



NMU hockey season begins Friday — see insert

NMU, MGH join to research tumors

By Jaci Bjorne
assistant news editor

NMU students, partnered with Marquette General Hospital, are making cutting edge advancements in the field of brain tumor research.

The Upper Peninsula Brain Tumor Center was conceived in 2005 with interest in developing laboratory research in addition to pursuing clinical advancements,

said Dr. Richard Rovin, of MGH. Rovin added that the actual research is being done in Northern's biology department, which helps cancer patients feel more confident in their treatment program.

"We really have a much more firm genetic and molecular understanding of what is going on in relation to a patient's tumor," he said. "I think they really appreciate knowing that. It's easy

to say that research is going on at Duke or UCLA, but to know that we are doing it here really helps them feel much more positive toward their treatment."

He added that having a lab so close to the hospital is beneficial when uncertainties arise.

"If we have a question on the clinical end, we can come to the lab and try to solve it," Rovin said. "I think that's really helped us so far."

The research is focused on understanding the genetics of the tumors and why some resist chemotherapy, Rovin said.

He explained that an enzyme known as MGMT repairs damage to cells, which is a good thing in most cases, but when a patient is given chemotherapy, sometimes the MGMT repairs the cancer cells that the chemotherapy destroys.

"If the cancer cell produces MGMT, then it's like an antidote to the chemotherapy," Rovin said. "By decreasing the amount of MGMT in a cell, those cells are more receptive to chemotherapy."

Robert Winn, Ph.D. and interim head of the biology department at NMU, said the student researchers are looking for a way

See **BRAIN** • page 3

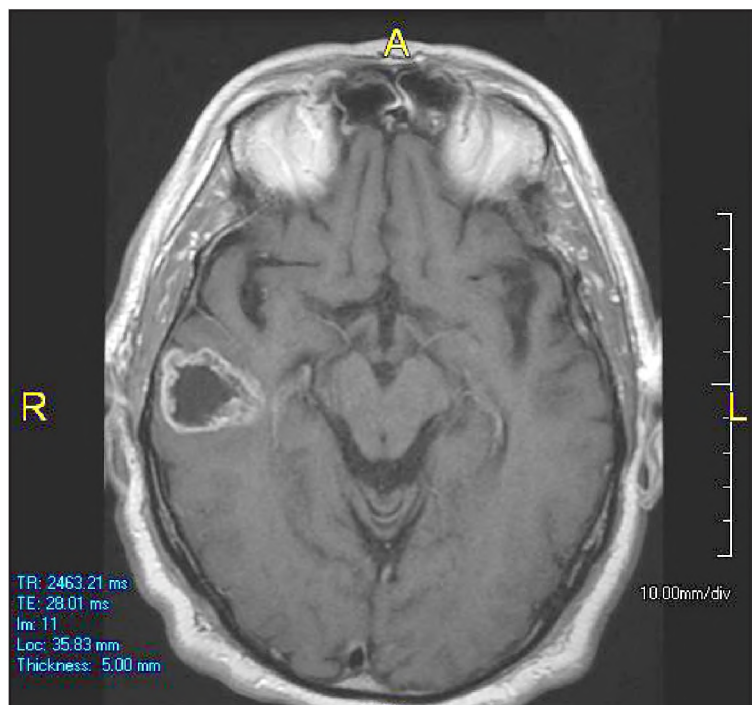


Image courtesy of MGH

An MRI shows a brain tumor. The dark gray mass (left) is the tumor.

Wireless problems plague dormitories

By Lucy Hough
assistant news editor

As students settle into the school year, those living on campus are learning how to cope with an unreliable wireless connection. Students living in the dorms have found that the wireless is faulty and often disconnects after only a few moments.

"My wireless Internet stays connected for between five and 15 minutes, and then it disconnects," said Victoria Leonhardt, a sophomore biology and physiology major who lives in Payne Hall. She said that many people have been experiencing this issue in her hall.

There are two main problems making the wireless connection so difficult to use, said Dave Maki, chief technology officer at NMU. The first involves faulty conductor switches purchased by NMU in upgrades to the dormitory wireless system. The second problem is caused by the overloading of the systems by personal wireless devices.

The wireless connection is sporadic. Maki believes that the Internet is most inconsistent in the recently renovated dorms, though students in other halls have also been experiencing similar difficulties.

"It would be easier to solve if

it was a more generic problem," said Maki, "But instead there are more of like groups of people that are having problems."

At the beginning of the school year, new access points were installed on all of the renovated dorms. Access points are the devices that make the wireless signal accessible to those in the general area. In addition to the access points, Telecom installed switch conductors which are placed throughout the buildings. They are supposed to conduct this signal through the dorms and make it more accessible.

Specifically, the switches, or conductors, that were installed at the time the new access points were initiated cannot handle the power that the access points conduct. These switches are faulty because of a production error, so Telecom is working directly with the manufacturer to correct this problem.

In areas that the wireless connection is not being conducted properly, Telecom has reverted to using power injectors, which are less effective conductors, until the problem is resolved with the switches. The switches will then be replaced at no cost to the university. They are more effective and also a more "green" option.

See **WIRELESS** • page 3

Activists speak on recently signed Great Lakes Pact

By Carson LeMahieu
news editor

The value of the Great Lakes to Michigan's economic future and the recently signed Great Lakes Pacts were the main topics at the Great Lakes Politics and Policy Symposium held Oct. 3 in the Reynolds Recital Hall.

"It's been said that fresh water is the oil of the 21st century," said David Dempsey, author of "Great Lakes for Sale: From Whitecaps to Bottle Caps." "We have two choices: We use it up for a one-time economic gain, or we invite people to the Great Lakes with regulations and build a sustainable water-based economy."

In addition to Dempsey, former chairman of the International Joint Commission Tom Baldini and former Michigan Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema also spoke.

Each speaker gave a 15-minute presentation on an aspect of the

Great Lakes and the Great Lakes Pact, which was signed into law by President Bush only hours before the symposium began.

The pact bans new diversions of water to places outside the region. There are limited exceptions for communities near the basin boundary that meet rigorous requirements and for the taking of water in small containers. The

It's been said that fresh water is the oil of the 21st Century.

— David Dempsey
author

law also allows exceptions in the case of humanitarian disasters.

All three of the speakers praised the Great Lakes Pact, with Baldini and Sikkema both calling it a success and Dempsey referring to the plan as a good starting point. Dempsey said he wishes the Pact did not treat products

made with water from the Great Lakes as a tradable commodity.

"The damage may be done," Dempsey said. "But, there is always the hope that we can go to the legislature and strengthen these policies so that water is no longer a commercial product."

Baldini spoke on the natural features that make up the Great Lakes Basin — an area encompassing eight states and two Canadian provinces with a combined population of about 40 million. He also put into perspective the importance of the Great Lakes as a natural resource.

"You can all visualize a gallon," Baldini said. "That represents all the water in the world. Take a tablespoon (of that water); that represents all the fresh water. 18 percent of that tablespoon is in the Great Lakes."

Sikkema's presentation focused on Great Lakes Protection efforts he undertook as a member

See **LAKES** • page 2



Carson LeMahieu/NW

Former chairman of the International Joint Commission Tom Baldini speaks at the Great Lakes Politics and Policy Symposium last Friday. The event was held as part of Northern's homecoming activities.

