will be held April 17-19, 2009, and will feature 130 to 150 of the top collegiate weightlifters competing in both men's and women's competition. The event allows all athletes attending an American college to compete regardless of nationality.

National champions will be crowned in seven women's weight classes and eight men's weight divisions. Team champions will be named for the best team overall and the best men's team in the competition.

"This is going to be a big event," head weightlifting coach Andy Tysz said. "Any time you have a national championship, it is big."

The event is a part of the College Sports Television Collegiate Championships series, which crowns champions in nine non-NCAA sports including boxing, snowboarding, wake boarding and beach volleyball.

"This is a great chance for us to showcase how great our weightlifters are to the rest of the community," Tysz said.

Tysz put in an application with the governing body of the sport, USA Weightlifting, earlier this year and made a presentation to the Board of Governors of USA Weightlifting at the March 2 National Championships and won the bid to host the event. Tysz said the presentation focused on the facilities the USOEC and the city of Marquette can offer athletes.

Members of USA Weightlifting appear pleased with the selection of Marquette to host the meet.

"We are really excited to be having the 2009 Collegiate Championships hosted in Marquette," said Kara Yessie, a communications director with USA Weightlifting. "We feel it will be a great location for the event."



TYSZ

Tysz said the reason the Board of Governors chose Marquette to host the event was because of the unique relationship between the USOEC and campus and the facilities that can be offered to athletes.

The event will offer the USOEC, still hurting from the loss of its boxing program in December, an opportunity to showcase itself to the local community.

"That's the reason I decided we needed to pursue this so hard. We have this awesome program here at Northern and we need to show it off and get the recognition," Tysz said.

He said he is hopeful that there will be much community support for the event.

"We think we will get a lot of strong support from the campus and people coming in from Marquette, Ishpeming, Negaunee, Harvey and all the other cities around the area," Tysz said. "We're going to try to get a lot of people there to watch these athletes go for the gold."

Marquette is small in comparison to past cities that have hosted the event. Previous hosts cities include Shreveport, La., Merrillville, Ind. and Orlando.

The other city to launch a bid for this year's competition was Cincinnati.



Gordon Beedle/NW DeRae Crane works out in the basement of Ringside Fitness. He and Greg Carter have been training at Ringside since the elimination of the USOEC boxing program at NMU.

Boxers continue training, learning

by GORDON BEEDLE
associate sports editor

Three months after NMU lost the USOEC boxing program due to financial reasons, two former members of the program, and current NMU students, fought their way to silver medals at the U.S. Future Star National Championship under the guidance of former USOEC boxing head coach Al Mitchell.

Following the fall of the boxing program, Greg Carter, a 152-pound middleweight, and DeRae Crane, a 172-pound light heavyweight, continued to train with Mitchell at a new location in Marquette. Both finished second in their respective weight divisions at the championship in Colorado Springs on March 14.

Carter won three bouts in the tournament, one by stoppage and two by decision, before stepping into the ring for the final against Jovante Starks from Minneapolis, Minn.

"Greg and [Starks] went toe-to-toe right in the middle of the ring and it was like one of them was hitting with a sledgehammer and the other was hitting with a baseball bat," Mitchell said. "After the first round, I had a headache – that's how hard they were hitting each other."

The heavy hitting would continue, courtesy of Starks, who took the title in the third round by decision.

Crane won three bouts before making the finals including one against the top-ranked boxer in the weight class, Lionell Thompson.

In Crane's championship bout, he faced Lynwood, California-native Dorian Anthony.

Crane and Anthony battled their way to a double-tie breaker decision by the judges, ending 3-2 in Anthony's favor.

"To make it all the way to the finals and losing in a double-tie breaker says a

lot about my dedication," Crane said. "So, under the circumstances it's good, but on the other hand, I expected to win it."

Mitchell said both Crane and Carter had been training extensively one-on-one with him. He added to go that far in the tournament, and to be training prior to the event with no sparring partner is practically unheard of.

"Once you get it in an athlete's mind and make them strong and make them listen and they want it bad enough – like for these two athletes—nothing can stop them," Mitchell said.

Crane and Carter's preparation for this tournament started in January in Mitchell's new gym in the basement of Ringside Fitness in Marquette. After the boxing program was cut, the two Northern students stayed in order to graduate from NMU. Because of Mitchell's new position at Ringside, both boxers were still able to train with their former USOEC coach.

