



Coulter speaks on conservative views

by ASHLEY BERKEN
news editor

After weeks of petitions, anticipation, debates and arguments, the infamous Ann Coulter brought views of conservative superiority to Northern's campus this week.

Coulter spoke Monday night to over 1,000 spectators in the Vandament Arena about current political topics and problems facing America today.

One of the first topics Coulter addressed was President George W. Bush and how Americans' viewpoints on conservative platforms are blurred in the eyes of the citizens.

"The biggest problem Republicans have this year is that Bush has been so successful in the War on Terrorism, we've completely forgot about the threat of international terrorism," she said. "This happens to Republicans all the time; there's a huge problem, we run on it, we solve it and then it goes away as an issue we can run on."

Coulter said the reason most Americans are against the War on Terrorism is because receiving information about the progress of the war is difficult.

"It would be a little bit easier to track

our progress in Iraq or against the stateless terrorists if the Pentagon would be a little bit more forthcoming about how many [terrorists] were killed," she said. "For years, it was impossible to get that information; I tried looking. You just couldn't get it. It was a more closely guarded secret than MSNBC's viewership."

"Meanwhile, I could tell you the life stories of every general who has ever disagreed with George Bush's Iraq Strategy. I can tell you their mother's maiden name, their high school grades, I can tell you their favorite Spice Girl," Coulter continued. "But, how many of the enemy have we deactivated? Sorry, that's classified."

Coulter said that once the information was released, it showed that there were 20,000 Al-Qaeda and Shia militants killed up until last summer, with 2,500 killed in the first six months of 2007.

She said that even after those facts were released the media only reported the negative aspects of the war.

"As strange as it sounds, it's almost as if there is some kind of surge going on," Coulter said. "You may have missed the news reports on how many of

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Spencer Bouchard/NW

Ann Coulter spoke Monday night in the Vandament Arena to over 1,000 spectators. Her speech, which was greeted by a polarized campus, touched on numerous current events.

Funding increase possible for fall

by CLAIRE ABENT
assistant news editor

The Michigan state government has proposed funding increases for all 15 public universities, including NMU, for the 2009 fiscal year.

The budget plan originally proposed in February by Gov. Granholm created a 3 percent increase in total funding to all public universities, but the money would be spread differently among schools. Northern would have received a 2.3 percent increase. This amount was determined by a number of factors, including the number of undergraduate Pell Grants awarded, the amount of research and the number of degrees conferred.

Under this formula-based plan, science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) degrees were given more weight.

Conversely, the Michigan State Senate proposal, which came out in March, recommended a 3 percent increase across the board.

The Senate-proposed 3 percent increase would help cover costs created

by inflation, said Gavin Leach, vice president of finance and administration for NMU. The university's two sources of revenue are tuition and state-appropriated funding, Leach said. The more appropriations the university receives, the more tuition costs can be controlled, he said.

NMU President Les Wong testified in front of the Senate Feb. 28 in order to combat current perceptions and communicate to legislators the actual work the university does.

"Our reputation for quality, our reputation for doing good work with students, I think, is not in dispute. But people often don't understand the comprehensiveness of what we do," Wong said.

One of the issues Wong addressed was the amount of STEM degrees conferred at Northern. He noted that the statistics provided by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (DLEG) show that jobs currently in demand do not match up with the STEM disciplines.

"The state has to balance its emphasis

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Truth Rally brings students together

by CLAIRE ABENT
assistant news editor

While Ann Coulter prepared to go on stage, a group of concerned students, faculty and community members gathered outside the Vandament Arena to protest her presence.

The Truth Rally, sponsored by the Progressive Student Roundtable, consisted of several speakers voicing their opinions about Coulter and her speaking engagement at Northern. Also present were various student organizations with tables set up to provide information to those who attended.

Brandon Schlacht, who created the Facebook group "NMU Students AGAINST Ann Coulter," introduced the event with his own personal story. Formerly apathetic, Schlacht decided to become involved.

"What if we did something?" he said. "What if we stood up and said 'no' to Ann Coulter? When we aren't paying attention, we lose our campus, we lose our voice."

Schlacht then talked about the first Tolerance Week at NMU, which sprung up as a reaction to Coulter's visit, but said there was a difference because of the actions of students, not simply because of Coulter.

James Schiffer, professor and head of the English department, next voiced his opinions about Coulter and her message. Coulter is a shock jock, Schiffer said, adding that she wants to provoke people. He also thanked the crowd for gathering in a unified effort, something he said he hadn't seen since the 1960s. He also emphasized the importance of civil discourse and speaking out.

In conclusion, Schiffer told the attendees: "Peace be with all of you tonight and please, let's continue to walk the high road."

The next speaker, Mohey Mowafy, professor in the health, physical education and recreation department, talked about bigotry and Islamophobia, both something he has been on the receiving end of.

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COULTER

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them we're killing because all of the news reports [say] 'How soon we are going to begin pulling out troops?' How do we expect to win a war when the media won't report our victories and keeps clamoring for a retreat?"

Regarding the current presidential race, Coulter said that none of the nominees are the best for the presidency, however, she will be voting for John McCain in the 2008 election.

"We have to start to thinking beyond this election," she said. "Even if John McCain slips through, based on the idiotic things Obama's been saying recently, John McCain could end up being the luckiest man in the world. The fact that he could be the last man standing shows that we have a total leadership problem with the Republican Party."

Even though Coulter supports John McCain, she said that Hillary Clinton doesn't seem as liberal as most Democrats.

"Our presidential candidates seem to be all Democrats. We have John McCain, Hillary Clinton and B. Hussein Obama. As frightening as it sounds, Hillary Clinton may be more conservative than John McCain," she said. "Hillary at least, unlike

McCain, is not hysterically against waterboarding. I mean, given the glint in her eyes, she might enjoy torturing the terrorists. And if you are still wondering about her position on torture, have you ever heard that woman give a speech? She ought to fly to Guantanamo to give the prisoners speeches. The terrorists will be begging to be waterboarded."

place to live while they wait for Americans to elect the next Democratic president."

Coulter also discussed an article in Newsweek about guards at Guantanamo flushing Korans down the toilet in front of prisoners.

"My first reaction was, 'They've got fresh toilets at Guantanamo?'" she said. "What happened to latrines?"

"But because of that false of that story, interrogators are required to wear plastic gloves when handling the Korans so as to not upset the little darlings," she said. "The prisoners are required eight hours of sleep at night, three square meals a day, two hours of daily exercise, they

can't be put in cold rooms and they can't have their mail opened. I've had worse service at a Holiday Inn Express."

During the speech, approximately 75 spectators rose from their seats and paraded out of the arena, some making Communist gestures on the way. Coulter said she wasn't affected by the protesters and doesn't feel that she said hateful things.

"I didn't even notice [the protesters]; I thought they were fans; they were cheering on the way out. I thought that was lovely," she said. "Everyone thinks that if it's conservative speech, it's hate speech."

I didn't even notice [the protesters]; I thought they were fans ... I thought that was lovely.

— Ann Coulter, conservative speaker

There were accusations that soldiers treated prisoners in Guantanamo Bay and poorly regarded their religious beliefs. However, Coulter said that this is fabricated and that Guantanamo Bay isn't the terrible place that liberals make it out to be.

"Liberals believe in burning their draft cards, urinating on crucifixes, passing out condoms to 12-year-old girls without their parents' consent, and God forbid we touch a prisoner in Guantanamo," Coulter said. "You remember Guantanamo? It's the all-inclusive tropical resort built for terrorists as a nice

FUNDING

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on STEM with its awareness of where the jobs are going to be," he said. "In a way, the STEM areas get rewards and funding and yet the very areas where the jobs are don't get any attention. Northern's curriculum lines up better with the DLEG job areas than the STEM."

Wong said it is also very important that NMU is technologically advanced, including the TLC laptop program, and offers many technology-based degrees.

"We're really the 'T' in STEM. We're way out ahead of everybody on technology," Wong said.

The fact that NMU is a rural university was also an issue addressed by Wong. As a rural university, NMU has to provide both community college and job training services to an area where many people do not have the resources to go elsewhere.

"It's really important to understand not only the nature of the niche but also (that) the role we play in that niche is so different from a downstate school, for example," Wong said. "We have to be a lot of things to a lot of people over a lot of distances."

Regardless of the amount of the increase, both Wong and Leach feel it will be positive for the university.

"For me, it's a great start," Wong said. "My first year here the range was -30 to 0 (percent).

Starting out at 2.3 percent is a good place, a positive sign. I think everyone agrees that higher education is a key way to get out of a recession."

Before the budget for the 2009 fiscal year is passed, it must travel from the governor's office, through the Senate and then the House. Wong hopes the House will propose a budget similar to the proposal of the Senate. He will testify in front of the House on April 28 in Big Rapids.

"We're going to try to be clear about our mission and our role in the economy, not only in the U.P. and the north lakes regions but certainly within the state of Michigan. I think we're going to have to stress that we're still a great value and we're a pretty efficient campus," he said.

Rep. Steve Lindberg, D-Marquette, has been involved in the process of making sure NMU receives fair appropriations.

"We have some unique challenges geographically, just being in the U.P. Simple things like snow removal and heat are more expensive than in other places," he said.

Lindberg also noted that the higher budget will not be finalized until May at the earliest.

"It's really important to make it known that the process is not done yet," he said. "The House is still in the process of taking testimony from universities ... as to how we're going to complete this budget."

Map Key

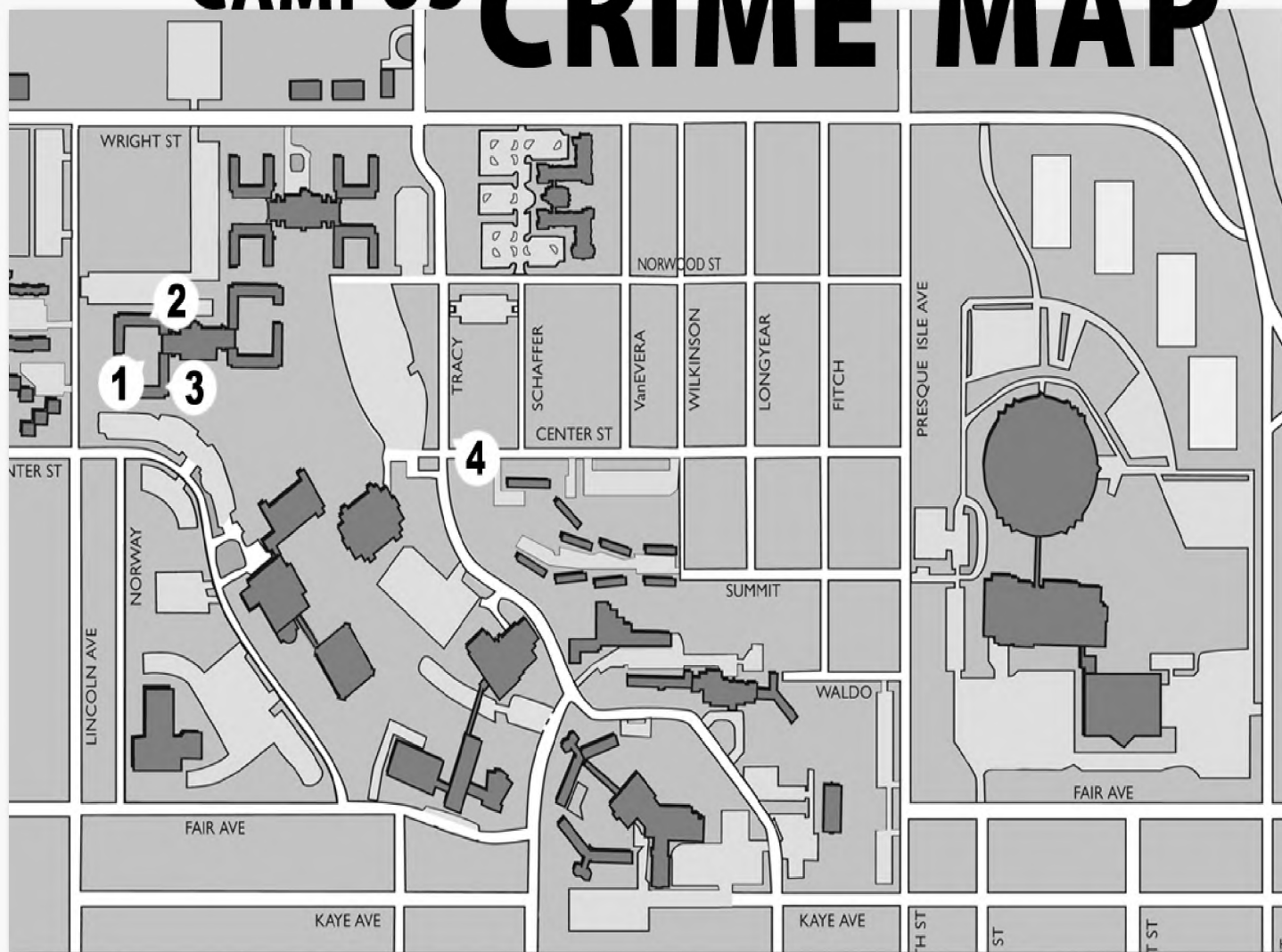
1) On April 11, an underage student was found in possession of alcohol in the Gant/Spalding courtyard. He has been referred to the Dean of Students Office.