BRIEFS

Debbie Stabenow to speak Thursday

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow will speak on NMU's campus Thursday, Oct. 9. The speech will take place in 2904 West Science at 5:30 p.m. "It's a great and unique opportunity for us to meet our U.S. Senator, and the College Dems hope that NMU students will give her a warm welcome," said Jason Morgan, vice-president of the NMU College Democrats. Morgan is also helping to coordinate Stabenow's visit to Marquette. According to Morgan, the speech will more than likely conclude with a question and answer session. Following the speech Stabenow will appear at the Marquette County Democratic Headquarters.

— Carson LeMahieu

Board of Trustees approves contract

The Northern Michigan University Board of Trustees approved a new three-year contract for one of the university's two faculty unions, the NMU Faculty Association. The NMUFA represents faculty who teach in Northern's diploma, certificate, one- and two-year degrees and some baccalaureate programs. The contract provides for annual salary increases equal to those of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), the other faculty union on campus. For the 2008-09 academic year, the increase is 4 percent. Future salary increases for NMUFA employees will be determined in the upcoming negotiations with the AAUP, which start this spring. The contract also includes clarification of the group's promotion policy, promotion salary increases and annual evaluation process, as well as bringing the group's dental and optical plans into the overall university plan rather than operating a separate plan. UAW Local 1950, a union covering secretaries and technical staff at NMU is currently working on a new contract for its workers, according to NMU communications and marketing director Cindy Paavola.

— Carson LeMahieu

Castro's daughter to speak Tuesday

Alina Fernandez, Fidel Castro's daughter, will speak at NMU on Tuesday, Oct. 14. Platform Personalities is bringing Fernandez, who was three years old in 1959 when her father seized control of Cuba. After maturing in Castro's Cuba, Fernandez joined a political dissident movement in the 80's, before finally fleeing the country in 1993. Beau Niec, president of Platform Personalities, said that before hearing of Fernandez, he had no idea that Castro had a daughter and was unaware of how shocking some of the stories from the Cuban inner-workings actually were. Biec hopes that people leave the show with a better understanding of Cuban struggles—and of Fernandez as a person. "I hope that people will be able to better relate to who Alina Fernandez is and not so much as the daughter of Fidel Castro," he said. "It's pretty obvious that she doesn't just want to talk about what it's like being the daughter of Fidel Castro. She's a lot more concerned about the rights of Cuban citizens." The speech will take place in the Great Lakes Rooms at 7 p.m. on Tuesday. Biec said that there will be seating for about 300 people, but more seating will be available if necessary. Admission is free for NMU students and \$2 for the general public.

— Kyle Whitney

History of the Supreme Court to be told

The Northern Center for Lifelong Learning presents the second part of "The History of the Supreme Court," a moderated DVD series on historical events and their impact on the U.S. Supreme Court. The series is structured so that attendance at all sessions is not necessary. G.G. Gordon, assistant U.S. attorney and former federal prosecutor, is the presenter. She will supplement the DVD material and answer questions from the audience. There is no charge to attend, but donations are appreciated and pre-registration is required. Part two will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, in room 322 of Northern Michigan University's Olson Library. To register, contact class liaisons Wil Huggard at 228-2316 or Paula McCormick at 228-5489 by Oct. 14. The remaining sessions and registration deadlines are scheduled on the following Thursdays, with registration deadlines of the Tuesday immediately preceding each event: Nov. 6 and Dec. 4.

— NMU News Bureau



Carson LeMahieu/NW

SCULPTURE Students and faculty surround a renovated sculpture that was unveiled Wednesday afternoon. The valuable aluminum statue had previously been a part of NMU's Sculpture Walk.

LAKES

Continued from page 1

of the Senate Conservation Committee and what protection efforts still need to be undertaken.

"Under my watch we came up with a plan for protecting Lake Superior. We came up with over 70 recommendations," Sikema said. "I believed back in 2001 — and still believe today — that the biggest threat facing the Great Lakes is biological pollution from non-native species. We have failed to protect this great resource from that

threat and something needs to be done."

After the presentation a question and answer session was held for audience members to inquire the three-person board on important environmental matters.

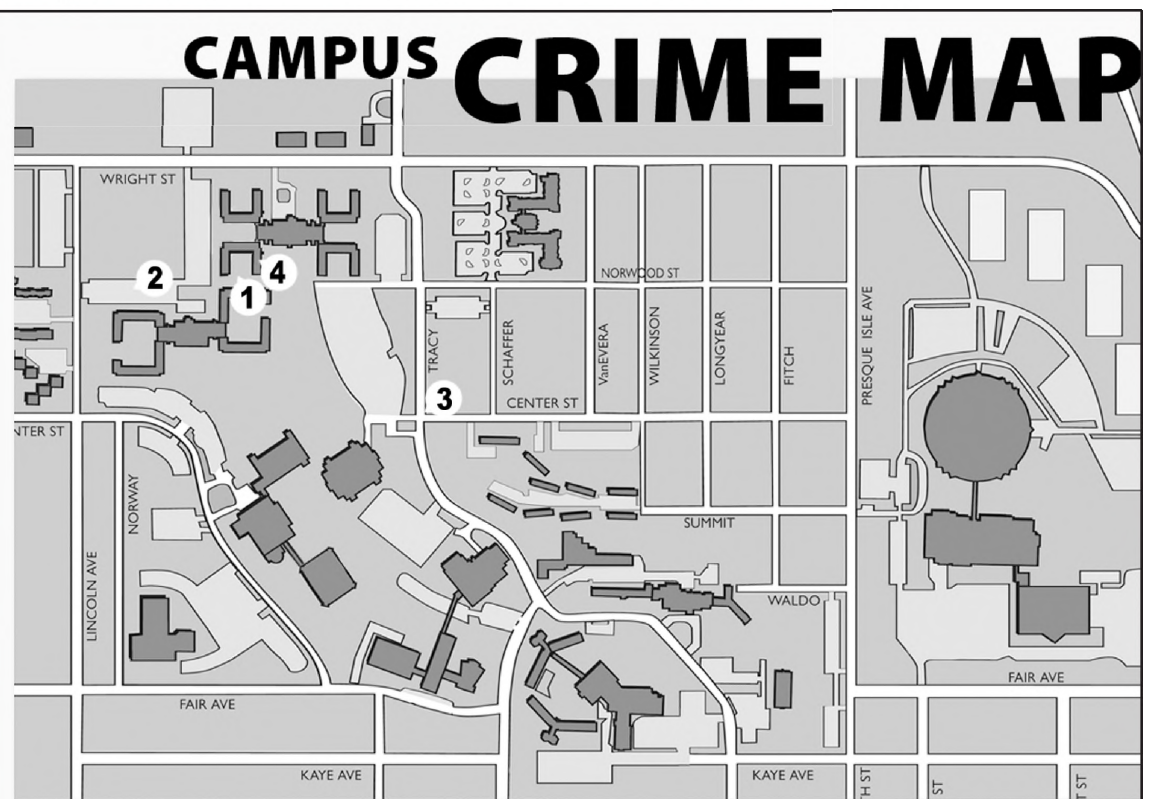
Many of the audience asked questions directed to the board focused on the highly controversial topic of sulfide mining in the Great Lakes basin and more specifically the proposed Kennecott Mine on the Yellow Dog Plains. Another mining issue that was raised was the proposal of a uranium mine in the Western U.P.