Crane described the transition of moving from the USOEC boxing gym on the upper-level of the Superior Dome to the basement of Ringside as a move from the penthouse to the dungeon.

"Losing the program didn't stop us from performing," Carter said. "We still had a place to train. We had the same coaches. We just didn't have the same team."

Crane, a marketing major, will graduate in May and Carter, a finance major, will graduate in December after he alternates for the Olympics this summer.

"School was the most important thing," Crane said. "This was just an opportunity that kind of worked out. But school was the most important reason for me to stay."

Mitchell said he saw these athletes come in as boys to the program at Northern and soon they will be leaving as men into either the boxing or the business world.

"To see an athlete excel in his sport and see an athlete excel in academics—that's what life is all about," Mitchell said.

Attention NMU Students: If you're a member of a club sports team or are involved in an intramural league and would like coverage in The North Wind, e-mail sports@thenorthwind.org, call 227-2578 or stop by our office.

2008 Tournament CCHA

U of M **MIAMI**

NMU **Notre Dame**

2008 CCHA CHAMPIONSHIP

3rd place

loser game 1

loser game 2

photo by Spencer Bouchard/NW and graphic by Chad Casper/NW

The NMU hockey 'Cats head back to the Joe Louis Arena Friday to face the No. 1 team in the land, the University of Michigan Wolverines. If NMU wins, they will face the winner of Notre Dame and Miami on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. If NMU loses, they play at 3:30 p.m. Saturday in the consolation game.

Wolverines up next on path to NCAA

by KYLE WHITNEY
interim editor in chief

This weekend, the Northern Michigan Wildcats will step off the bus and into a familiar building: Detroit's Joe Louis Arena.

The Joe will play host to the final two rounds of the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA) Playoffs and the 'Cats (19-19-4 overall, 12-3-3 CCHA) will be in town for the seventh time in eight seasons, after failing to advance to the conference semi-final round a year ago.

"There is a sense of excitement," said sophomore NMU forward Matt Butcher. "It's been a rollercoaster ride this whole season. To get this far is good, but we expect to [win] the whole thing and we're not just satisfied with what we've accomplished so far."

NMU's roller coaster ride, which started more than five months ago, has included a 1-7 start to the year, a selection of victories over some of the nation's top-ranked teams and losses to Wayne State and the U.S. Under-18 team. Now the 'Cats are just two victories away from their first conference championship in more than 15 years.

On Friday night, NMU will face off against the No. 1 Michigan Wolverines (29-5-4, 20-4-4). The game will mark the fifth time that the two teams have played this season. In October, Michigan swept NMU in Marquette, while the teams

played twice in a February series in Ann Arbor.

"Going down to [Ann Arbor] a few weeks back and tying them both games was definitely good for us, because we know we can skate with that team," sophomore defenseman T.J. Miller said. "We can play with them. We just have to limit those one or two things that would let them get goals in. If we can do that, we'll be alright."

Miller and the other defensemen may have their work cut out for them against the Wolverines, who have the nation's second-best scoring offense (3.97 goals per game). During last weekend's two victories over Michigan State, the Wildcat defense killed 14 of 15 Spartan power plays and blocked numerous shots before they ever reached the net.

"We're going to have to keep doing it, especially against Michigan," Miller said about NMU's defense. "They have a very good power play and offense, so anything that we can block and [goaltender Brian Stewart] doesn't have to see is good for us."

Stewart, a sophomore, has proven that he can be more than efficient when needed. In the four Wildcat playoff wins, Stewart has allowed just six goals on 148 shots.

Although the first two rounds of the CCHA Playoffs are best-of-three series, the tournament becomes single elimination once

it reaches the Joe. Despite winning series against Ohio State and Michigan State in the past two weeks, the Wildcats have lost both Friday night games.

"I've never been worried. It's never that the guys weren't mentally ready or weren't prepared," NMU head coach Walt Kyle said. "We're playing good opponents. Every team we've played is a good opponent and capable of beating us."

In fact, Kyle said, the single elimination playoff format may benefit NMU this weekend.

"The fact is that I like our chances against a high-end opponent better in a one-game

deal than I would winning two out of three," Kyle said. "We have a better chance to knock Michigan off in one game than we do in two-out-of-three. I like it flipping now to one game."