2) On April 11, five male students were found in possession of alcohol in Gant Hall. They have all been referred to the Dean of Students Office.

3) On April 12, a window was broken in Spalding Hall. An individual threw a perfume bottle, breaking the window panes. The case is still open.

4) On April 12, an underage student was found in possession of alcohol near Center Street. He has been referred to the Dean of Students Office.

CAMPUS CRIME MAP



CAMPUS BRIEFS

Student club holds benefit show

NMU students will have the opportunity to help out American Indian communities in need by attending the Superior Geography Club's High Five Groundation Benefit Concert for the SEVA Foundation on April 17 at 7 p.m. Bands Dub District and Jah Kings will play the benefit, which will be held at the Upfront & Company. All proceeds will benefit the SEVA (which means service in Sanskrit language) Foundation, a non-profit organization working toward building sustainable, healthy American Indian communities. Eric Miller, a senior sustainable building and renewable energy major and representative for the Superior Geography Club, said the club is an active volunteer student organization with over twenty members. "The Superior Geography Club focuses on environmental awareness and stewardship globally and within the Marquette community," Miller said. Each year, the SEVA Foundation awards two grants, ranging from \$2,000 to \$10,000. Miller said he hopes the concert proceeds will make it possible for a third grant to be awarded. A silent auction will take place prior to the concert at 5 p.m. For more information, e-mail millerer@nmu.edu.

— Laura Chiamonti

Earth Day planned for inspiration

The Indigenous Earth Day Summit will be held on Tuesday, On Tuesday, April 22-23. The summit will run from noon to 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center. On Wednesday, it will run from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Great Lakes Rooms, and from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Jamrich 102. "The NMU Indigenous Earth Day Summit is a call to action on indigenous environmental concerns that impact everyone," said Aimee Dun, Indigenous Earth Day Summit coordinator. "We [are trying] to inform and hopefully inspire summit participants to take action — either in their daily lives or in the form of environmental activism on a broader scale." The summit will include films, panels and keynote presentations that will cover a variety of indigenous environmental concerns. Keynote presenters include members of an aboriginal Australian Delegation and Gary Morning Star Raven, a traditional Ojibwe teacher from Manitoba. There will also be an Earth Day Music Jam on Tuesday including a short didgeridoo (a wind instrument of the indigenous northern Australians) performance, as well as an Exhibit of Aboriginal Australian art featuring one of the delegates, John Hunter. The summit is free for NMU students and free to the general public. To volunteer or for more information, visit www.nmu.edu/nativeamericans or call 227-1397.

—Sarah Eberhard

Festival celebrates jazz music

The 12th Annual Northern Michigan University Jazz Festival will be held on the NMU campus Thursday and Friday, April 17-18 in honor of Jazz Appreciation Month. This all-day event will feature performances by 22 different high school and middle school ensembles throughout the region, as well as educational clinics, professional artist speakers and a gala concert at Kaufman Auditorium, said Mark Flaherty, assistant music professor and director of the NMU Jazz Festival. The event kicks off on Thursday at 8 p.m. in the Reynolds Recital Hall with a performance by the NMU Faculty and Friends Jazz Combo. Throughout the day on Friday, high school performances will be held in Jamrich Hall rooms 102, 103 and 105, and the clinics will take place in the Reynolds Recital Hall. While the closing performance at Kaufman Auditorium on Friday evening is a ticketed event, all of the events during the day are open to the public with free admission. The festival features guest clinicians Randy Sabien, Dean Sorenson and Luis Benetti teaching clinics on strings and Latin percussion. Some of these artists, including Sabien, will perform with the NMU Jazz Combo and the NMU Jazz Band in the Friday night gala concert. "It gives many NMU students the opportunity to perform with world-class musicians in the Friday night concert," Flaherty said. "It's a great way to celebrate this great American art form." Tickets for the Friday night concert are \$10 general admission, \$7 for non-NMU students and \$1 for NMU students. For more information about the NMU Jazz Festival, including an hourly schedule of the participating high school and middle school bands, contact the music department at 227-2563.

—John Pann



Julia Woehrer/NW

The First Amendment Freedoms class at Northern hosted a First Amendment Day debate in the academic mall and lower level of the LRC. Jon Hauswirth (right) and Carson Lemahieu (center) debated the pros and cons of capital punishment. (Editor's note: Lemahieu is a staff member of The North Wind.)

First Amendment celebrated at Northern

by JACI BJORNE
staff writer

NMU's First Amendment Freedoms class, EN/PS495, exercised their right to free speech on Wednesday, April 16 by holding a First Amendment Day to discuss such controversial topics as abortion, gun control and the death penalty.

The free speech debate was held simultaneously in two areas: The lower level of the LRC and the academic mall.

This is the first time NMU has hosted such an event, and it may be the only time the event will happen. The First Amendment Freedoms class is a special topics class, not a regular course offering, said Cate Terwilliger, journalism professor and facilitator of First Amendment Day.

NMU President Les Wong kicked off the event at the academic mall and commented on the value of free speech. He stressed how important it is to allow people of differing opinions to share their ideas and encouraged participation in the discussions.

Brianna Hinrichsen, a junior history major, and Lyndsay Mercier, a senior psychology and gender studies major, led the discussion on abortion.

Hinrichsen spoke from the pro-life perspective on abortion. She said she believes life begins at conception and was confronted with the idea of the government deciding when life officially begins.

"It would depend on how the courts define human life, which

to me is a scary thing. That is what they do in fascist states and totalitarian states," she said.

Mercier responded by saying that women should have the right to decide what to do with their own bodies, especially if they are not ready to care for a child.

"Until there is a method of birth control that is absolutely 100 percent effective, abortion should remain a legal method of birth control," said Mercier.

Another topic debated was the issue of gun control. The topic was discussed by Jon Hauswirth, senior political science and pre-law major, and Hobie Webster, a junior pre-law major and ASNMU president.

Hauswirth compared having absolute gun control in the United States to the gun control in Germany during the Nazi leadership.

"This year will go down in history. For the first time, a civilized nation has full gun registration. Our streets will be safer, our police more efficient and the world will follow our lead into the future," said Hauswirth, quoting Adolf Hitler.

"A tyranny takes years to put in place, total gun control is just one step closer to absolute tyranny," Hauswirth continued.

Webster said he had a view of gun control that does not require absolute removal of guns from society. He said the Second Amendment simply needs to be abridged and that certain types of arms should not be allowed in the hands of citizens.

"The Second Amendment says nothing about handguns,

assault guns and nuclear weaponry," he said. "The gun control system I suggest is not perfect, but the one we have is less perfect."

The debate covered a two-hour span and there was only a small amount of conflict. The audience that gathered around the debaters was encouraged to participate, students asked questions.

Miles Baker, senior political science major, is in the First Amendment Freedoms class and participated in the event as one of the debaters. He said he helped promote the event from beginning to end.

"I think it was a smash hit, because the turnout was great. The audience was engaged and students were talking about salient social issues," Baker said. "In the wake of Ann Coulter, I know First Amendment Day demonstrated that more is accomplished with open discourse and an honest exchange of ideas than with the influence of the bully pulpit."

The students in the class organized the event and promoted it outside of class with T-shirts and pamphlets. Terwilliger said they worked hard to pull off the event.

"Both the class and the event exceeded my expectations," Terwilliger said. "Throughout the semester, these students have been thoughtful, passionate and well-spoken; they have critically engaged different views on free expression. I am proud of them."

Editor's Note: Cate Terwilliger is the adviser to The North Wind.

New members of ASNMU plan for fall

by CASSANDRA STUROS
associate news editor

Hobie Webster and Jack Calamaro were sworn in on Tuesday night as the new president and vice president of ASNMU. Both agree their main focus before fall semester is to fill all open positions left in ASNMU, get the ASNMU Web site up and move to a paperless based government system.

Webster hopes to see a continuation of the level of student involvement he has seen on campus recently.

"I hope that the awakening that's happened in the student body is something that carries over from the summer and they bring it back with them in the fall," he said. "I think that involvement is really going to be key."

Webster attributes one of the reasons for the large voter turnout in this year's ASNMU election to the amount of candidates who ran.

"Each [candidate] had their own following. There was some competition there, but each candidate worked very hard to get the vote out, which is something that's very important."

Calamaro said what she hopes to accomplish before fall is filling

the open government positions, including a public relations representative and an information technology director. She also plans on talking to past vice presidents to find out what they did and what they would have improved upon.

"I think it is important to reflect back on who was before you and their opinion because they've done it. They know," she said.

Former ASNMU President Chris Storves said Webster is working very hard and putting forth a lot of effort, but he needs to take some of the advice the current administration has to further help him in his presidency.

"He should actively take recommendations and listen to people, because we've already been around the block," Storves said. "We want him to succeed in leading the students of NMU and take what we have to say to heart."

Storves said he thinks that, while a lot of the changes planned will be positive, some aren't in the best interest of ASNMU, such as replacing the ASNMU Treasurer and chair of the Student Finance Committee (SFC), Katey Newton.

"I really agree with revamping the ASNMU Web site and making it a great tool for students," he said. "But I think there will be

problems with the SFC. His choice not to select Katey Newton is a very bad one."

Webster said his decision not to have Newton back as ASNMU treasurer was the result of many different things. He believes that Newton did an excellent job in the time she worked for the SFC but said that hiring Andrew Foster was a positive step for everyone.

"It was time for a change, we needed someone to come in and reimagine the SFC," he said. "It was an opportunity to get someone who was really dedicated to the same kind of vision for the ASNMU and SFC."

He also said as he moves forward in his presidency he's considering the students' dedication to their candidates.

"One of the challenges that I'm going to have in the next two weeks is to bring those people who were passionate about their candidate for ASNMU and make sure that they know my office door is open," Webster added.

Calamaro agreed that the students of NMU need to know what ASNMU is about and that it exists to benefit them.

"I love meeting with people, I love hearing their ideas," she said. "It's their office, it's their student dollar, it's their voice."

PROTEST

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Mowafy defined what both were and then offered suggestions on how to combat both, one of which was education.

Other speakers included Alex Carrol, professor of anthropology, Paul Lehmborg, English professor, John Smolens, English professor and Robert Goodrich, associate professor of history.

During Coulter's speech, a planned walkout occurred, involving an estimated 75 attendees. Kyle Bonini, president of the College Republicans, the group that brought Coulter to campus, said that walkouts happen at every one of Coulter's speaking engagements at universities.

"Ann knew they were going to happen, so it wasn't a surprise...they always think they're going to make her see something new, but she's seen it all," he said.

Bonini also said although he did not have a problem with the protest going on outside, he felt that as long as the student

organizations participating were courteous regarding the event, it wasn't a problem.

"Personally, I think it's not respectful for one student organization to try to disrupt the event of another student organization. When they try to disrupt the event, they didn't do anything technically wrong. But to me I would have liked to see a little bit more respect for our event and what we were trying to do there," he said.

Jason Morgan, chairman of the Progressive Student Roundtable, said he couldn't be happier with how the event turned out.

"Everyone who was there was very respectful and got their message across in a very positive way," he said. "I'm a little bit surprised that so many people showed up and that so many people actually cared."

Morgan also applauded the participation of faculty speakers and the students who helped pull off the event.

"The speakers were amazing," he said. "All the students who were involved in the planning and set-up were great."



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WNMU awarded for WWII documentary

by ANGELA MCCOY
staff writer

WNMU-TV Channel 13 won a Broadcast Excellence Award for its World War II documentary, "The U.P. Recalls the War," at the Michigan Association of Broadcasting awards banquet on March 11.

The award was presented to Luis Gomez, an NMU graduate student and production assistant for the documentary, on behalf of WNMU-TV Channel 13 in Grand Rapids.

Gomez said broadcasting stations throughout the state competed for the award and added that he was fortunate to be part of the team who put together the award-winning documentary.

"A lot of hard work and effort was put into this piece and I'm thrilled that it received its much-deserved recognition," Gomez said.

Sonya Chrisman, producer, director and writer of the documentary, said that although it was an honor to receive the award, it wouldn't have been possible without the hard work of the team involved with making the documentary.

"This award was achieved through the great stories told by those who lived through the war,"

she said. "I feel as if I just connected the dots."