According to audience members a uranium mine would not

be under as strict of environmental protection laws as the proposed sulfide mine because uranium falls under the category of a non-ferrous metal, and only the mining of ferrous metals are impacted by recently strengthened environmental laws.

NMU senior environmental science major Phil Herout felt that it was important that the issue of uranium mining was discussed at the forum.

"I feel like it brought a few things to light," Herout said. "One issue I didn't know about was the uranium mining, and it is good to get things like that out on the table."



Map Key:

1. A bike was stolen from between Van Antwerp Hall and Halverson Hall on Oct. 3. The case is still open.
2. An M.I.P. was given to a Northern student in Lot 16 in the early morning hours of Oct. 5. The case has been referred to the Dean of Students.
3. A student was found to be a minor in possession of alcohol near the intersection of Tracy and Center streets at 2:22 a.m. on Oct. 5. The case has been referred to the Dean of Students.
4. Breaking and entering without force at 5:16 p.m. was reported in Van Antwerp Hall. Personal items were reported stolen. The case is still open.

WIRELESS

Continued from page 1

Recently, Cisco, the company that manufactures the conductor switches, sent NMU new software that changes the way the switches are working, making the wireless connection more accessible. Telecom is currently working with students to see how effective this solution is.

The second problem is found among students who use wireless electronics, which make the connection slow and unreliable. Such electronics are prohibited in the dorms as stated by the Acceptable Use Policy which can be found on the Academic Computing Services Web site.

Any electronic device that operates at or above a 2.4 GHz frequency is interfering with the university's wireless radio frequencies and extending the network, which congests the network and makes it slower to use. Such electronics include cordless phones, wireless routers that conduct an independent wireless network and even some gaming systems.

Students can fix this problem by turning off their wireless electronics. Telecom is going through the dorms and asking students to turn off such electronics. Any student who refuses to turn off these devices will be referred to his or her resident director. These electronics are good for use in a

domestic setting, but they take up too much radio frequency in the dorms, which hurts the wireless connections that others are trying to use, Maki said.

Such devices introduce more radio frequencies into the network which the university has already installed, and this makes the connection very congested.

"In this environment, the laptop trying to communicate with the wireless network is like trying to have a conversation at a rock

concert while standing in front of the speakers," Maki said.

Some students are frustrated that a solution has not been found.

"I'm okay with using the Ethernet cable for now, but it seems kind of ridiculous that the wireless works everywhere else on campus except the dorms," said Corey Green, a freshman biochemistry, pre-med major and dorm resident.

"It's been a good six to seven weeks, and we still don't have a working wireless; it leads me to believe nothing is being done," he added.

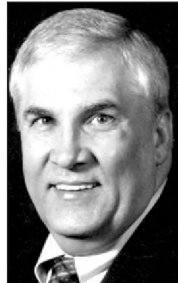
Green spoke with his resident assistant about not being able to connect to the wireless

network.

"I talked to (him) the first week of classes, and as far as I know the problem still exists," he said.

Director of Housing and Residential Life Carl Holm said that he has spoken with Telecom, and he assures all students that these technical difficulties are being fixed.

Holm said about those who phone in their complaints, "It's good to know where the problems are. But sometimes it slows us down. Please be patient with us, and know that staff is aware of this problem."



Please be patient with us, and know that staff is aware of this problem.

—Carl Holm
director of Housing and
Residence Life

BRAIN

Continued from page 1

to give the enzymes an alternate route away from the cancer cells that have been treated by chemotherapy.

"(We're looking for) an alternate substrate we can put in so that the enzyme would be busy dealing with it instead of fixing the damage of the chemotherapy," he said. "So, we're trying to distract the enzyme so the chemotherapy has a chance to work."

Winn said the research has also delved into the genetic make-up of brain tumors and that the hope is to know the exact genetic profile of a tumor as quickly as possible.

"Before the surgery to remove the brain tumor even ends, we want to be able to know its genetics," he said.

Winn explained that this would help the physicians to know what kind of drug to give the patient while the tumor is in a vulnerable state, helping to minimize damages to other parts of the brain and maximize the effectiveness of the treatment.

Jessica Karasiewicz, senior biology and science technology major, said she has been working with Winn on the brain tumor research for two years. She explained that every brain tumor is unique, and the research they are doing will help to find those unique characteristics.

"Overall, our lab (and MGH) is trying to personalize treatment for brain tumor patients because

each tumor can express different proteins and therefore would benefit from different treatments," Karasiewicz said. "Personalizing treatment would give patients extended survival times and would keep them from using ineffective drugs."

Also working in the cancer lab is Trisha Sippel, second year graduate student and biology and biochemistry major. She said she is not working specifically on the brain tumor research, but rather her own project involving breast cancer, and even though her project is different, she has benefitted from the experience gained from the group as a whole.

"It's pretty amazing to think that your research could someday lead to a new therapy that could save someone's life," she said. "The lab has definitely gotten closer to that goal through the collaboration with Dr. Rovin and the hospital."

Sippel added that the student researchers realize the significance of their research and are trying to keep it cutting edge.

"We have lab meetings each week in which we go over recently published journal articles to keep track of the latest developments in cancer research," she said. "It's also a good reminder that the research we're doing is innovative and important."

The research, so far, is entirely self-funded by donations and fund raising, Rovin said. To find out more about fund raising activities or to make a donation visit www.hopestartshere.org.

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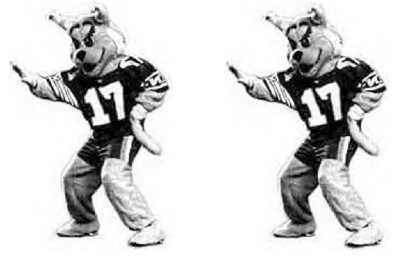
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Kicking it to the '90s Homecoming Style



Brittany McIntire/NW

Students sleep in cardboard box houses in the academic mall as part of the Cardboard Castle competition held by the Progressive Student Roundtable. The event raised money for local charities.



Eric Hampton/NW

Members of the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity perform in the Stepping Competition in Jamrich Hall. The Stepping Competition was a new addition to the homecoming line-up.