Friday's other semi-final matchup is between the No. 3 Miami Red Hawks and the No. 11 Notre Dame Fighting Irish. The winners of the semi-final games will face off on Saturday night with the CCHA Championship on the line, while the losers will play a consolation game beforehand.

The team that wins the conference tournament gets an automatic berth into the NCAA

Tournament, which starts on March 28.

And as the Wildcats prepare for the upcoming weekend, they know what is at stake. After 42 games, the roller coaster ride is nearing an end. And the Northern Michigan Wildcats stand just two wins away from a CCHA Championship.

"In the last half of the season, we have kind of turned things around. A big reason for that is that we came together so much as a team," Miller said, considering the chances of a conference title. "Why not us? We can play with the best teams in the country, so why not?"



Spencer Bouchard/NW
NMU sophomore goaltender Brian Stewart has been one of the top goalies over the past few weeks in the CCHA. Currently, Stewart holds a .919 save percentage and a 15-14-4 record. Stewart will go up against Michigan's junior goaltender Billy Sauer, who holds a .926 save percentage and a 26-4-3 record overall.

Volunteering for victory in the tourney

A recent study by a business consulting firm shows that this year's NCAA tournament will cost employers as much as \$1.7 billion in wasted work time over the 16 days of the tournament.

As for Northern's campus, it's a safe bet that many professors at Northern will notice a sharp spike in absences this Thursday as students sit for hours on end in their dorm rooms, simultaneously watching games on television and following along to the live scoring updates online.

So, when you go to fill out your bracket, here's my thoughts. But, you don't have to take my word for it.

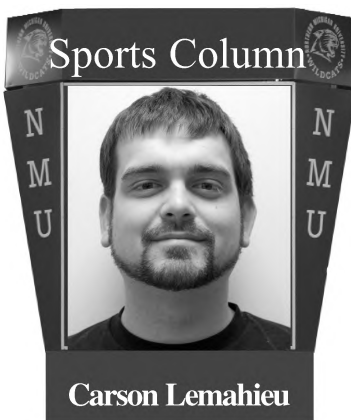
**CHAMPION:
TENNESSEE**

Despite standing in the same regional as overall No.1 North Carolina, the Tennessee Volunteers are my pick to win it all in this year's NCAA tournament.

The Volunteers fell on hard times in the SEC tournament, needing a buzzer beater to sink under-achieving South Carolina before losing by one to Arkansas. The Vols will rebound from this loss as they have from their other three losses this year – by righting the ship and going on a winning streak. Following losses this year, the team has rattled off winning streaks of four, nine and 11 games.

The Vols will be looking for big contributions from guard Chris Lofton, the SEC's all-time leading three point shooter, and forward Tyler Smith who leads the team in rebounds with 6.8.

With the exception of a possible Elite Eight matchup against UNC, Tennessee has been blessed by the selection committee with an easier than average road to the Final Four. The Volunteers will face American University in the first round, followed by another mid-major matchup against either Butler or South Alabama. Tennessee enters the tournament with an 11-0 record against mid-major schools – including wins over tourney schools Xavier, Gonzaga, Temple and Western Kentucky.



Carson Lemahieu

When all is said and done, the Tennessee Volunteers will be the ones having their "One Shining Moment."

**CINDERELLA:
KANSAS STATE**

I was initially going to choose media-darling Davidson as my pick for this year's Cinderella. But seeing as how past media-picked Cinderellas have fared in the past three years (0-3 record in the first round), I have chosen to go with the 11th seeded Kansas State Wildcats.

It may seem odd to pick a Big 12 school for a role reserved for little-known mid-major schools, but the Wildcats seem like a fitting team to ride the pumpkin carriage and wear the glass slipper. K-State comes into the tourney looking like they will be fish swimming in a barrel, having lost five of their last seven contests.

Kansas State drew the best possible first round opponent in USC. The matchup pits Kansas State's Michael Beasley against USC's O.J. Mayo. Super-freshman Beasley will be looking to one up Mayo in the eyes of NBA scouts who will be evaluating each for this year's draft.

Kansas State hasn't been perfect this season, but if the rest of the team shows up to support Beasley through the tournament there is no reason that this 11th seed shouldn't be an Elite Eight team.

**MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER:
MICHAEL BEASLEY**

It only seems sensible that if Kansas State is one of my Elite Eight picks, then K-State uber-freshman Beasley will get the nod as tournament's MOP.

In 31 games this season the 6'10" forward is averaging 26.5 points and 12.4 rebounds per game. He scored 40 or more points on three occasions and topped the 30 mark another 10 times.

Beasley should be poised to put up huge numbers in the first round against a USC team that has been weak on defense and allowed points per game, including giving up 96 points in a flop to Mercer – a team that finished 11-19 in the Sun Belt Conference.

The Memphis Tigers: they'll be 'Gr-r-reat'

To sports fans everywhere: Welcome.

Welcome to the madness, the Cinderella stories, half-priced hot wings deals and excessive television viewing. We're in the midst of the greatest annual sporting event in America: the NCAA Division I tournament. So fill out your bracket and get comfortable on the couch because, for the next four days, you will probably see more of CBS' tournament coverage than the Upper Peninsula countryside.

Starting today, the tournament kicks off with its first round of games (not taking into consideration the play-in game) and amongst today's 16 games and the 16 more on Friday, there will be the expected blowouts when powerhouse teams like No. 1 seeded Kansas meet up with No. 16 Portland State, as well as hopeful upsets with No. 11 Kansas State and freshman phenom Michael Beasley meeting up with No. 6 USC and fellow frosh O.J. Mayo.

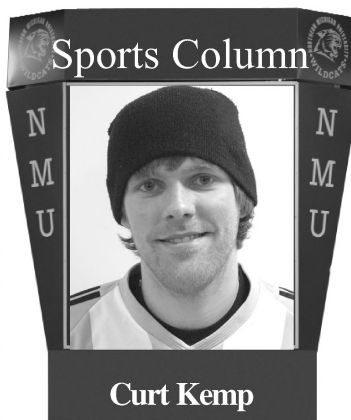
But don't fret too much if your bracket's out of whack after the first two days of the tournament; the chances of predicting each game of the tournament perfectly are 9.2 quintillion to 1 – that's a nine and 18 zeros.

Now, on to the picks.

**CHAMPION:
MEMPHIS**

Probably the biggest long-shot as far as No. 1 seeds go, the Memphis Tigers are my pick to win it all. The remaining No. 1 seeds, UCLA, UNC and Kansas, are entering the tourney with at least one flaw in their game. UCLA's star-freshman forward Kevin Love is recovering from back spasms, UNC's Tyler Hansborough showed chinks in his All-American armor in the ACC title game and Kansas just never seems to play up to their potential. By default, the pick goes to Memphis.

The one question surrounding the boys from Graceland is whether or not they can win the big games. The Tigers breezed through a woeful Conference USA and lost the biggest game of the year to then No. 2 ranked Tennessee. But head coach John Calipari



Curt Kemp

– whom I've only seen pictures of yelling – will have his team prepared this time around.

If the Tigers can make it out of a difficult South

Region, which includes Texas, Stanford and a Pittsburgh team that's on a roll right now, then the Tigers will be the battle-tested team that can handle the pressure of a Final Four. Imagine beating up the middle-school bully, and then taking on his two older brothers – that's what Memphis will be up against in the South.

Memphis brings in junior guard Chris Douglas-Roberts, the C-USA Player of the Year winner, and Freshman of the Year winner Derrick Rose is the point guard. It's not difficult to stop a team with one great player, but two future NBAers? It's "Heartbreak Hotel" for the competition.

**CINDERELLA:
DAVIDSON**

Davidson is probably the most expected team to turn out a Cinderella performance in this year's tournament, and with the players they have, that's no surprise. Sophomore guard Stephen Curry, son of former NBA three-point specialist Dell Curry, is the nation's fifth leading scorer and ranks third in the nation with more than four three-pointers per game. Adding to Curry's scoring is his backcourt mate, senior Jason Richards, who just happens to lead the nation in assists per game.

Think they haven't played anybody? Think again. The Wildcats played UCLA, Duke and UNC all this year, and played them close.

**MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER:
CHRIS DOUGLAS-ROBERTS**

For Douglas-Roberts, two last names simply means he's twice the player down the stretch. He's played great in the few big games Memphis had throughout the season including a 14-point effort in the loss to Tennessee.