The film was inspired by the books "The U.P. Goes to War: Upper Michigan and Its Heroes in World War II," by Larry Chabot, and "World War II Comes to the U.P.: 1939-1945," by NMU professor and historian Russell Magnaghi. Chrisman said she started researching in March 2007 and began taping interviews and collecting stock footage shortly after. Chrisman added that men and women currently living in Marquette, Alger and Menominee counties were interviewed for the film.

"I started putting out feelers to see who was interested in participating, and wherever a veteran agreed to be interviewed, we went there," Chrisman said.

The documentary is comprised of veterans, historians and others who talk about the military life, the battles, the heroes and the U.P. home front. Those elements, together with personal photographs, stories, vintage newsreels and film footage, help create images of victory and loss. Also featured in the documentary is Magnaghi and NMU archivist Marcus Robyns.

Gomez said each of the interviews featured was unique and memorable because of the stories

that were told and the generosity of the interviewees.

"The people we interviewed had such interesting and intimate stories to tell; their experiences during the war were unlike anything I had ever heard," he said.

The documentary was put together by Chrisman, chief videographer Mike Lakenen, graphic artist Melinda Stamp and Gomez; the narration was provided by Dwight Brady, a communication and performance studies professor at NMU. Gomez said his responsibilities as assistant producer included transcribing every interview, voicing scenes involving a telegram reader and helping Lakenen with lighting and other tasks.

"The interviews, the script, the videography—each and every component was cautiously and vividly executed. It captivates all audiences," Gomez said. "I think we won because it is a sincere, heartfelt and touching documentary about the everyday, hardworking people in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan who became heroes during the most crucial moment in time."

The documentary was produced by Channel 13 as a fundraising effort and the DVD is available for a minimum \$100 donation.

marquette music scene

Thursday, April 17

Northland Pub:
UpFront & Company:
Vango's:

Billy Alberts, 8:30 p.m.
Jupiter One with Slipt, 10 p.m.
Jim and Ray, 9:30 p.m.

Friday, April 18

Matrixx – Skyboxx:
UpFront & Company:

Money Shot, 10:30 p.m.
Summit Avenue, 10 p.m.

Saturday, April 19

Coffee Cup:

Sparrowtree, This Is Deer Country, Mark 5 & Dan Lawrence, 6 p.m.

Matrixx – Skyboxx:
UpFront & Company:

Money Shot, 10:30 p.m.
Summit Avenue, 10 p.m.

Sunday, April 20

Reynolds Recital Hall:

University Choir & Madrigal Singers, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 21

Lagniappe Cajun Creole Eatery:
Great Lakes Rooms:

Fast Eddie's Blues Band, 6 p.m.
Ben Kweller, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 22

UpFront & Company:

Slipt, 10 p.m.

Wednesday, April 23

Matrixx – Skyboxx:
UpFront & Company:

Wisecrack, 10:30 p.m.
Lloyd Dobler Effect, 10 p.m.

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Indigenous Earth Day Summit

April 22-23, 2008

Great Lakes Rooms

Northern Michigan University

Marquette, MI

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Editorial

Event inspires students

On Monday night, Ann Coulter visited NMU. Members from all corners of the political spectrum bought more than 1,000 tickets to Coulter's much-anticipated speech, which was sponsored by the NMU College Republicans and held in the Vandament Arena. Before her speech, a Truth Rally was held outside of the arena by the Progressive Student Roundtable. Many students, faculty and community members showed up to express their distaste for Coulter's controversial beliefs. This was both an appropriate and needed response to Coulter's notoriously confrontational attitude. The rally signaled a noticeable change in Northern students' longstanding political apathy. One Northern professor even commented that it was the largest protest he'd seen since the '60s.

However, the approximately 75 people who walked out during her speech and those who gave Nazi salutes did nothing but add fuel to the fire and indirectly-supported Coulter's already excessive speaking fee.

While the rally conveyed an effective anti-Coulter message and did so without disrupting her speech, the walk-outs achieved the exact opposite. Empty seats—rather than tickets purchased by protesters—would have sent a clearer message to Coulter: That she was largely unwanted by Northern students.

This was the message expressed in The North Wind's Feb. 21 editorial. However, it took Coulter's extreme reputation to motivate the student population.

The past few weeks have brought much debate and outcry from NMU students, mixing feverish support with anti-Coulter T-shirts and classroom debates.

Coulter's visit sparked NMU's first ever Tolerance Week, garnered membership for the Progressive Student Roundtable and inspired numerous letters to the editor in The North Wind, something that has been considerably lacking all year.

Before Coulter's visit to campus was publicized, students seemed to have a hard time grasping the fact that they could make a change and get their voice heard at Northern. So if there is one thing to thank her for, it's allowing students to see their own potential to make a difference.

Hopefully, now that Coulter has come and gone, students will still find reasons and causes to support and denounce, and the campus community won't revert back to its silent and indifferent ways.



Alex Stevens
opinion@thenorthwind.org

Letters to the Editor

Banning handguns is unconstitutional

The founding fathers had just (miraculously) secured their liberty from the country that had been home to the world's mightiest army for more than 300 years.

Of course they wanted the militia to "keep and bear arms" equal to what the army of the day had. And not just the militia. That's why they chose the word-
ing they did.

The Second Amendment doesn't say "the right of the militia to keep and bear arms ...". They wanted the PEOPLE to be able to defend themselves, especially from tyrannical government. They wanted them to be able to defend themselves from threats to their life and liberty.

It has been said, "Choose which you desire more, liberty or peace, because you can't long enjoy both."

Mark Jensen
Wellsville, Utah

Shooting other human beings is a legitimate and necessary use of a firearm. Modern guns versus flintlocks and swords is not the issue, otherwise we'd be allowed to wear a sword and carry a brace of double-barreled flintlock pistols in New York City, Chicago and D.C. for use against muggers and rapists. Nor are accidents the issue; if it were, we'd first ban backyard swimming pools, which are more likely to result in an accidental death of a child.

No, the issue is the right to privacy (from burglars) in our homes, the right to control our own bodies (despite the intent of rapists) and the freedom from unwarranted searches and seizures (violated by every thief and robber).

These are constitutional rights, and the government should not be allowed to use third-party criminals to make us give them up.

Frank Silbermann,
Memphis, Tenn.

web poll question

How often do you watch YouTube videos?

- All day, man. I was already Rick Roll'd 10 times this morning.
- About as much as everyone else, I guess.
- I watch it when my friends show me videos.
- I've never used it.

web poll results

Are you attending Ann Coulter's speech on Monday?

- Of course. I've been looking forward to it for weeks. 11 votes
- Yeah. I think my friends are going, so I may as well. 6 votes
- No. I've better things to do with my time. 21 votes
- I won't be listening, but I will be protesting. 57 votes

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Tell us a little bit about yourself and the issue you would like to write about.

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YouTube losing its luster

Manliness isn't a two-pound steak

For What It's Worth



by Jackie Stark

I was very productive on the snow day last week. I spent the entire day lying on my couch eating pretzels and watching YouTube videos.

I discovered a lot of great things, though: The Dramatic Gopher, Bill O'Reilly freakouts, some guy doing reenactments of famous scenes from famous movies. There were some not so great things as well: A horde of guinea pigs stampeding through some guy's house, six minutes of a really crazy man ranting about Miley Cyrus and a few videos of bad drivers.

But one thing I wasn't expecting to find, especially on the top viewed list, was a video that was over three minutes long and featured several teenage girls beating another teenage girl.

I'm sure by now that most people have heard of these teenagers, coined "The Vicious Eight." For those of you who haven't, here's the short-short version: Six teenage girls lured a 16-year-old over to one of their homes and beat her so badly that her parents weren't able to recognize her. Two teenage boys acted as lookouts outside the house. Apparently, the girl who was beaten had said some nasty things about a few of the other girls on her MySpace page. In retaliation, the girls decided to videotape the beating and put it on YouTube.

I've always loved YouTube, and I'm not the only one. The site is ranked as the 12th most viewed Internet domain in the United States, according to Hitwise.org.

Among the videos viewed are movie trailers, the amateur work

of film students nationwide, music videos and average people performing song covers. I can watch some of my favorite comedians, or take a look at some YouTube hits, like "Charlie Bit My Finger." YouTube has a little bit of everything. And the one thing that unifies all of these videos, is that they are all for entertainment.

However, watching girls beat the crap out of each other isn't entertaining so much as it is demoralizing.

It's hard to define what exactly YouTube is. For some, it's purely an entertainment Web site. For others, it's a confession-al of sorts. It's a place where people can put their thoughts on anything out there for the world to see. What it shouldn't be is a place where dumb kids can get their revenge.

Thankfully, YouTube has removed the video. But before it did, the video collected more than 600,000 views, only serving to give those eight teenagers exactly what they wanted.

The whole nation knows about them now. There's been a frenzy of responses on YouTube, most of them outraged. But those girls don't seem to understand that they did something wrong.

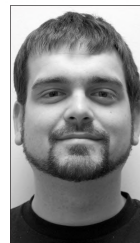
As they were being jailed, one of the girls asked if she'd still be able to make it to cheerleading practice the next day.

And while this particular fight has garnered national attention, YouTube is already home to hundreds of videos of fighting. Just visit the site and search for "guys fighting," or "girls fighting." Hundreds of videos will appear. Why are these allowed on YouTube? The Web site has already removed the video of the "Vicious Eight" but what makes that one any different than all the other videos of people beating each other? The site should remove any videos that feature such senseless violence.

The great thing about YouTube is its ability to connect people around the world. I can watch a video of the Tibetan Monks marching for their freedom, a video which features some violence, but still needs to be seen. What I don't think is needed are videos of people beating each other up, just to beat each other up.

YouTube should start monitoring those types of videos. It should return to its original purpose: Allowing people to get their voices heard by anyone who cares to listen.

Staff Column



by Carson LeMahieu

I'll admit it. I tweeze my unibrow, wash myself with a loofah and would rather eat salmon piccata for dinner than a 32 oz. steak. And I'm a man.

Last weekend I stumbled upon the Web site for Swanson Hungry Man Dinners — a line of frozen entrées so "meaty" and "hearty" that they can only be fit for the voracious appetite of a manly man. The television ads on the site feature a group of men eating yogurt before being instantly emasculated as they walk into the room with the "real man" eating a large amount of chicken. The "real man" announces that the yogurt-eaters are "ladies" and laughs at them as they blush. An unseen announcer voices over: "A full pound of meat and potatoes so you can eat like a man and be full like a man."

Since I've been at college, I've gotten fat — to put it bluntly — so lately, I have been working on eating healthy, low-fat meals. But in today's world of machomen and Hungry Man dinners, it's a wonder that my penis hasn't withered, shriveled and fallen off because of my total lack of "manliness."

Each of the XXL Hungry Man dinners contains a pound and half of food. They also contain over 1,000 calories, and 48 grams of fat, which is more than 100 percent of the daily suggested value of fat. There should be nothing "manly" about eating over half of one's recommended daily calories in a single meal.

Swanson isn't the only com-

pany that has hijacked our sense of masculinity in an attempt to coerce guys into eating greasy and unhealthy food. Last year, Burger King ran a commercial for their Texas Double Whopper which featured a horde of men marching down the streets singing, "I Am Man" — a parody of the hit '70s song, "I Am Woman." The commercial ends with an overweight man straining himself to pull a dumptruck down the street as he chases a burger on a shovel.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that over 350,000 men in America will die from heart disease this year. This new popular image of the gluttonous and feasting man will do nothing to help these numbers in the future.

One of the reasons the CDC lists as a risk factor for heart disease is "an unhealthy diet." What it recommends to help combat heart disease is a diet that is low in cholesterol — a description that is the exact opposite of the Hungry Man dinners and other so-called manly food.

The obesity and heart disease that often results from eating obscene amounts of food is not seen as a sexy or desirable quality in our society. It is certainly not seen as manly.

What these companies are telling Americans is that it is manly to eat like a pig, but it's not OK to look like you have been stuffing your face with fried chicken and eating an average of 3,000 calories a day.

Men in today's society need to ignore these unsafe images that are put forth in advertisements like the one made by Swanson.

Instead, next time someone laughs at you when you pull out your low-fat frozen entrée or cup of yogurt for lunch, just know that you likely won't be part of those 350,000 men I mentioned before, and the person laughing at you very well may be.



SOUND OFF

What does manliness mean to you?

— Compiled by Jeff Kitson



Lauren Matheson
sophomore, media production
"Nick Love."



Matt Lutey
freshman, undeclared
"Paying your child support."