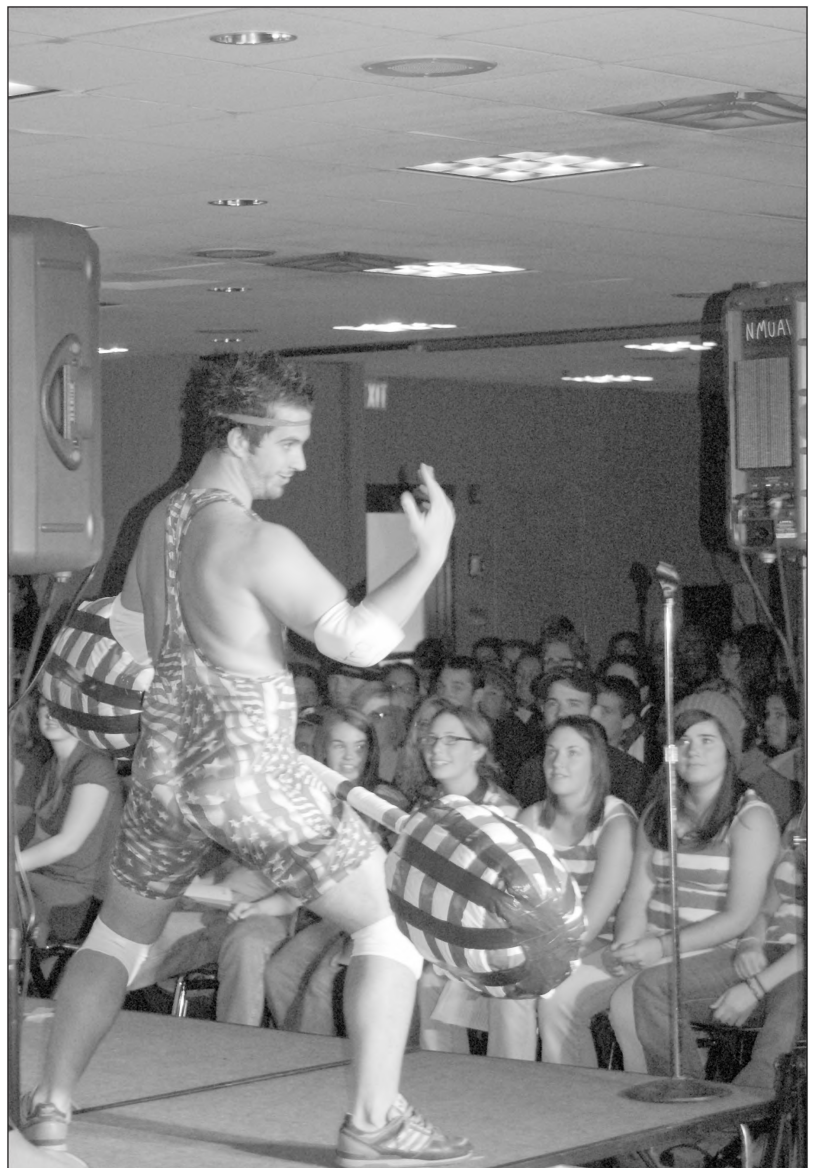
Jeff Kitson/NW

The NMU Marching Band performs before the homecoming game against Saginaw Valley.



Jeff Kitson/NW

Members of Meyland Hall chose a Baywatch theme for their homecoming float. Residence halls and student organizations entered colorful floats into the parade. The parade was well attended.



Jeff Kitson/NW

Pat Digneit poses for the crowd during the King and Queen competition. Digneit finished in second place in the competition for the third straight year. Seen here is the costume portion of the competition.

CONGRATULATIONS

2008 "Oh Snap the 90s Are Back" Overall Homecoming Winners!

<p>Housing & Residence Life On-Campus Apartments</p> <p>Event Winners</p> <p>Dead River Games Ice Cream Drop: Shady Grove Obstacle Course: Tau Kappa Epsilon Sand Castle Competition: Alpha Sigma Phi</p> <p>King & Queen Competition King: Jeffery Sims, Northern Arts & Entertainment Queen: Kate Sartori, Halverson Hall 1st Runner Up: Pat Digneit, Lambda Chi Phi Sigs 1st Runner Up: Nancy Kenok, Model UN 2nd Runner Up: Terrance Thomas, Alpha Sigma Phi 2nd Runner Up: Megan Sarder, Spalding Hall</p> <p>Parade Float: 1st Place: On-Campus Apartments 2nd Place: Lambda Chi Phi Sigs 3rd Place: Northern Michigan Constructors</p> <p>Parade Decorated Car: Housing & Residence Life 1st Place: Fantasia House, Halverson Hall 2nd Place: Heretofore House, Halverson Hall 3rd Place: Dakota House, Halverson Hall</p> <p>Parade Marching Unit: Housing & Residence Life 1st Place: Hunt Hall 2nd Place: Spooner Hall 3rd Place: Spalding Hall</p>	<p>Student Organization Lambda Chi Phi Sigs</p> <p>Scavenger Hunt: 1st Place: Reel House, West Hall 2nd Place: Alpha Sigma Phi 3rd Place: Team Alpha, Gant Hall</p> <p>Student Organization 1st Place: CSNMU 2nd Place: College Democrats 3rd Place: Alpha Xi Delta</p> <p>Student Organization 1st Place: CSNMU 2nd Place: Tau Kappa Epsilon 3rd Place: Alpha Gamma Delta</p>
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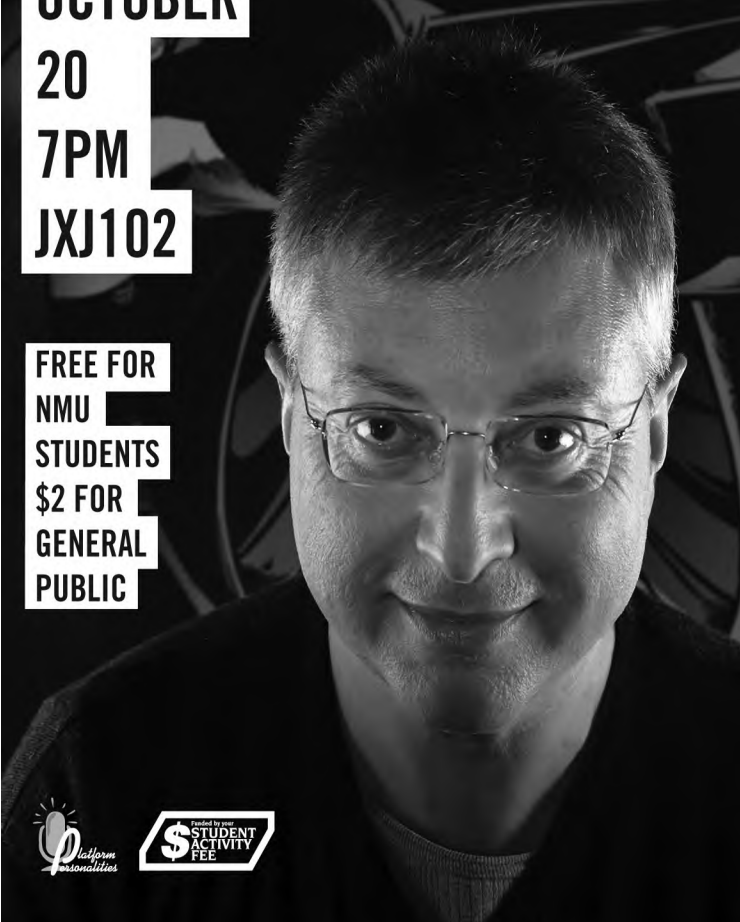
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Staff Editorial

Tech staff unprepared

Students in the residence halls at Northern Michigan University have likely experienced some trouble with their wireless Internet connection this semester, and at least part of that difficulty should have been avoided.

The troubles stem from two causes, according to the university. First, NMU installed new, faster wireless access points on campus, but the conductors that distribute the signal throughout the dorms were faulty.