Douglas-Roberts is the backbone of the team, aided by his point guard, Rose. If Douglas-Roberts picks up the Most Outstanding Player of the tournament, then Rose will have the assist.

2008 Football Schedule

Sep. 6	Northwood
Sep. 13	@ Tiffin
Sep. 20	Michigan Tech
Sep. 27	@ Ferris State
Oct. 4	Saginaw Valley
Oct. 11	@ Wayne State
Oct. 18	@ Hillsdale College
Oct. 25	Findlay
Nov. 1	Grand Valley
Nov. 8	@ Indianapolis

home games in bold

2008 Volleyball Schedule

Mar. 29 - 29	University of Michigan Spring Tournament
Apr. 5 - 5	Eastern Michigan University Tournament
Apr. 12 - 12	Minnesota-Duluth Spring Tournament
APR. 19	LAKE SUPERIOR STATE
AUG. 26	GREEN VS. GOLD
Aug. 29 - 30	Nebraska-Omaha Invite
Sep. 5 - 6	Flyer Festival: Lewis University
SEP. 12	LAKE SUPERIOR STATE
SEP. 13	SAGINAW VALLEY STATE
Sep. 16	@ Michigan Tech
Sep. 19	@ Ferris State
Sep. 20	@ Grand Valley State
Sep. 26	@ Hillsdale College
Sep. 27	@ University of Findlay
OCT. 3	ASHLAND UNIVERSITY
OCT. 4	TIFFIN UNIVERSITY
OCT. 10	NORTHWOOD UNIVERSITY
OCT. 11	WAYNE STATE

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The North Wind will be accepting applications for the following positions for the 2008-2009 academic year:

- Photo Editor**
- Business Manager**
- Managing Editor**
- News Editor**
- Features Editor**
- Opinions Editor**
- Secretary**

Applications are due by Monday, March 31 and can be picked up at the North Wind office, located in room 2310 of the University Center

TODAY, MARCH 20

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

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: 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 of the University Center.

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

FRI., MARCH 21

Event: Event: WUPX will meet from noon-1:30 p.m. in the Nicolet Room of the University Center.

Center.

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

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

Event: Biology Seminar Series presented by Erich Ottem at 4 p.m. in the Mead Auditorium of the West Science building.

SAT., MARCH 22

Event: Dreamscapes will meet at Noon in the Pioneer A Room of the University Center.

Event: Falun Dafa Club will meet from 1-3 p.m. in the Brule Room of the University Center.

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

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

Event: Latino American

Student Organization will have a cooking class from 3-6:30 p.m. in the Charcoal Room of the University Center.

Film: "Toys" (PG-13) will show at 6:30 p.m. in JXJ 102. Admission is free for NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

Event: Ben Kweller will perform at 7 p.m. in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center. Tickets are free for NMU students and \$10 for non-students.

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

SUN., MARCH 23

Film: "P.S. I Love You" (PG-13) will show at 6:30 and 9 p.m. in JXJ 102. Admission is free to NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

MON., MARCH 24

Skill Builder: "Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes — Leadership Advice from David Bowie and Me" will begin at 3 p.m. in the Back Room of the University Center. This counts toward the Leadership Edge.

Event: Steppin Out Dance Club will meet from 6:30-11 p.m. in the Superior Room at the University Center.

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

TUES., MARCH 25

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

Event: Darfur Experience: Mr. Wildcat competition will begin at 7:30 p.m. in JXJ 102. Admission is \$3 for NMU students with ID and \$5 for non-students.

WED., MARCH 26

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

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Shout Outs

Roommate — I need a vacation. Let's go to England. — **Tired**

Cadbury Mini-eggs — You give my life meaning. — **Slightly obsessed**

Bo — I can't believe how much you can eat. It's inspiring.— **Amazed, and a little disgusted**

Parentals — Sorry for neglecting your shout outs. Love you both! — **Daughter**

Michelle — Thanks for making my life by playing me awesome Elvis jams on the radio. You're my hero. — **Cassy Lee**

Gordon — Learn how to use the printer. — **Curt**

Gordon — You printed way too many copies now. — **Carson**

Nedeau — You, me, crawfish nachos and a pitcher of beer equals one heck of a good time! - — **Shellnut**