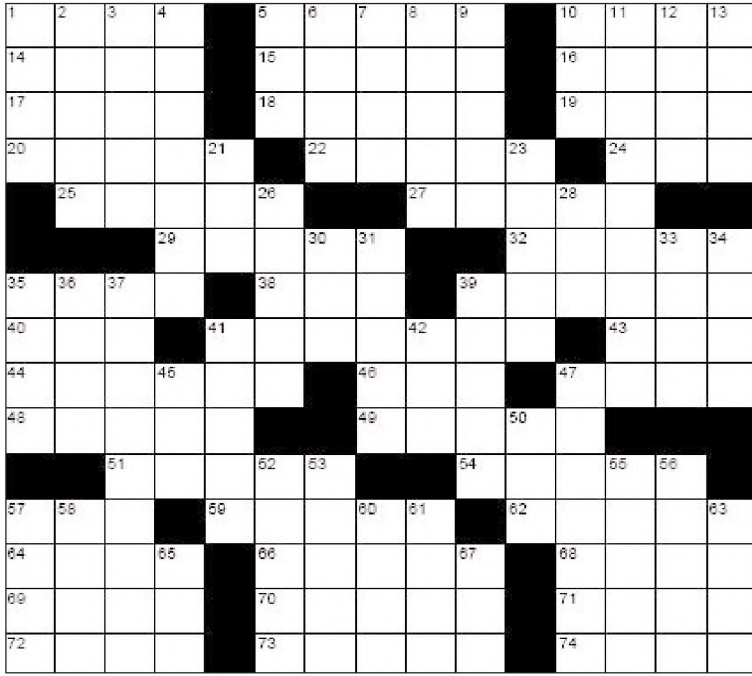
Elizabeth Hightower
junior, English
"Not being a jerk!"



Charlie Fischer
freshman, environmental conservation
"Keeping your word and sticking to your values."



Amy Baetsen
freshman, secondary ed.
"It means someone who is rugged and loves the outdoors and can take care of themselves."



Crystal Gochenour/NW

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 54 Pieces | 5 Pocket | 39 Bend over |
| 57 African antelope | 6 Turkish citizen | 41 Freed (2 wds.) |
| 59 Egg-shaped | 7 Wagon pullers | 42 Mr. |
| 62 Car manufacturer | 8 ___ of passage | 45 Farm credit administration (abbr.) |
| 64 Persona | 9 Bell stroke | 47 Untidy |
| 66 Terminate | 10 Ram's mate | 50 Capture |
| 68 Ticket amount | 11 Domino (2 wds.) | 52 Squashed circles |
| 69 Capital of Norway | 12 Smirk | 53 Delay |
| 70 Horse-like animal | 13 Ecological communities | 55 Jeweled headdress |
| 71 Loose | 21 Zero | 56 Turn |
| 72 Reasons | 23 Vaunts | 57 Expand |
| 73 Type of car | 26 Severity | 58 Eat lightly |
| 74 Ship's small boat | 28 Single | 60 Frog's cousin |
| | 30 IBM Competitor | 61 Writer Bombeck |
| | 31 Ad | 63 Reel |
| | 33 Tried and ___ | 65 Goddess |
| | 34 Sports channel | 67 Convert into leather |
| | 35 Tortoise and the ___ | |
| | 36 Exploiter | |
| | 37 Merrily | |

DOWN

- 1 Pile
- 2 Shade
- 3 Jeers
- 4 Distend

ACROSS

- 1 Kisses & ___
- 5 Bird that brings babies
- 10 Chicken product
- 14 Shine
- 15 Plant hormone
- 16 Article for sale
- 17 Abbreviation
- 18 Greek island
- 19 Native ruler in Asia
- 20 Clean
- 22 Was in a position of prayer
- 24 Compass point
- 25 Bustling
- 27 Sailing ship
- 29 Mount
- 32 Bridge
- 35 Mr. Downs of 60 minutes
- 38 Girl
- 39 Drives a car
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- 47 Was looked at
- 48 Build
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- 51 Bundle of branches

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Location: Whitman Hall 122 Humanities/Upper Division, World Cultures credit.

Professor Timothy G. Compton Prerequisites: Sophomore status and passing grade in EN211 4.000 credits

WEB: Lit. In Trans/Latin Am. Women Wr - 50667 - LG 317Z - 55

This course is taught in English and meets online.

Session I: May 19, 2008 - Jun 28, 2008

LG 317Z (Section 55) is a web-based course. Computer and web access are required.

Humanities/Upper Division, World Cultures credit.

Professor Susan D. Goodrich Prerequisites: Sophomore status and passing grade in EN211 (or HON112) 4.000 credits

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Class meets MTWR 9:50 am - 12:00 pm.

Location: Whitman 122 Formal Communication Studies credit (Division V Liberal Studies)

Instructor Amy S. Orf No prerequisites 4.000 credits

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Session II: Jun 30-Aug 09, 2008 Class meets MTWR 9:50 am - 12:00 pm. Location TBA.

Formal Communication Studies credit (Division V Liberal Studies)

Instructor Don Robison No prerequisites 4.000 credits

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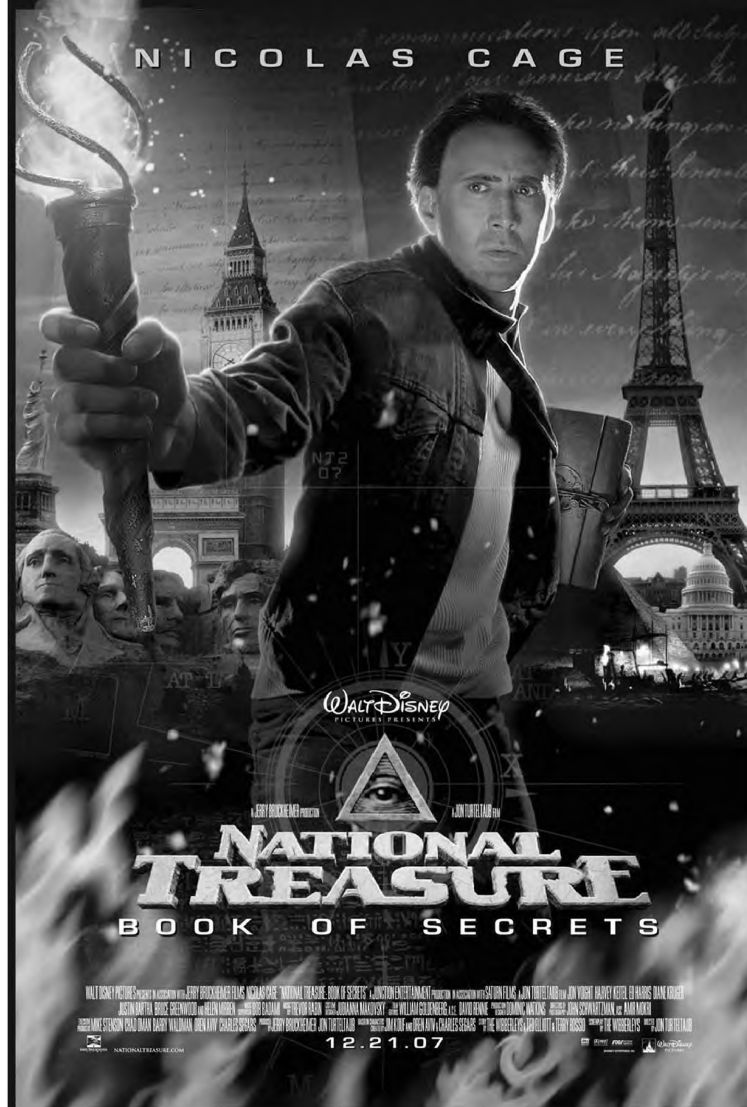
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Left: Sophomore Ben Filipowicz, playing the role of Jack Worthing, and junior Travis Moscinski as Algernon Moncrieff.

Below: Sophomore Bree Prehn as Lady Bracknell and freshman Emily Couling as Gwendolen Fairfax.

Photos courtesy of Kelly Passinault



EARNEST GOES TO FOREST ROBERTS

Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" debuted Wednesday night at Forest Roberts Theatre

by ALLI FOX
staff writer

"The Importance of Being Earnest," the final show in the Forest Roberts Theatre "Drop Everything" season, was described by the playwright himself — Oscar Wilde — as being "a trivial comedy for serious people."

And in that assertion, he was right. "Earnest" could lift even the most serious of hearts. Set in Victorian Britain, Wilde's masterwork is a scathing, over-the-top satire on upper-class society.

The Forest Roberts Theatre rendition begins as two butlers, played by Timmy Grams and Joe Gehart, cross the stage in a most serious manner carrying signs announcing the act and setting. The curtain rises, revealing the flat of Algernon Moncrieff (Travis Moscinski).

Algernon pretends to have a friend in the country named Bunbury who is constantly in ill health. That way, whenever he wants to escape responsibility, he can feign that his friend has fallen ill again and run off to the country to avoid whatever it is he doesn't want to do. This is a practice which he calls "Bunburying."

"Algernon's goal in the first act is really to be what a modern-day person would call a player," Moscinski said.

John "Jack" Worthing (Ben Filipowicz), Algernon's real-life best friend, lives in the country but makes frequent visits to

London. Algernon knows him as Ernest Worthing, but when he leaves his cigarette case in Algernon's flat, Algernon discovers the inscription, "From little Cecily to her dear Uncle Jack." Here it is revealed that Jack, too, is a "Bunburyist."

Jack's reasons for Bunburying are to visit Algernon's cousin, Gwendolen Fairfax (Emily Couling). He is enthralled with her and wishes to propose.

"What Jack really wants is to keep his secrets hidden and to marry Gwendolen," Filipowicz said.

However, Jack faces two adversities. First, Gwendolen says she only wants to marry him because his name is Ernest, "the only real safe name," according to her. Second, her frightening mother Lady Bracknell (Bree Prehn), believes that because Jack was abandoned in a train station as a baby, it is below the standards of her daughter to "marry into a cloakroom and form an alliance with a parcel."

Algernon, on the other hand, falls in love with Cecily (Ella Bartlett) purely on Jack's description. He goes to the country, despite Jack's opposition to the idea, and takes on the guise of Jack's brother Ernest in order to meet her.

"I think Algernon goes to the country in order to show Jack up by wooing Cecily ... but he ends up actually liking her and wanting to be with her," Moscinski said.

Like Gwendolen, Cecily is intent on marrying the mysterious Ernest.

"There is something in that name that seems to inspire absolute confidence," she says in the show.

"Cecily is really filled with sugarplums and flowers," Bartlett said. "But what she wants is to get her way. She wants to marry Jack's wicked younger brother and not do her lessons."

In the final act, the story is wrapped up in a perfect conclusion.

"It's one of the great contrived endings of all times," director James Panowski said. "All the loose endings are tied up. It's what is called 'deus ex machina.'"

"Earnest" has been pleasing audiences for ages. In fact, Panowski directed this very show at Forest Roberts 25 years ago.

"It's a great, fun show," he said. "It's a show of language and style. Students will

be greatly improved in language after doing it. It is also a great breakdown of male and female roles. Especially in college, we try to give men and women equal opportunities (to perform)."

Both audience and actors seemed to enjoy this presentation of "Earnest," but for Filipowicz, just being in the show was part of the magic.

"The fact that we are doing 'Earnest' is the best part," he said. "To be a part of the show's legacy is incredible."

"It's a comedy of errors," he added. "That's what makes it the beauty it is. It's incredibly clever."

Everyone can be a part of the magic, too. "The Importance of Being Earnest" runs from April 17 – 19. All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. with a 1 p.m. matinee on Saturday.



Photos courtesy of Kelly Passinault

Ben Filipowicz, Ella Bartlett and Travis Moscinski share the stage in Oscar Wilde's comedy "The Importance of Being Earnest." The play opened Wednesday night at Forest Roberts.

FIRST AID PRODUCTIONS HUMANE SOCIETY BENEFIT CONCERT



Students band together to help animal shelter

by JAMIE REED
managing editor

Since the group first formed in 2003, First Aid Productions has brought the likes of the Lawrence Arms, Alkaline Trio and The Suicide Machines to NMU's campus, giving the Marquette music scene a stab of energy and a glimpse at big time performances rarely found in the Upper Peninsula.

But when the group isn't contacting agents or shelling out bucks for the big names, it's busy organizing smaller, more intimate benefit shows in residence hall basements or campus courtyards. The group's most recent show, a benefit for the Marquette County Humane Society, took place on Thursday, April 10 in the Gant/Spalding basement. The concert featured bands The Final Fall, Mark5, Luck Roger and His Nine Lives and Pseudocell.

Lindsey Archambeau, president of First Aid, said she was surprised and happy with the concert's turnout.

"We had about 100 people come out throughout the whole show which was really surprising and I'm really pleased with it," she said. "We were really surprised with the amount of donations we got and everyone was really into the cause."

Sebastian Frye, a junior computer science major and the First Aid show manager, said everyone's attitude at the show – both the audience's and the performers' – was positive.

"I thought it was overall very successful," he said. "We had a large turnout for a basement show. We usually don't get as many people as we did. The bands were very cooperative for the cause."