Second, many residents are using electronics that operate on the same 2.4 GHz frequency as the routers. Xbox 360 controllers, wireless routers, wireless printers, certain cell phones and some cordless phones are congesting the system, and this tends to make the Internet connection slow and unreliable.

The first problem — which was due to a manufacturer's error — has been solved, as the university received new software for the conductors on Monday. However, the problem of overcrowded wireless frequencies could have, and should have, been avoided.

NMU Chief Technology Officer David Maki acknowledged that 2.4 GHz cordless phones — which have existed for a decade and can be purchased at Wal-Mart — can force nearby computers off the Internet when used.

The university is going to begin tackling this problem by creating new wireless networks on a 5 GHz frequency, allowing students to connect to the Internet with less interference. Still, the school admits that one of the challenges is in informing students of the problems — and how to avoid them.

It is easy to say that dorm residents should just plug an Ethernet cable into the wall and quit complaining. But even if both Ethernet jacks in the room work, the six-foot cable provided by NMU is inconvenient, at best.

Honestly, this should have never been a problem to begin with. Northern is a self-designated "laptop university" and the school takes pride in the fact that each student is provided with a computer, as well as unbridled Internet access. For class work, students must have daily access to the Internet and the Northern network.

A university with such expectations should be well versed in technological matters. A common frequency became overloaded with the traffic from approximately 2,500 students that live on campus. Not only should the technological gurus have seen something like this coming, but it's important that they are better prepared to handle technical issues in the future.

The North Wind

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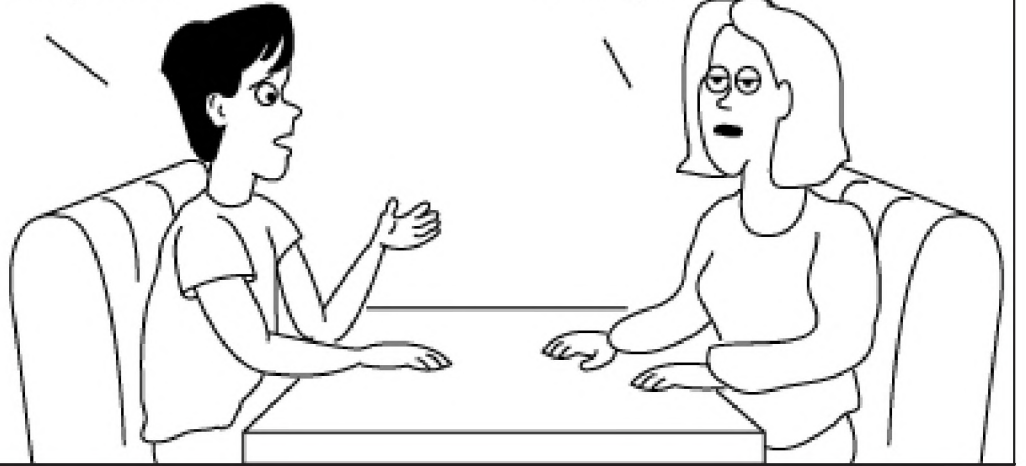
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Uh... Could you tell me your name, gender, birthday, relationship status, religious views, interests, favorite music, movies, books, and quotes?

I hope we get better internet connections soon. Face-to-face dating is so twentieth century...



Andrew McCanna
opinion@thenorthwind.org

Letters to the Editor

Be prepared for the end of the world

Columns like Alli Fox's (Sept. 18) about the 2012 apocalypse are well placed in the Opinion section of your paper. Ms. Fox rails on about the end of the Mayan long count calendar and likens it to the Y2K scare, without even once referencing any knowledgeable sources. Naysayers like Ms. Fox can create a warm fuzzy sense of security by spouting their comforting disbelief in controversial theories put forth by more knowledgeable people than she.

"The world is flat," "the universe revolves around the Earth," "nuclear fusion is impossible," "man can't go into space," are but a few examples of other unsubstantiated notions through the centuries. As for Dec. 21, 2012, this exact point in time is notable in several ways: the Mayan calendar ends, the I-Ching ends, the web bot project suggests a major event that day, Planet X (if you believe in Nibiru) will be at its closest point to Earth that day, a magnetic pole shift, Hopi and other Native American prophecies, the Bible code, Edgar Cayce, Merlin to name just a few predictions for that day.

Ms. Fox states, "There is no actual scientific theory or evidence

that anything unusual is going to happen in 2012."

Scientific fact: Our solar system will cross the center line of the galaxy at a time when our sun is at the height of its 11 year activity cycle. This coincides with the scientific fact that the Earth's magnetic fields will be at a very weak point as North and South are swapping polarity.

I'm not a "Doomsayer," only someone who believes in being prepared. One cannot prepare for all possibilities. But if you deny any possibilities for disaster, you will assuredly be ill-prepared for whatever happens and may not survive. Our own Homeland Security Agency as well as the state of Michigan recommends disaster preparedness for self-sufficient survival for the period of 72 hours to two weeks. This is in case we have a natural or man-made disaster, the result of which we might be without electric power, food, water and maybe heat and shelter. I know we aren't in a hurricane danger zone here in the wonderful U.P., but we could have a blizzard bad enough to knock out electricity for a time. No one on Earth is safe from a possible solar flare knocking down the power grid as happened in the northeast in 1987.

In conclusion, public figures and journalists like Alli Fox must

not lead us into a sense of public well-being in the status quo. The best I can hope for with this letter is everyone will do some research into issues of concern like 2012. I hope they do this before they make up their minds and not just say "OK" when someone else tells us all things are normal and not to worry. College students will be our next leaders and must make informed decisions of their own. A good place to start your 2012 research is www.december212012.com. This is a non-profit site with many links of information.

"Be prepared." The Boy Scout motto.

Rex Martens
Negaunee, MI

Letter Policy

Letters to the Editor must include a full name, year, major and a phone number for verification. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. All letters may be edited for grammar and length.

Letters can be mailed to Room 2310 University Center, Marquette, MI 49855. They can also be submitted via e-mail to opinion@thenorthwind.org, or through a Web site submission on www.thenorthwindonline.com.

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McCain's economic policies fall short



For What It's Worth

Claire Abent

Two nights ago, Barack Obama and John McCain spent half of their town-hall style presidential debate talking about the American economy.

And although my favorite part of Tuesday's debate was Tom Brokaw's obvious exasperation with the candidates, I was impressed that both Obama and McCain were, in comparison with the last debate, much more interested in the issue of the economy.

While a town-hall format debate is not always the best place to outline a detailed plan to revive a suffering economy, both candidates did a more than adequate job of describing their strategies.

In terms of who is to blame for America's financial problems, both were comfortable with pointing the finger at the other camp, neglecting the fact that there are plenty of other people to blame, regardless of political affiliation.

But what really matters is not who's to blame or how long it will take, but rather who we can

put in the White House to actually fix this financial train wreck.

When McCain wasn't comparing Obama's tax policies to a gelatinous dessert, the Republican candidate was advocating his plan to buy up and renegotiate bad home loans.

While this plan would appear to help the "average" American, a subsequent press release from the McCain camp said it would cost an estimated \$300 billion to turn those bad home loans into fixed-rate mortgages, and some of that would be covered by the \$700 billion bailout passed last week. McCain, however, failed to be specific about who would actually gain from such a plan. He also called the plan "my proposal," which would make it seem new and original.