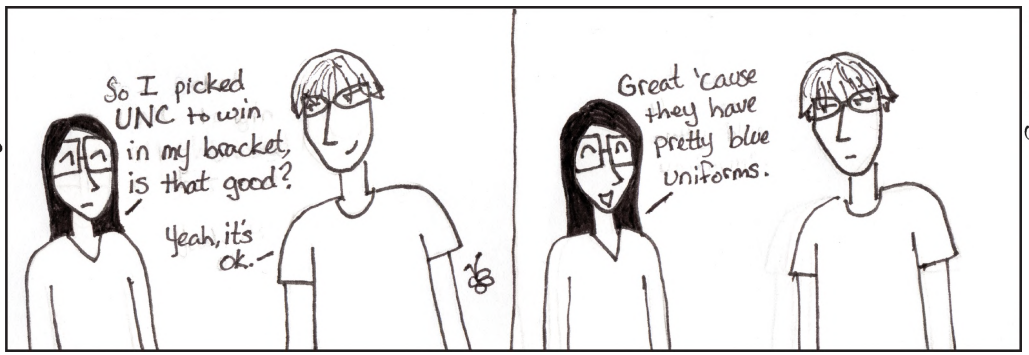
Father — HAPPY BIRTHDAY! — **Your favorite**

Jazzy — There are people that care...I'm one of those people. — **Shelly**

English Department — Thanks for lying to me, now I have to take a summer class. — **Stop lying**

Nish News — I don't quit you,

Snow Days



Susan Page

The Assassin Sessions



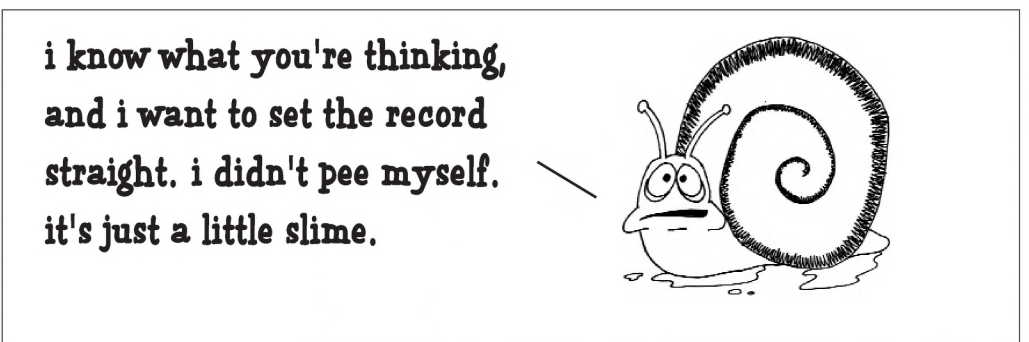
Andrew McCanna

Stick People



Sean Chevrier

Snail's Tales



NW Staff

Ellen's Friend



Matt Peach

I'm graduating. — **EIC**

BFF — You're awesome, just like me! — **BFF**

NIN/Radiohead — I'm LOLing with joy over the LOLla rumors. Looovvve yoooouuu. — **Me**

Jackie — You told me you wanted a shout out so here one is. — **God**

Everyone — I'm going to show up in your rooms tonight and eat your soul — **Goddess Bunny**

Stark — Thanks for running my column...next week. But I do enjoy that you now know my name. — **Abent**

Whitney Morgan —I miss you.

Thanks for having a dress on tonight.— **Your Other Half**

Ashley — Thanks for always putting up with my shenanigans. Get some sleep, you deserve it. — **Claire**

Dan — You don't read this, but it doesn't matter. Congratulations. *Sniffle* — **Shane**

Alex — I know you just read that and you're thinking "Good, get him outa here." — **Shane**

Stevie — If, you know, it happens over the next week... WOOOO! If not, I'll see you at work. — **Shane**

Ian — You need to start reading this paper. — **Shane**

Carson — I'm coming for your soul. Clop, clop, clop go my demon hooves. — **Goddess Bunny**

Curt & Josh — You make me the way I am. I'm going to blame you when I have a heart attack at the age of 23. — **Jackie**

Abent — You're name ... not as difficult as you'd think. Thanks for the columns.— **Stark**

Inspirations
Jon without an 'h'
Hockey fights
Suicide robots
Speed reading
Not being high strung
Movies about propaganda
Crazy interviews
Icers

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