Archambeau added that the group was able to collect approximately \$80 for the shelter, the majority of which was used for the humane society's Guardian Angels program. The program was started on Saturday, April 12 — the same day First Aid members brought the money to the shelter.

Dayna Kennedy, assistant manager at the Marquette County Humane Society, said that because of the donations, First Aid was able to sponsor a cat and dog for a two-month period through the program.

"[The program] provides a number of different things," she said. "It can be used for medication for our animals, food, anything - any general things that we need."

Kennedy added that she was very thankful for First Aid's donations — something the shelter is always in need of.

"I think it's definitely wonderful," she said. "We're hurting for money. We're a non-profit [organization], and it's nice that they thought about us. We're naturally excited about it."

First Aid has hosted other benefit shows in the past, including a concert for the annual TV6 Canathon and a benefit show for the 231 House of Muses. Archambeau said that while she thinks the attendance at benefit shows is about even with that of a regular concert, the audience attitude at a benefit show is definitely unique.

"People are more willing to come out to a benefit show because there is a purpose," she said. "Everyone wants to go to a show and have a good time, but if you're doing it for a reason, if you're doing it to support some cause, people are more likely to show up and support that cause."

First Aid is currently brainstorming ideas for future benefit shows in the fall. For more information on the group, visit firstaid-productions.com or contact fap@nmu.edu. To learn more about the Marquette County Humane Society's Guardian Angels program, visit www.upaws.org.

EARTH



DAY?

Volunteers unite for Earth Day events

by SHANE NYMAN
features editor

It looks as though the days of blizzards and class cancellations are over. Just as students thought spring would never come, it seems to have arrived just in time for Earth Day. Although Tuesday, April 22 is the official Earth Day, senior Amber Masters, social chair for the Environmental Science Organization (ESO), said instead of just focusing on that one day, her group and others have planned nearly a month's worth of activities.

Already this month, the Sustainable Agriculture Club showed documentarian Howard Lyman's film "Mad Cowboy" on campus, which explores the horrors of the cattle industry.

Many key events are left on the schedule that students can get involved with, including:

Spring Needs Drive

Starting on Monday, April 21, the Volunteer Center will hold its Spring Needs Drive until the last day of the semester. Students are encouraged to donate clothing, household items and non-perishable food as they start spring cleaning. Boxes will be placed around campus for donations, including the PEIF, the LRC, the bookstore and the lobbies of most residence halls.

Organics on a Budget

On Friday, April 18, the ESO will collaborate with the Marquette Food Co-op for a special presentation about organic foods at 7 p.m. in the Marquette Room of the University Center. Junior biology major Mallory Mahoney will give the presentation, which focuses on teaching students how eating organic doesn't always have to be expensive.

Natasha Gill, the educational outreach director for the co-op, said students will have a chance to not only ask questions and learn about organic foods, but

will also be able to try a variety of free samples.

"People have a perception that shopping at the co-op is very expensive and that eating organic foods is out of reach for college students," Gill said. "[Mahoney] is going to show how healthy, natural and organic foods can be affordable for college students."

Bike and Walk to Class Day

Thursday, April 24 will be a "Bike and Walk to Class Day." There will even be a special event for those who choose to pedal to class that day. From 10-3 p.m. in the academic mall, the ESO will also host a bike upkeep workshop with help from both Public Safety, who will be registering bikes, and a local bike shop. Representatives from the bike shop will be on hand to teach students how to keep their bicycles in tip-top shape.

Campus Cleanup

On Friday, April 25, the NMU Volunteer Center and the ESO will celebrate a belated Earth Day with a campus cleanup from noon to 4 p.m. Students are encouraged to come out and help pick up trash around campus, starting in the academic mall. Trash bags will be provided on site, and as a reward for the good deed, volunteers will be treated to free ice cream.

EARTH MONTH!

'Street Kings' limps through final act



by JOSH SNYDER
staff writer

"Street Kings," the latest from David Ayer ("Harsh Times"), falls into a trap familiar to action films. These films typically start off with a bang, something that really hooks viewers, but get confused and try to become serious dramas, shoving in a ridiculous plot and trying to establish deep, emotional characters. And as they drag on, they build up to a terrible final fight scene that no one cares about. Sadly, that's a great summary of "Kings."

Tom Ludlow (Keanu Reeves) is an LAPD officer still trying to hold onto the values he had when he first enlisted as a cop. But no matter how hard he tries, there are always more criminals filling the streets. And when a former partner is

gunned down in front of him, he vows to find those responsible and bring them to justice. But as he begins to investigate the murder, he starts to uncover a conspiracy of dirty cops who now have him in their sights.

The best part of "Kings" is its first act. Although the acting is poor, even for seasoned veterans like Forest Whitaker, who plays Captain Jack Wander, it's more than made up for in its dark, gritty atmosphere, complete with a very non-PC sense of humor. And though it may not be Shakespeare, the dialogue is fast and clever. There's just enough action to keep things interesting, which helps with pacing.

Ayer does an admirable job setting up the characters, but he uses techniques we've all seen before. Ludlow is an alcoholic who's willing to do the dirty work if it means some good will come out of it. It's a common stereotype, but Ayer also puts Ludlow at the center of a debate on morals and ethics in the justice system. These deep themes feel a bit out of place, but nonetheless I was happy to see Ayer attempt to tackle such tough topics, even if it doesn't lead to any intelligent thought or discussion.

If the film would have kept up with the entertainment factor of the first act, this may have been the best film of the year so far. But once the second act kicks in, which mainly consists of plot development, everything begins to fall apart. The story is boring and drags on. Worst of all, the structure of the narrative makes it unnecessarily hard to follow. It's a simple plot, but Ayer clearly needs to learn how to tell a story.

For a film like "Kings," you should never have to put any effort into understanding what is going on and if you do then something is definitely wrong.

Simply put, Ayer dropped the ball with this part of the film. The newly introduced characters are underdeveloped. Action takes a backseat to melodrama and for a moment it seems as if Ayer actually thinks the audience cares about Ludlow or everyone else running around with confused looks on their faces. And all of the humor and wit found in the beginning is gone, forcing viewers to focus on the terrible plot.

But "Kings" always feels as if it's

building up to something epic. And when the third act comes, we learn that it's been building up to nothing. Perhaps one of the biggest sins an action film can commit is ending anti-climactically. The final gunfight pales in comparison to those found earlier, and the ending is bland. The lack of quality is amplified by the very predictable plot twists. They're not only forced, but can be spotted from a mile away.

"Street Kings" may just be the epitome of a rental. There is no reason why anyone should waste their money seeing this in theaters. Definitely wait for this one to hit the dollar section at Blockbuster.



Keanu Reeves, who stars as officer Tom Ludlow, puts on an expected emotionless performance in the Los Angeles action flick "Street Kings."

Nothing new for feel-good 'Pettigrew'



by JOSH SNYDER
staff writer

Romantic comedies seem to be a thing of the past. Ever since Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan quit making films together, the genre has fallen into a formulaic slump. Though it won't lift the genre out of this rut, "Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day," the latest from director Bharat Nalluri, is a good, entertaining film with an interesting feel. And though it avoids many of the common pitfalls that plague the genre, it's still just another romantic comedy at heart.

Set in London in the days prior to World War II, "Pettigrew" follows governess Guinevere Pettigrew (Frances McDormand) who has just been fired from another client who claimed she was insufferable. When she's told by the agency she works for that her services are no longer

needed, Pettigrew steals information on a new client. She arrives at the luxurious apartment of singer Delysia Lafosse (Amy Adams), a young, attractive socialite in the midst of a crisis — three men are vying for Lafosse's affection, and she just can't make up her mind on who to choose. She asks Pettigrew for help and over the course of a day, both women begin to sort out their own lives.

"Pettigrew" is a romantic comedy, so it's unfair to be overly harsh about the quality of the story. You can expect certain things to happen in a film like this, such as melodramatic love stories. For the most part it succeeds in delivering everything you'd expect. At some points it feels a bit unbelievable and sometimes just downright fake, but at the same time it keeps itself in check. It never gets too carried away, so although you may be able to guess how everything is going to play out, it's forgivable to an extent.

What makes "Pettigrew" entertaining is its cast, which is made up of a really diverse group who all work well together. No one really lags behind the rest, an achievement that not many films recently have accomplished. And it's not just the main cast either; the supporting actors do a fantastic job.

Another interesting aspect of the cast is that the two main leads are actresses. It's no secret that men get all the best roles, which is a shame because there are plenty of talented actresses in Hollywood, which McDormand and Adams prove. These two have just as much talent as the majority of male actors working today, and I'm happy

to see them share top billing in a film that really relies on their talents as opposed to their looks.

What might be the most interesting aspect of "Pettigrew" is the choice of location and time. When you think of romantic comedies, you don't think about major world wars. These were dark and unsure times, the exact opposite of romantic comedies. But Nalluri has set the film in this era for these exact reasons. It wasn't done for aesthetics — it was done to help put the lives of these socialites and homeless workers into perspective. And the looming war isn't just something you occasionally hear people say in the background; it frequently affects the story. Just when it seems that a

conflict between two characters is about to come to a head, the sound of air raid sirens sends everyone into hiding, praying that it's just a drill. It was nice to see Nalluri use the setting in such an interactive way, because it really helped give the characters meaning and purpose.

Still, as a romantic comedy, "Pettigrew" can only go so far. While I applaud it for not being the cliché drivel it easily could have been, it's just an alright film. It entertains enough to warrant the price of admission, but it won't pull on your heart strings or set off a flood of tears. But for those looking for a little feel-good film to get them through the stressful end of the semester, it gets the job done.



Amy Adams and Frances McDormand both put on impressive performances in Bharat Nalluri's romantic comedy "Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day."

Apples B-sides album won't attract new fans



★★★★☆

by ADAM DOMPIERRE
staff writer

After spending their early years operating in the considerable shadows of Neutral Milk Hotel and the Olivia Tremor Control, the Apples in Stereo is the last band of the original Elephant Six — a collection of indie bands who gained notoriety in the early '90s — still making music.

And while they never earned the fawning critical praise heaped upon their labelmates/collaborators, it's worth noting that the Apples have been remarkably consistent for nearly a decade after the other two bands disbanded.

"Electronic Projects for Musicians" collects 12 years

worth of B-sides and unreleased material. With a couple exceptions, it's easy to see why these songs never made a full-length album.

"Shine (In Your Mind)" kicks things off with clean electric guitars and typically upbeat lyrics. The track previously made the Japanese release of "Fun Trick Noisemaker" and there are definitely a few tracks on the U.S. version that it could have replaced. "Thank You Very Much" delivers the same charm, with Robert Schneider and Hillarie Sidney harmonizing over a piano's lethargic chord progression.

Other highlights are the consciously quirky songs. "The Apples Theme Song," with tongue-in-cheek lyrics like, "We are the Apples in Stereo / You hear us rockin' at the rock 'n' roll show," is refreshing in an age of self-important musicians.

Stephen Colbert fans will get a kick out of "Stephen Stephen," Schneider's beach-pop ode to Colbert. "He's calling out the bears in their evil lairs," is probably the best line on the album.

Unfortunately, the rest of "Electronic Projects for Musicians" is a pale imitation of

what makes the Apples so much fun to listen to.

All the same elements are there, from Brian Wilson-influenced melodies to crashing guitars and cymbals, but the band was wise to have relegated these tracks to B-sides and seven inches.

The songs are pleasant enough and enjoyable for fans, but far from the Apples' best work. "Man You Gotta Get Up" sounds like one of "Velocity's" lesser tracks and "The Golden Flower" sounds like subpar Yo La Tengo.

Another major weakness is the album doesn't have any tracks featuring Sidney's vocals, which are surely missed.

The album has a handful of curiosities as well, like the French lyrics on "Avril en Mai." It's also good to hear Schneider strip away his wall of sound for the acoustic number "Hold On To This Day." But this release should be left to people who are already fans. The uninitiated would be better served to pick up "Fun Trick Noisemaker" or "New Magnetic Sound" rather than risk the relatively strange waters of "Electronic Projects for Musicians."