Not so fast, John McCain. That idea is not new or original. The bailout plan permits the Treasury Department to make sure that the number of foreclosures is reduced, allowing people to stay in their homes. McCain's plan simply echoes what Congress has already put into motion. Not to mention the fact that Obama made a similar suggestion about buying up bad home loans in the recent past.

While Obama spent plenty of

time noting McCain's ties to the current administrations' failed economic policies, he also laid out his plans for tax reform.

He was adamant on providing tax cuts to an estimated 95 percent of the American people. Under this plan, anyone making less than \$250,000 a year would not see an increase in his or her taxes. Obama said he would also offer a 50 percent tax credit to small businesses so they could provide health insurance for their employees. He slammed McCain's plan for tax cuts, which include giving breaks to big corporations and

Fortune 500 CEOs, not regular Americans.

Obama wants to concentrate on the middle class and making sure typical Americans can pay their bills and not lose their homes to a failing market. He believes helping the middle class will contribute to turning the entire economy around.

Tax cuts for the middle class? While I understand that tax cuts are never the total solution to economic problems, it sounds more like something that could actually benefit this country. The middle class in the United States needs

tax cuts more than someone who can afford multiple homes.

The theory is that with a financially stable middle class comes a financially stable national economy. Essentially, the more the middle class can spend, the better chance our economy can grow out of this recession.

Not surprisingly, I fall into the category of people who make less than a quarter of a million dollars a year, as do all the people I know. And the truth is, I'll probably never make that much money. Bottom line: Obama's plan just makes more sense.



More entertainment needed at NMU



Staff Column

Josh Snyder

Henry Rollins, Alkaline Trio, the Harlem Globetrotters and Mo Rocca. These are just a few of the big-name entertainment acts that have been brought to NMU within the last five or so years. And it was great to have something more than midterms to look forward to. Unfortunately, this year has been somewhat of a letdown in terms of student group abilities to attract recognized artists that appeal to a broader audience, and as a result the students get to miss out on an

important part of the college experience.

College is, first and foremost, a place for intellectual pursuits. Education should be the primary focus for students and to an extent the people that come to Northern should reflect this. But college isn't just about intellectualism; it also has a social component to it. That's why there are so many small student groups — like The Real YTMND Experience or the Otaku Anime Club — on campus whose sole purpose is to put on and deliver events that cater to the entertainment of students.

Those smaller student groups typically appeal to a niche audience, but lack the funding to bring up larger acts everyone can

get excited about. However, bigger groups with more resources, such as Platform Personalities or Northern Arts and Entertainment, have the ability to bring up bigger acts. Yet these groups have been lacking in their choices of entertainment.

This whole argument rests on the assumption that it's important for students to be entertained. I know firsthand that seeing a great show with friends can be a stress reliever.

So if it's such a good idea, and so far no one has been brought up here, then something must be being done about it, right? One look at the master calendar on Northern's Web site shows us a list of NMU staples, but nothing new

or exciting. One could argue that gas prices have something to do with the lack of events, but even with the high cost of traveling we're still able to bring up acts like comedian Chad Daniels and the Golden Dragon Acrobats. And while there's nothing wrong with those acts, it would be really nice to have someone who has national recognition.

Some student groups may be concerned about spending all of their budget on one event, but having one event is better than nothing. Remember when Ann Coulter spoke here last semester? The announcement energized this campus to a level I haven't seen in the five years I've been a student here. And although I find Coulter

to be neither entertaining nor intellectual, she's nationally recognized, which allowed everyone to get behind the event in some way, whether you were for it or against it. If Coulter can make this campus come alive, imagine what a well-known musician can do.

This university is always criticized for having an apathetic students. But sometimes it's obvious why students rarely feel compelled to get outside and do anything. With nothing exciting to look forward to, why should we feel motivated? If Northern wants to see its campus filled with energetic students, then one of our many student groups needs to use its resources to bring someone up here that will excite and inspire us.

Sound Off

How do you feel about the upcoming hockey season?

Compiled by Eric Hampton



Zac Luhellier
senior, human centered design

"Looks like the season is off to a good start. Hopefully they can improve."



Jessica Frankowski
junior, sociology/ pre-medicine

"So geeked I can barely contain myself."



Frank Mumford
senior, economics and business

"I have a great feeling about this season, it's only going to get better."



Amanda McIlroy
junior, speech, language and hearing sciences

"Excited, I love NMU hockey!"



Josh LeClair
sophomore, photography

"It will be the best one yet!"

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Accidentally Art

Latest DeVos exhibit showcases the art of vernacular photography



By Sarah O'Neill
staff writer

An old black-and-white snapshot of a dog standing on his hind legs, surrounded by small action figures and what seems to be a bocce ball set may not be considered art by most people. But photo collectors John and Teenah Foster, who count this photo as one of their many collectables, say all it takes is a deeper look.

"Accidental Mysteries," an exhibition of vernacular photography from the collection of the Fosters, will be on display at DeVos Art Museum from Oct. 6 through Nov. 15. The exhibit features several photos which contain elements of artistic design and "accidental mysteries" caught on film.

The name of the exhibit comes from that mysterious aspect of the photos which spark initial interest.

"It's sort of art being made without knowledge of it being art," John said. "Just like looking at something in its creative, pure form."

According to John, the couple has been involved in vernacular photography for a long time. Vernacular photography refers to photos taken by amateur photographers using everyday things as subjects.

To be classified as vernacular, a photograph must be free from what's commonly considered artistic intent, John said. This includes every day snapshots, old year book photos, mug shots, and even medical and scientific photography.

The photographs are mostly found at thrift shops, flea mar-

kets, estate sales and online auctions, John said. However, it can take hours to find one that really stands out.

"I could go through an entire box of 500 photos and might find five or 10 and only one might be a really good one," John said. "I look for qualities beyond normal snapshots, ones that really jump way out."

Most of the time, the photographs artistic appeal becomes evident only after it is developed.

"Everything in the picture just comes together; there is no way [the photographers] could

You know you've found a good picture when you look at the picture and are curious about what is happening.

— Melissa Matuscak
director and curator, DeVos Art Museum

have planned it," John said. "The great masters [of photography] would do this with intention."

Absurd shots that draw curiosity, like the photo of the dog, are usually enough to win John over. Most photos he finds are taken anonymously, he added.

"Sometimes a name will be on the back, but you still have no idea who that is," he said. "If you worked really hard, you could track down the family members."

When they are not busy rummaging for lost treasures, John is a graphic designer and Teenah works as an agent for illustrators and photographers. Vernacular photography is a cherished hobby they both share.

"It gives back to me as an artist," John said.

Melissa Matuscak, director and curator at the DeVos Art Mu-

seum, said she first saw the Fosters' work at Intuit: The Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art in Chicago. She was so impressed that she asked the center for their contact information.

"What makes them different is that they really do have an eye for finding photos capturing these kinds of magical, mysterious moments," Matuscak said. "These photos capture typical moments in everyday life, but with a twist."

Matuscak, an avid photo collector herself, said the mystery is a big part of why people become interested in vernacular photography.