Radio X's top weekly album plays:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Now Hear This Independent Music Awards 2008 Winners | 6. R.E.M. "Accelerate" |
| 2. Various Artists New Music From Northern Ireland | 7. Someone Still Loves Boris Yeltsin "Pershing" |
| 3. The Raconteurs "Consolers of the Lonely" | 8. The Kills "Midnight Boom" |
| 4. The Dirtbombs "We Have You Surrounded" | 9. Landon "One Woman Army" |
| 5. Death Cab for Cutie "I Will Possess Your Heart" (Single) | 10. Soundtrack "21" |



Week's top RUCKUS downloads:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Leona Lewis "Bleeding Love" | 6. Jordin Sparks "No Air" |
| 2. Flo Rida "Low" | 7. Timbaland "Apologize" |
| 3. Wyclef Jean "Sweetest Girl" | 8. Colbie Caillat "Bubbly" |
| 4. Timbaland "The Way I Are" | 9. OneRepublic "Stop and Stare" |
| 5. Colbie Caillat "Realize" | 10. Lil Wayne "Lollipop" |

They gave him 6 months
He had other plans

After a youth spent nourishing a musical gift, David Bailey set his guitar aside and entered corporate America. Ten years later, doctors told David he had a malignant brain tumor & gave him 6 months to live. This was a turning point — turn to music, turn to other doctors, turn inside & fight. Eleven years & 16 albums later, David continues to defy his diagnosis & move audiences with his music. Songs about time, faith, hope, love & dreams are heavy with David's life experiences. Leave inspired. Leave thankful. Leave thinking of those lost. Leave hoping for those still fighting.

Thursday, April 24
7:00pm
Reynolds Recital Hall
Northern Michigan University

Admission is free, donations encouraged
906-225-4597 888-886-4644
hopestarthere.org

UPPER MICHIGAN BRAIN TUMOR CENTER Northern Michigan University

Donations will go to support ground-breaking research currently being conducted by the Upper Michigan Brain Tumor Center — a collaboration between Marquette General and Northern Michigan University.

National Sexual Assault Awareness Month Activities

The Clothesline Project

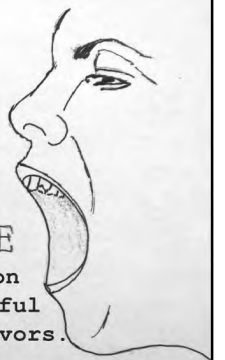


When: Tuesday April 22, 2008 from 10:00am-4:00pm
Where: Lower Lobby of the LRC

Resource materials provided by NMU Public Safety, the NMU Health Promotion Office (HPO) and the Women's Center Sexual Assault Response Program.

VOICES OF COURAGE

A Readers Theater Presentation giving NMU voices to the powerful stories of sexual assault survivors.



JXJ 103, 7:00 pm

APRIL 23RD

This event is being coordinated by NMU's Women for Women

NO BOOMING BASS
No Special Effects
JUST COLD
HARD
CASH

Your college bookstore is buying books back.
Stop waiting to be wowed. Go cash in your books.

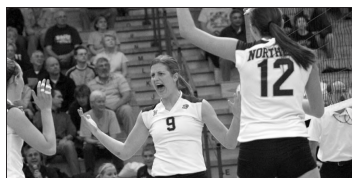
CASH **FOR**
Books

April 21-25 8am-5pm
April 26 10am-1pm
April 28-May 2 8am-6pm
May 3 10am-3pm

Second Buyback Location:

Payne-Halverson Lobby - April 29-May 1 10am-4pm

NMU Bookstore
www.nmubookstore.com



2008 redshirt freshman Jared Benson (shown in the middle of a pre-game huddle) will be expected to play quality minutes for the 'Cats and head coach Dean Ellis (back right). Spencer Bouchard/NW

COME TOGETHER

NMU basketball's 2007-2008 group of redshirt freshman push for success next season

by CURT KEMP
sports editor

The NMU men's basketball team redshirted four freshman players last season. Of the four, three will be returning to next year's squad: centers Jared Benson and Eric Hawley and guard Raymont McElroy.

The three athletes couldn't be more different.

McElroy comes from the Milwaukee City Conference, while Benson and Hawley are Upper Peninsula high school products. Benson stands 6 feet 10 inches and has the ability to shoot the three, while Hawley, at 6 feet 8 inches is an athletic and gritty center who's a standout on defense. In contrast to the centers, McElroy brings point guard flash to NMU and a leadership ability that's been on display in off-season workouts and during practice.

Despite the differences, the coaching staff agrees on one thing: These three players are special.

"That's an incredible recruiting class," head coach Dean Ellis said. "And nobody knows."

As far as off-season work ethic goes, the results have been impressive. Both Benson and Hawley trained with Marquette's Advantage Sports to increase their agility and stamina, and thus far both have made strides — Hawley put on 10 pounds of muscle, and Benson has both toned his muscle and gained the stamina needed to play center in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC), Ellis said.

"Those three guys, you don't even have to prod them to work hard, they're just doing it. They just know they have to do it," Ellis said. "That's an incredible recruiting class sitting right there, and they've already got a year and a half under their belts from practice."

Assistant coach Dan Waterman

said these player all have made big strides.

After a 2008 season that saw the loss of a starting point guard and issues with depth, Benson, from Carney-Nadeau High School, Hawley, from Ontonagon, and McElroy, from Milwaukee South, will be looked at to play important minutes for the 2008 Wildcat basketball team.

Jared Benson

Benson, at nearly seven feet, is expected to be almost an instant impact next season. He comes to NMU after four years under C-N head coach Paul Polfus.

Polfus, who is also the father of NMU senior guard Mike Polfus, allowed Benson to shoot the ball from outside more than the average high school coach would, and Waterman said that's helped Benson to become a very special player.

"At 98 percent of the schools anywhere, at 6 feet 10 inches, the high school coach is going to take him and put him on the block," Waterman said. "Paul is a visionary. He does a very good job of

That's an incredible recruiting class sitting right there, and they've already got a year and a half under their belts from practice.

— Dean Ellis
head basketball coach

utilizing his players' different skill sets. If he's got a big kid that can shoot, he'll let him go out there and shoot."

The NMU coaching staff said Benson has "NBA-range" from the 3-point line and that he dribbles and passes like a guard. In addition to an unlikely skill set for a center, Benson is also a confident player.

"I like guys that are cocky, bor-

der line arrogant," Waterman said. "Because if you don't believe in yourself, then who will?"

According to Ellis, Benson has reason to be confident.

"He's potentially one of the best inside players we've had in our program," Ellis said.

Benson said his prep background in Carney-Nadeau was a big reason or his success.

"Basically the only sport we have is basketball," he said. "We don't have football or soccer — no baseball teams. So basically everything just revolved around basketball."

He added that, while growing up, he always had the opportunity to compete with older players — namely Paul Polfus' sons, Finlandia University product Jake Polfus and the aforementioned Mike Polfus. Mike is five years older than Benson, while Jake is eight years his senior. Benson also attributed his basketball knowledge to his father, who pushed both him and his sister to basketball.

His sister, Carly Benson, currently plays on the University of Michigan women's basketball team.

One thing that Benson's high school lacks, though, is a weight program — something the center has adjusted to since coming to Northern. Benson said, at first, his shot was affected because of all the weightlifting.

"I was lifting for a couple weeks, where we were going five or six times a week with no shooting at all," he said. "But, when the season comes around, I think I'll be able to come down the floor and hit threes."

Waterman said that, once Benson gets stronger and becomes fully immersed in NMU's system, the sky is the limit for him.

"I told him once we started workouts, 'You're not a freshman anymore. With the body you have and the skill set you have, you have the potential to play professionally overseas.'" Waterman

said. "And it's a four-year goal. You can't decide to be mediocre for the next three years and then turn it on your senior year."

Ellis said that, with this group of freshman players, he is impressed with how well they work together despite their different backgrounds.

"They couldn't be from different places — Carney and Milwaukee?" Ellis noted. "There's some major differences."

Raymont McElroy

McElroy was approached by Ellis immediately following a showcase of high school talent in lower Wisconsin.

"He just stuck out to me," Ellis said. "Having coached (former standout) Ricky (Volcy) for four years, Ray(mont)'s personality immediately reminded me of Ricky. He's got that attitude that he doesn't want to lose."

In practice, McElroy has shown leadership uncommon by a redshirt freshman.

"Even this year, when it was him and the redshirts versus our first team (offense), he thought that he should be competing against the first team," Waterman said. "And that attitude rubs off on the whole team."

One player who the guard has rubbed off on is Benson, who says that McElroy has the ability to find him wherever he is on the court.

"I'm always looking at him and I know exactly where he's going to be," Benson said. "And he doesn't have to look at me to know where I am on the court."

Ellis said the combination of McElroy and Benson is much like the former combo of senior guard Jake Suardini and Volcy.

"Raymont and Jared are like that — and for four years, we'll be very fortunate," Ellis said. "They'll have a riot playing with each other."

Ellis went as far as to ask McElroy to sign the NMU trading card with his picture on it.

"I called him into my office, and sat him down," Ellis said. "And I said, 'Sign this baby. Because some day it's going to be worth some money.'"

"His point guard knowledge and skills are as good as anybody I've ever had here," Ellis, the 23-year head coach at NMU, said.

McElroy said, before committing to NMU, he was recruited by Division I teams, but settled with NMU because of Ellis' coaching style and the campus community.

"I liked the atmosphere and I liked the players (at NMU). And that's all that matters to me," he said. "Division I, Division II, it doesn't matter."

According to Waterman, the final recruit of the class, Hawley is the best value.

Eric Hawley

"He's a steal," Ellis said about Hawley. "An absolute steal. We brought him in and it just jumped out how good of an athlete he is."

Hawley's defensive ability is the one aspect of his game that has been most impressive thus far.

"He's made some plays that just stop practice," Ellis said. "He'll get to a block, he'll get to a rebound. We just stop practice and say, 'Wow. Where did that come from?'"

Hawley's teammate, Tyler Kazmierkoski, said the center's defensive ability has been impressive on more than one occasion.

"Last year, as a freshman, he was not only blocking my shots, but Darren Jones — as a senior — was getting his dunks blocked by him," Kazmierkoski said.

"I just don't want him to guard me on the scout team anymore," he added. "Because I'm tired of getting my shot blocked."



HAWLEY

NMU season sports banquets 2008

SOCCKER: 12-5-2 in 2007 season

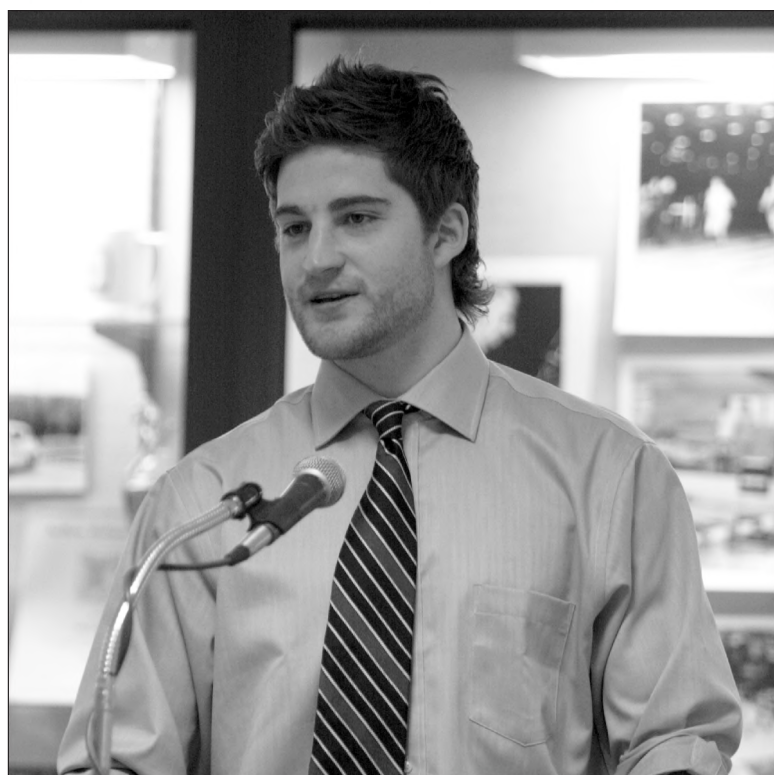


At the annual NMU Wildcat soccer end-of-season awards ceremony, academic, as well as athletic, awards were handed out to members of the team.

Senior captain and forward Amanda Gadomski (far left) was honored as a senior member of the soccer team on Sunday. In 2007, Gadomski ranked second on the team in points, with 13. She ranked second in shots as well, with 37.

Brittney Buchanan (left) was fifth on the team in points and tied for third in goals. Buchanan was selected to attend the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) National Student-Athlete Development Conference in Orlando, Fla., at the Walt Disney World Resort. Buchanan and NMU hockey player Derek May were selected to attend the conference. Buchanan is one of five seniors on next year's team.

HOCKEY: 20-20-4 for 2007-2008



Wednesday night, for the 2007-2008 NMU hockey awards banquet, Tom Mogush of ESPN 970 and Q107 was the master of ceremony. The event gave out 12 awards for athletic and academic achievements.

Senior Matt Siddall (top far left) received the Dennis Sibilsky Memorial Senior Award for achievements as a senior on the hockey team. Siddall scored 18 goals and assisted on 18 more goals, finishing with 36 points, good for a second-place tie on the team with Nick Sirota.

Head coach Walt Kyle (top right) returned to the Joe Louis Arena this postseason after a one year layoff. The 'Cats lost the opening round game to the University of Michigan, then defeated eventual national champion runner-up, Notre Dame, in the third place game of the CCHA Championships.



Matt Butcher (bottom far left) received the Ed Ward Most Improved Player Award. Butcher scored 8 goals and 15 assists, including the game-winning goal in overtime against Michigan State that advanced the Wildcats on to the Joe Louis Arena.

Erik Gustafsson (bottom left) got the Tom Laidlaw Best Defenseman Award for the 2007-2008 season. Gustafsson also picked up the Steve Bozek Plus-Minus Award, finishing the season with a +14 plus-minus, the highest on the team.

Golf competes in three tournaments

by GORDON BEEDLE
associate sports editor

Despite the piles of snow still on the ground, the NMU golf team has participated in two tournaments this spring season.

The first was April 6-7 at the Northern Kentucky University Spring Regional Invitational in Georgetown, Ky.

NMU finished in 21st place with a team score of 652 (+76). Indianapolis University took first place with a score of 577, shooting just one stroke over par. Ferris State finished with 578,

Grand Valley tied Northern Kentucky at 580, while Wayne State (582) and Northwood (585) rounded out the top six finishers in the tournament.

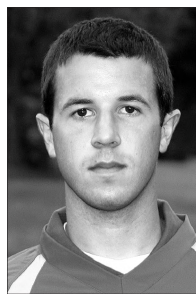
"We play in a very competitive conference region, and this tournament was no exception," junior Neil Passinault said.

Passinault had the best individual finish for NMU as he placed 80th with a score of 158 (+14). Luke Thode tied for 91st with a score of 161, which was 17 over par. Ben Fulcher finished tied for 94th with a match score of 162 (+18). Rob Desimone fin-

ished with a 173 and Tom Sarasin with a 176 for the 'Cats.

After the first match Passinault said the low finishes on the team were partially due to the weather at NMU being too cold for practices.

"I don't know about the other guys, but I usually just play a lot of Tiger Woods (golf) on



PASSINAULT

Playstation 2," Passinault said. "But seriously, practice is nearly impossible in the spring because of all the snow in the U.P. The only chance that we have to practice in March and April is while we're on the road for tournaments."

The top final score went to Jason Dunlup of Northwood and Joe Juszczky of Wayne State who each finished with a 138 (-6).

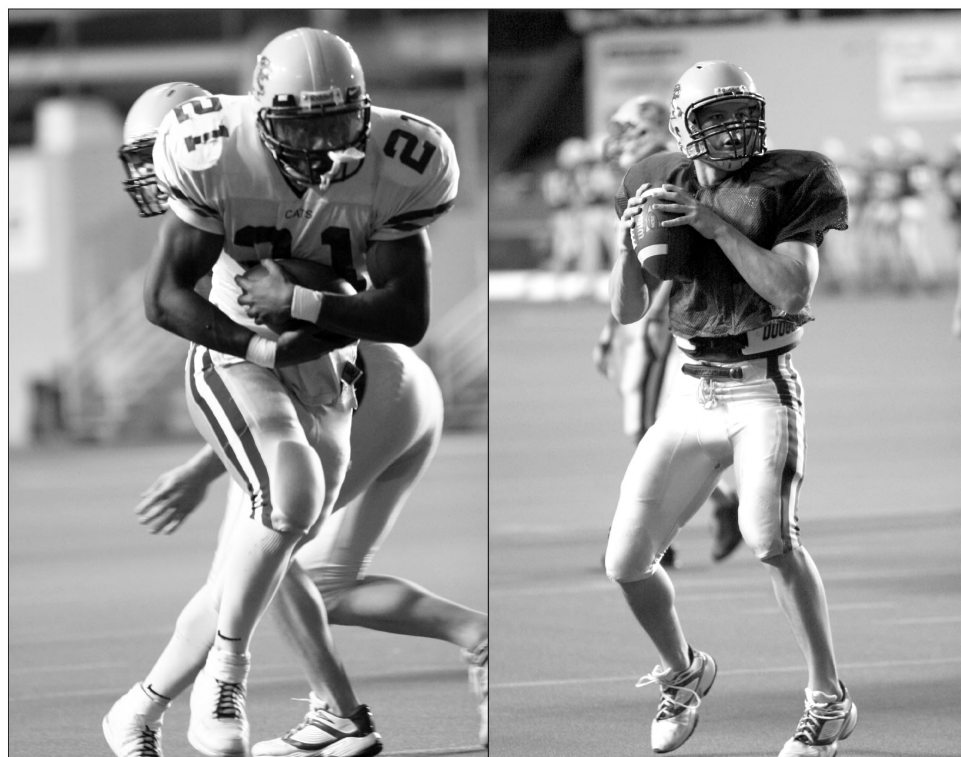
The second tournament for the 'Cats was in Ashland, Ohio. NMU finished eighth overall with a team score of 646, 70 strikes over par. Grand Valley

took first with a 595 (+19), Ferris State second with 602 (+26), Wayne State with 608 (+32), Findlay University with 611 (+35) and Ashland University rounded out the top five with 613 (+37).

The best individual final scores for NMU were Anthony Bilich with a 154 (+11), Passinault with a 167 (+23), Desimone with 168 (+24) and Sacrasin with 173 (+29).

The next tournament for the 'Cats is the NCAA regional No. 3 in Noblesville, Ind., on Saturday, April, 19 and Sunday, April 20.

Spring football game to show off the brand new defense, position battles



by GORDON BEEDLE
associate sports editor

This Saturday, the NMU football team will finish its spring training in traditional fashion with a 4 p.m. game in the Superior Dome.

After a 4-6 record and the loss of six starting defensive players and star quarterback Buddy Rivera, the team is looking for changes and improvements on both sides of the ball this coming season.

To help the 'Cats continue with improvement, head coach Bernie Anderson brought in new quarterbacks and wide receiving coach Dan Mettlach and defensive coordinator Randy Awrey.

Awrey is in the process of changing NMU's entire defensive scheme, an important task considering the 2007 stats.

The Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) is known as an offensive league. Last year NMU

ranked 10th out of 13 teams in the conference for scoring defense.

Awrey comes to NMU from Saginaw Valley State University, where he helped lead the Cardinals to a 7-3 season last year before leaving.

Mettlach was a player under Anderson at Michigan Tech and is looking to take part in the process of replacing one of the best quarterbacks in the Wildcat history books. There are four quarterbacks fighting for the spot: Matt Blanchard, a freshman from Lake Zurich Ill., Vincent Church, a sophomore from Grand Junction, Mich., Ben Hempel, a sophomore from Franklin, Wisc. and Carter Kopach, a freshman from Bolingbrook, Ill.

After the spring game, the first regular season game for the new football squad is scheduled for Sept. 6 against the Northwood Timberwolves at the Superior Dome.



Mark Bossuah (top left), Carter Kopach (top right) and Tyler Schrauber take part in spring drills. The Spring Game will take place Saturday at 4 p.m. in the Dome. Photos by Spencer Bouchard/NW

Tom Barnes has five rules to live by - so does his team

by CARSON LEMAHIEU
assistant sports editor

When then-assistant coach Tom Barnes met with NMU's first track team five years ago, he asked the girls what their goals for the season were. The girls then asked him what goals he had for the team.

He told them that his number one goal was kindness.

Since that historic first year, Barnes has become the team's head coach and also added a new goal for the team each year (in chronological order): responsibility, perseverance, trust and determination.

Kindness

"Kindness is being respectful to other people — officials, your teammates, your opponents — if you have nothing nice to say, don't say anything at all — things like that," Barnes said. "We've stuck with that and it's become our first goal every year and I think it sets us up to be a good group."

Barnes said the team's attitude of kindness is a quality that needs to be present in everything the team does. He also tries to exemplify it in his coaching style.

"I can never yell at anyone, it's just not my style," he said.

Senior Stephanie Boyer agreed that Barnes is a different kind of coach — a coach who silently leads and motivates his team.

"I actually did hear him raise his voice at me once, but he apologized for it," Boyer said. "Getting apologized to by a coach is something I wasn't expecting at all. He's the kind of coach you just never want to

let down."

Having a team that "runs on kindness" also has a positive effect on freshman runners who might be nervous about joining a college team. Freshman Brittnee Balbierz said the respect shown to her by the team surprised her.

"When I came in, I was really nervous about how people would treat me and look at me because I'm a freshman," Balbierz said. "But I got on the team and everyone respected me and treated me great."

Determination

Before coming to the Wildcats, Barnes was co-owner of Barnes Bros. Inc., a roofing company, and coached track at Father Marquette Middle School. When the NMU track team started in 2003, then-head coach Sten Fjeldheim selected Barnes to be his assistant.

"I've known Sten for quite a long time and I'd coached in the area with youth and he insisted that I be his assistant coach," Barnes said. "He had confidence in me that I could get the program going."

The first team consisted of 20-some athletes — all walk-ons. During the five years that Barnes has coached at NMU, the team has grown considerably in size and talent. This season, the team has 12.6 scholarships and 42 members.

Barnes said the first year of recruiting was tough because the team wasn't well-known in the area. Over the past five years, the team has garnered a positive reputation around the area, making the task of recruiting much less daunting.



Photo courtesy of Sports Information
Head track coach Tom Barnes and assistant coach Jenny Ryan stand surrounded by this year's seniors (clockwise from bottom left): Brittney Coehoorn, Tiffany Ferarri, Stephanie Boyer, Kaylee Laakso, Paris Malin, Leslie Luehmann, Danielle Stein, Kyle Richards, Danielle St. Onge and Callie Boik

"Our recruiting is getting better and better over the years. As more and more people recognize the program and that our team is improving, the more people begin to inquire and come here to run on the team," Barnes said. "We're to the point now where it's really competitive to make the team and we are going to have tryouts."

Barnes has set up a practice schedule that works around the class schedules of his athletes to allow them to not have to worry about which classes they will sign up for. Because of this, practices run each morning from 7 a.m. to around 2 p.m. Barnes spends so much time working with the team and recruiting that he has created a make-shift office in a track storage room underneath the Superior Dome bleachers.

"What I did was moved my stuff and made a work station down here so I can get my other work done," Barnes said. "Running the team takes a lot of work. It's kind of like running a business."

Trust

With the staggered practice schedule, Barnes also has to have a sense of trust in his athletes. Assistant coach Jenny Ryan said she and Barnes truly feel they have trust in all the athletes on the team.

"Tom definitely trusts [the team]," Ryan said. "In a sport like track, you have to trust that everyone is working hard and you have to trust that they are going to act like the young adults that they are."

Senior Callie Boik said Barnes lets everyone know how important hard work is and trusts that everyone will always try hard at practice.

"He reminds us of the value of hard work every day," Boik said.

"He doesn't scream at us or blow a whistle in our faces. He just says, 'This is for you and only you — if you don't want to do it, I can't make you do anything.'"

Responsibility

One place where Barnes has placed a lot of trust in his team is academics. His trust hasn't been betrayed — the team was an All-American All-Academic Team last season and is headed toward repeating the honor. According to NMU Sports Information, the team earned a 3.09 GPA — the fifth highest of all teams at NMU — last fall.

All NCAA coaches say that academics are important, but Barnes' athletes said that when he says academics matter, it has meaning.

"If you're doing bad in the class, he would rather see you not come in, and instead get caught up in a class. He schedules our buses to leave on Fridays after everyone's classes. He will wait until you are out of class for the bus to leave, that is how much he cares," Boik said. "The 'student' really comes out in 'student athlete' with Tom as a coach."

Ryan said that, as an assistant coach on the team, she backs up Barnes' philosophy of putting grades ahead of athletics.

"The idea is that we have to help these athletes get through college," Ryan said. "Very few of these athletes are going to go onto that next level of running, most of them are going to graduate and move into a career after college."

The focus on academics begins before the athletes even get to NMU. Barnes said that when he recruits athletes he looks for athletes who are not only motivated and passionate about their sport but also willing to put

in the time to be successful in the classroom.

"When I'm looking at recruits, I'm looking for a good student — someone who is willing to keep up their studies — because that is number one with us," Barnes said.

"They don't have to have a great grade point to join the team, because I think some people get better at the collegiate level than at the high school level sometimes, because here, they are going to be around a good group," he added.

Perseverance

This year marks the end of an era for the NMU track team. At the end of the outdoor season, the last of the seniors from the first team will graduate and move forward with their lives. For Barnes, this is a bittersweet moment; he has worked with these athletes and watched them grow since they began their college careers five long years ago.

"It's just starting to sink in," he said. "I'm happy for them — for what they've accomplished — they are all going to go on and accomplish great things in the world and contribute to the communities they go to," Barnes said. "Even right now, thinking about it chokes me up a little bit. I don't want to see them go, but I do want to see them go."