"You know you've found a good picture when you look at the picture and are curious about what is happening," she said.

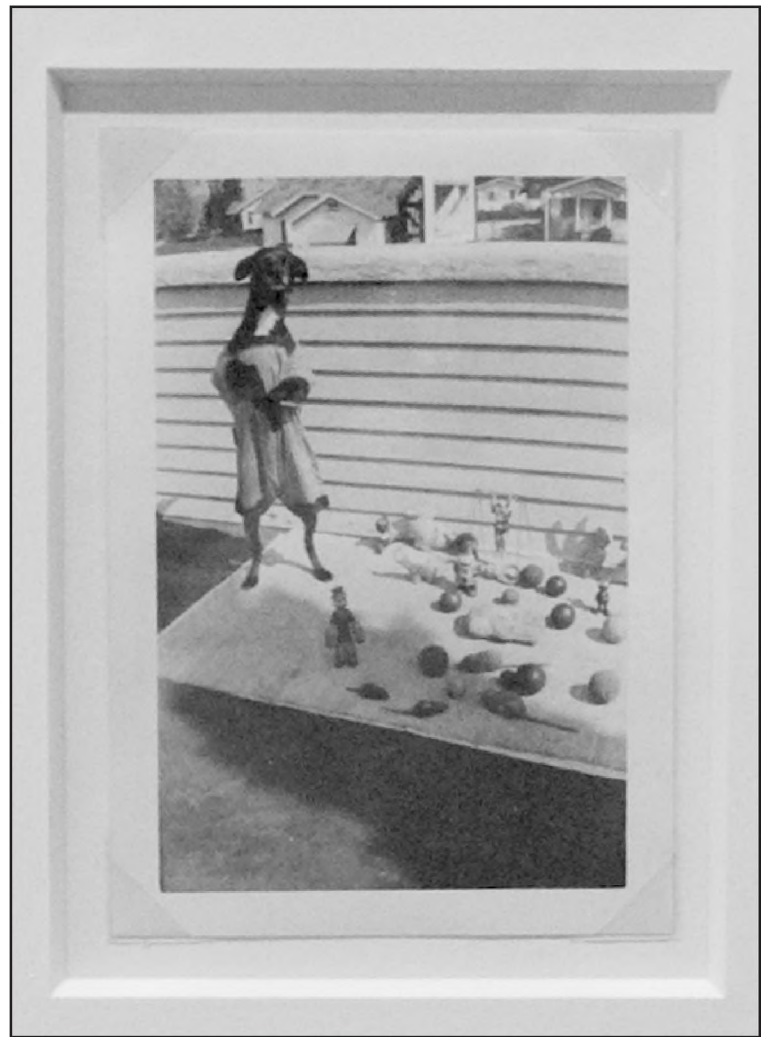
While a good first impression and curiosity sparked Matuscak's interest in the Fosters, John said what appealed to him about showing at DeVos was that it was located on a university campus.

John, a former art teacher, said he enjoys showing the exhibit at universities for the educational aspect. He also enjoys interacting with students.

"A lot that photography students, and even just art students, can learn from looking at found objects," Foster said.

Anthony Sundberg, a senior photography major and member of NMU's student photographic society, said what he finds most interesting is that all the photos were taken by amateurs and are mostly old family photos. He adds that the techniques used to develop the pictures are old, which gives them more of a mysterious feel.

"It's also interesting to see



Jeff Kitson/NW

Top: A series of vernacular photos, a phrase that illustrates the photographer's ability to distance themselves from artistic intent, is on display in DeVos' latest, "Accidental Mysteries."

Bottom: A dog stands on its hind legs in front of a bocce ball set. The photo is part of an exhibit by photo collectors John and Teenah Foster.

what people thought was important enough to take pictures of back then," he said.

Sundberg, who helped set up the exhibit, said the photographs are shown in groups according to the activity happening in the photo and the environment they were taken in. Because they are shot using everyday subjects and settings, Matuscak said the photos will be something everyone can relate to.

"I think it will be successful, because anybody who walks

in the gallery can connect with something in the show," she said.

John will give a free lecture on vernacular photography on Friday Oct. 10 in the DeVos art and design room 165 at 5 p.m., followed by a reception from 6-8 p.m. in the front gallery of DeVos. Other events associated with the exhibit include a film titled "Other Peoples' Pictures" on Oct. 17 at 6 p.m. For more information, visit the DeVos Web site at <http://art.nmu.edu/>.

Making a DIFFERENCE

Students take time to help those less fortunate.



Room at the Inn Gives Homeless Place to go

By Cassandra Sturos
staff writer

Northern students are no strangers to volunteering, and Room at the Inn is another way students are getting involved and helping with a very worthwhile cause: the homeless population of Marquette.

Room at the Inn involves various churches around town taking turns housing the homeless for a short period of time. The program started a year and a half ago when Helen McCormick, who worked at St. Vincent De Paul, noticed numerous people coming in and talking about having nowhere to sleep, said Dave Bonsall, who serves on the Board of Directors for Room at the Inn and is also the Director of the Center for Student Enrichment at NMU.

"It really upset [McCormick]" Bonsall said. "So over that spring and summer, she pulled together people who were interested, and she modeled it after a homeless shelter in Macomb County (Michigan)."

Senior social work major Erin Graham decided to help out last year after a professor told her class about the program.

"A big group of us really thought it was an amazing thing to be a part of, and we went to the first training session and just fell in love with it," Graham said.

The training to serve as a volunteer at Room at the Inn took two full nights, which was daunting, Graham said. She also said she wasn't sure what to expect but that her experience was more than she imagined.

"Right off the bat it was eye-opening," she said. "There were people who were just like you and I. It was just a really eye-opening experience that I would never take for granted."

Close to 12 churches are now involved and will host the Room at the Inn for a week's time. During that time, volunteers will pick up mattresses and forms and set up at the new church. There are different shifts that volunteers can choose from, ranging from four to six hours, Bonsall said.

"It's also a warming shelter where people can stay to

warm up," Bonsall said. "Bus tickets are provided for those staying at the shelter."

Graham, who is volunteering for her second year at Room at the Inn, said she chooses to continue to help because she feels impelled to.

"I couldn't imagine not doing it; it really changed my life for the better," Graham said. "The people I've met through doing it—the guests of the shelter—are just amazing people. I couldn't imagine not doing it."

Volunteering is something that should be done all throughout life, Graham said, but now is the best time to do it.

"I think [volunteering] is an important thing to do all the time, but especially in college," Graham said. "It's easy to get wrapped up in the college experience and get wrapped up in yourself, because it's a time of enjoying your life before you get into the real world, but volunteering can really benefit us."

Before this program was started, not many people were fully aware of the issue of the homeless population here, Graham said.

"This program has opened a lot of eyes and opened a lot of minds. It's pulled together a lot of different types of people ... for this common good," Graham said. "People are really enjoying what they're doing."

More is being done to bring about awareness on the homeless population of Marquette, which is nearly 100 people, Graham said.

"Anything that you can do, just talking about it and helping quiet people's fears, any positive light you can shed on the situation helps," she said. "It's just a really resilient population that is so overlooked."

Senior writing major Tom Rich recently finished training to help volunteer for Room at the Inn and said he can't wait to start.