Barnes doesn't let the graduation of this year's seniors cloud his positive outlook for the future of the team. He said that in the future, the team will improve on their seventh place finish in the GLIAC Indoor Championship.

"I think we can do some great things. I'm talking about starting by getting into the top 25, and from there we can go anywhere," Barnes said. "[The team] is ever-changing but we're always getting better."



Spencer Bouchard/NW
Track coach Tom Barnes has a track-side conference with Leslie Luehmann during a meet in the Superior Dome earlier this season.

NMU Athletic GPA Standings

SPORT DESC	Average NMU GPA	Total Athletes	Dean's List
Basketball - Men	2.57	14	4
Basketball - Women	3.01	14	7
Cross-Country - Women	3.36	26	19
Football	2.59	103	20
Golf	2.62	8	2
Ice Hockey	3.07	28	10
Indoor Track - Women	3.09	41	21
Nordic Skiing - Men	3.54	9	7
Nordic Skiing - Women	3.51	9	6
Outdoor Track - Women	3.09	42	22
Soccer	3.08	25	13
Swimming - Women	2.96	18	8
Volleyball	3.40	17	14
Summary	3.07	354	153

- Information courtesy of Sports Information. Graphic by Chad Casper/NW

Student-athletes tell what it takes

by CURT KEMP
sports editor

Imagine waking up at 6 a.m. for practice. Then going to practice. And then to class, coming home, and starting it all over again the following day.

With the average work day at eight hours, student athletes at any university are putting in overtime.

At NMU, each team has its academic leaders. In their own words, this is what it's like to balance the two:

Kristen Schulz, freshman sports science major, indoor/outdoor track and cross country, 4.0 GPA

"Having a sport and academics, I feel like they balance themselves out. If I don't have one, it feels like something's missing."

Erin Powers, sophomore biology-physiology major, women's basketball, 4.0 GPA

"I think I just have a good work ethic. I always have. Whenever I have to get something done, I just get it done."

Maria Stuber, second-year grad student majoring in exercise science, nordic ski team, 3.95 GPA

"You have to think about it like athletics is paying for school, so you have to make sure that it's important. Some people probably wouldn't be in school if it weren't for athletics."

Anne Speers, freshman English secondary education major, soccer, 3.97 GPA

"I guess there's a balance, because without athletics, I wouldn't be at this school."

"Basically, just having a schedule is what really helps. Because if you're not playing your sport, you have to concentrate and get things done."

Evan Lucas, freshman construction management major, hockey, 4.0 GPA

"The biggest change was coming from junior (hockey). I spent three years not doing anything, just hockey and going to work every now and then. It's a lot different having a set schedule — going to class and doing the homework and studying and all that stuff."

"My parents are always behind me — they're professors at Northern — every week, they're asking me how things are going, if there's any exams or anything."

Jonathan Laue, junior electronics engineering tech, football, 3.76 GPA

"(Head football coach) Bernie (Anderson) has always been heavy into academics. My parents have really pushed me a lot to get the best out of me."

"If you're not going to get it right the first time, when are you going to have the time to do it the next time? Why not just put your full effort in to something the first time?"

Tyler Kazmierkoski, senior social studies/secondary education major, men's basketball, 3.85 GPA, all-conference academic team.

"I have a competitive nature in whatever I do, and I look at being competitive in the classroom as being competitive for the future."

"Once you're used to the schedule of things, I almost feel lost when we have a couple of weeks off."

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TODAY, APRIL 17

Event: Intervarsity Christian Fellowship will meet from 6-10 p.m. in the Pioneer A and 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: The Swing 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: "Futurama: Bender's Big Score" (NR) will show at 9 p.m. in JXJ 102. Admission is free for NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

Event: Superior Geography Club will host a High-Five Groundation Benefit Concert at 5 p.m. at Upfront & Company.

FRI., APRIL 18

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

Event: WUPX will meet from 12-1:30 p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

Event: Environment Science Organization will host Evon Peters from 7-9 p.m. in the Marquette and Nicolet Rooms of the University Center.

SAT., APRIL 19

Event: There will be a Holistic Health Fair from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center.

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

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

Event: The English depart-

ment will host a reading with author Jeff VandeZande from 7-10 p.m. in the Charcoal Room of the University Center.

Event: "March of Dimes: March for Babies" will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. starting at the Marquette Armory.

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

SUN., APRIL 20

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

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

Event: Victory Over Death will meet from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Nicolet Room of the University Center.

Event: Primetime Productions will host Capture the Flag at 3 p.m. in the Payne/Halverson Field.

Film: "National Treasure: The Book of Secrets" (PG) will show at 9 p.m. in JXJ 102.

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

MON., APRIL 21

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

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

TUES., APRIL 22

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.

WED., APRIL 23

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

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

Event: Lutheran Student

Movement will meet from 8:30-10 p.m. in the Nicolet Room of the University Center.

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

Event: Environmental Science Organization will meet from 6-8 p.m. in the Cadillac 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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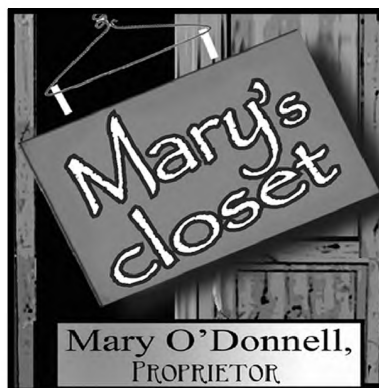
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March Volunteer of the Month



The NMU Volunteer Center and Casa Calabria would like to congratulate March's Volunteer of the Month, Jeremiah Bubb. Through his involvement in the Northern Michigan Constructors, he has had the opportunity to volunteer alongside several extraordinary people, helping them to make a difference, both on and off campus. As a volunteer for Marquette County Habitat for Humanity, he has helped not only on home projects in Marquette, but also volunteered in New Orleans to help rebuild after Hurricane Katrina. In addition, he has volunteered with the Heroes at Home Rebuilding Together project where he helped to renovate the home of an injured veteran of the Iraq war. He has also volunteered to help with carpentry projects on campus including projects with the Beaumier Heritage Center, the Hospitality Management program and the NMU Foundation, and off campus with the Marquette County Kiwanis Club and the Ishpeming Ski Club. We would like to congratulate Jeremiah for all of his wonderful commitments to service and award him with the NMU Volunteer Center Volunteer of the Month for March.

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

Walt Kyle — You're incredible. — **River Valley Bank**

Les Wong — I've heard through an anonymous mailing that dealing with us students makes you hurl. Sorry. — **NMU Students**

Angry hick from the Ann Coulter speech — I know you would never read a liberal communist paper such as this, but

good luck "mining sulfides" and bombing "Iranis" with them. — **angry liberal**

Ann — Saw you in the WSJ. Looking good. Marry me? — **JDS**

People who went to 1st Amendment Day — I had a blast debating. Thank you a ton. — **Carson**

Jackie — Saw your blog in the paper. Good job, you know, with the no facts and emotions. — **JDS**

Housewife with trig skills — Thursday night, Matrixx, trust me, I do it all the time. — **JDS**

Video games — Just one week and we'll be reunited in heavenly bliss. — **Stressed out gamer**

NW Staff — Floating like a manatee all summer, anyone care to join? — **JDS**

Roommate — We cleaned that apartment in record time. I think a little Frosty Treats may be in order. — **Other Roommate**

Parents — I had a great weekend. I'm looking forward to coming home! Duluth, then Chicago. It's going to be a crazy weekend. — **Daughter**

Roommate — Alright. I know what you are thinking. Who needs an excuse to go to Frosty Treats? Not us, that's for sure. — **Other Roommate**

Michigan St. — I'm looking forward to a great last year. It's going to be a blast. — **One of four**

China — Only a couple more months. I can't wait. Let's be tourists right away and go see the Great Wall. — **Still waiting**

McDonald's — This will be my last summer with you. It's been a long time coming. — **Employee**

Denise — We should go on a road trip to Alaska. It would be fun. And if we can't afford that, we can at least go to the Paulding Light. — **Jackie**

Berken — I'm scared of May. What am I going to do without you? Seriously. — **Jamie**

Stark — High five on the editorial. I won't leave you hanging this time. — **ME**

Rha—Thanks for everything—**Me**

Jake — Nice job on your presentation today. I was much impressed...and extremely embarrassed for you. — **Classmate**

Carson — Please stop singing Chocolate Rain. It's already in my head. — **Chocolate Rain Amateur**

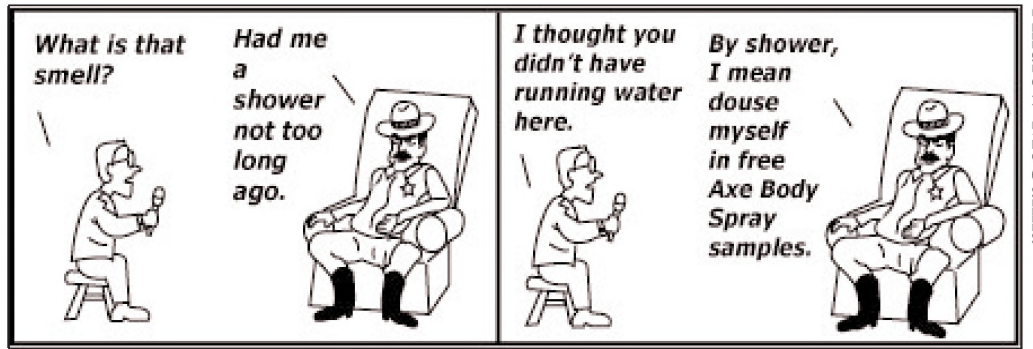
Nicole — I finally got a grip on your life. And I'm extremely relieved. — **Cousin**

Snow Days



Susan Page

The Assassin Sessions



Andrew McCanna

Stick People



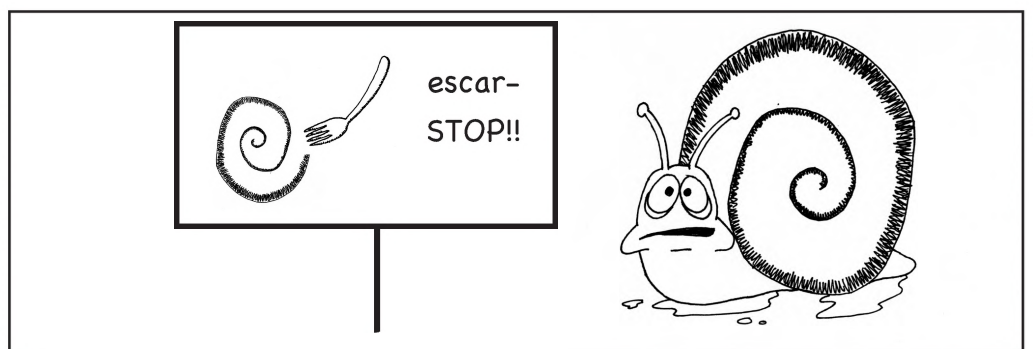
Sean Chevrier

Creative Diarrhea



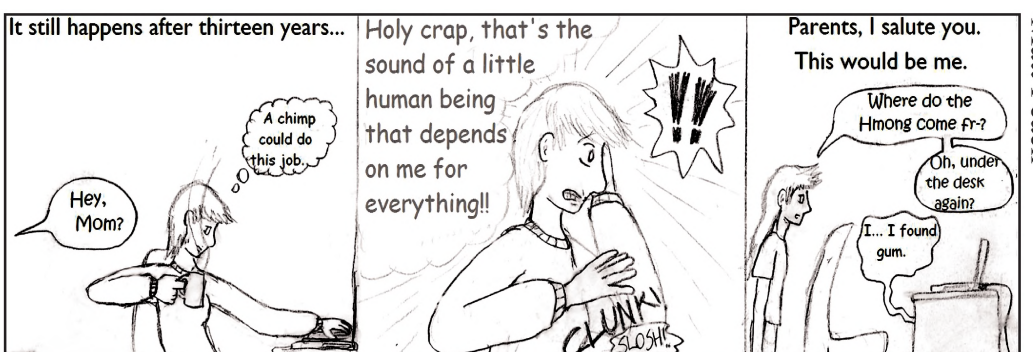
Alex Stevens

Snail's Tales



NW Staff

Ellen's Friend



Matt Peach

AmEx — Look, I respect that everyone thinks I'm a celebrity because you're in my wallet. — **B. Spears**

Cupcake — I'm so excited for this weekend. It'll be your second to last time in Marquette. Now I'm sad. — **Jellybean**

Rach — LOVE YOU. — **ME**

Job — Stop playing hard to get. — **Graduating soon**

Olive and Sweet Pea — I love you guys. Seriously, you brighten my days. I just need you to get along. — **Owner**

Family — I can't wait to show you off during graduation week! Woo! — **Jamie**

Inspirations
Broken Windows
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Uno mas
Muffins that talk
Cinnamon twists
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Earnest



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