"It's going to be nerve-racking and exciting," Rich said, adding that people don't believe there's a homeless problem in Marquette.

But the people who volunteer are noticing it

more, which helps raise awareness.

"Even police who find homeless out in the winter months now have a place to take them," he said. "They can take them to the Room at the Inn and they'll have a bed for them, so it's a response to the homeless problem which a lot of people don't really think about it Marquette."

Rich would like to make this program more known for Northern students to participate in.

"What I'm trying to do is set up an organization to get a fair amount of Northern students involved this year, but also something that will be around after I'm gone," Rich said.

This year close to 400 people registered, most at their own church.

"It really makes the whole thing work when there are a lot of volunteers," Bonsall said. "It's not meant to be like a permanent shelter; people are homeless for a whole variety of reasons. It's meant for people to sleep in a nice warm place and have food to eat when they're at a time of transition in their life."

For more information regarding Room at the Inn, contact Tom Rich at trich@nmu.edu.



Students Lend Helping Hand to HUMANE SOCIETY

By Sarah Hawkins
staff writer

Being at Northern, it's easy to get caught up in the college lifestyle. With classes in full swing, homecoming activities wrapping up and mid-terms just around the corner, there's not much time left for helping others, especially the really hairy ones.

But the cats, dogs and other animals that end up at the Marquette County Humane Society need attention from volunteers. NMU students like junior ecology major Travis Kidd and senior zoology major Trina Beatson, take time out of their week to help out with the needy animals.

For Kidd, it was more about making up for not helping out in the past.

"I felt like I needed to get involved with the community, and I was a little ashamed of how little volunteer work I was doing before," said Kidd. Now that he's volunteering, he said it's a fun and easy way to get together with a group of friends and make a difference in the community.

Beatson used to volunteer back home at the Humane Society of Kent County and wanted to continue helping up here in Marquette.

"I missed the animals," she said.

And Kidd and Beatson aren't the only students who help out. Ashley Mink, lead worker at the humane society, said NMU students make up about 20 percent of the shelters volunteers, and they play an important role in keeping the place clean and paying attention to the animals.

"The dogs usually get the most attention," Mink said. Volunteers not only get to sit and pet the dogs, but they also get to take them for walks.

"It's great exercise, and for me it is nice to be able to help train some of these dogs on how to walk on a leash," Kidd said. "I always like to go to the end of the road and run full speed back with the dogs to let them really stretch their legs. I don't think many people do that when they walk dogs at the shelter."

But dogs are not the only animals that need attention.

"We're trying to get more attention for the cats," Mink said. "With the amount of animals in the shelter, it's hard for the staff to sit for an hour with the cats," said Kidd.

Since the staff doesn't have time to sit with each individual cat, especially with how many are coming in, the humane society has been putting flyers out that advertise the need for 'kitty cuddlers.'

"Kitty cuddlers are just people that allow the cats to get out of their cage and have some one-on-one time with people," Beatson said, adding that this is a good way to socialize cats before they get good homes.

"It's great if you're interested in sitting in a room reading a text book with a cat on your lap," Kidd said.

And for people who aren't as comfortable around the larger animals, there are smaller pets at the shelter who sometimes need just as much care and are often overlooked.

"I usually get the little critters," Beatson said. She's worked with rats, rabbits, gerbils, degus, hamsters and chinchillas at the humane society. "I don't know why I really like these guys. So few people do, I guess," she added.

Beatson usually volunteers on the weekends for a few hours, and it fits well with her schedule, but Kidd has been having trouble going there as often as he used to.

"Last semester I went every Friday for a few hours," he said. "Lately I have only been able to make it out there once or twice a month."

But it's the great times they've had with the animals that keeps them going back.

"There are always one or two animals that stand out," Kidd said. "It's encouraging when one of the dogs gets a good home."

His favorite farewell to a dog was a 10-year-old boxer named Whitney.

"She was at the shelter for a few months this summer and not very many visitors were interested in her because she was so old,"

Kidd said. "It took quite a while to find old Whitney a home but I think she has found a family to live out the rest of her years with."

For anyone interested in volunteering, visit their Web site at www.upaws.org.



2008-2009
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NMU Season Preview

By Curt Kemp
sports editor

Going in to the 2007-2008 season, the NMU hockey team returns all but two players from a 2007 team that made a wild late-season run at the CCHA Championship in Detroit.

The third-place finish at Joe Louis Arena in '07 was unexpected, being that last year's team was young, comprised primarily of freshmen and sophomores. This time around, the core group will have one more year of experience under their belt, including some post-season ice time.

"I think, last year, we knew it was a year where we were going to integrate a bunch of young guys and, in all likelihood, if we were going to be any good, it was going to be at the end of the year because we had to get these guys experience," NMU head coach Walt Kyle said. "And I think that's kind of the way the year played out for us."

With the loss of only two players, in Matt Siddall and Andrew Sarauer, the hockey team is expecting good things again this season, the only difference being Kyle isn't expecting the same early-season stumbles.

"This year, I expect us to be much more consistent throughout the year than we were a year ago, because a ton of our guys have already had a year and two years experience now," he said. "As a coaching staff, and as a team, we have higher expectations of ourselves than we had a year ago. What that projects into, as far as standings, or wins and losses, I don't know, but we expect it to be better than we were a year ago."



Jeff Kitson/NW

During the Toronto exhibition game, NMU showed its new-found freshman squad. The freshman scored three of NMU's four goals.

In order for this year's team to finish the playoff run it started last year, the 'Cats will have to make it past the first eight games of the year, against mostly the same group of teams that left last year's squad with a 1-8 start to the season.

"It's a good thing, though," NMU captain Tim Hartung said. "Like Walt always says, 'You want to play with the best.' We want to play the best. That's why we schedule teams like Wisconsin. You want to play

against the teams that'll be there in the end.

"That's probably why we ended so well last year," Hartung, a fifth-year senior, added. "The CCHA is a great league and we play a bunch of good teams."

On Friday, the 'Cats start off the regular season at home against regional rival, Michigan Tech, when they host the Superior Cup. The Superior Cup is a season-opening round-robin competition between

NMU, Lake Superior State, Michigan Tech and the University of Minnesota-Duluth that decides regional bragging rights for the year. On Saturday, NMU continues Cup action with a home game against the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

The following weekend, NMU stays home to face Michigan, then heads to East Lansing for a weekend series with Michigan State and finally returns for a home series with Notre Dame.

Of those three CCHA teams, only Michigan State failed to reach the CCHA Championships last year – due to NMU junior Matt Butcher's late-game heroics – and all three made it to the NCAA tournament.

"It's a pretty hard schedule right there, but I think we're really excited and I think we're really focused right now on what we have to do," said sophomore Mark Olver, last year's team's leading scorer.

Olver comes off a successful season last year. His 38 points on 21 goals and 17 assists in his freshman year gained attention at the professional as he was drafted by the Colorado Avalanche in June.

Forward Nick Sirota is also coming off a career year as well (18-18-36), he was third in points last year. With this goal scoring ability returning, Kyle is hoping these high caliber players will continue this season but he isn't guaranteeing anything.

"Fans and media probably have expectations based on the projection that the guys that we had here a year ago are going to get better," Kyle said. "And as a coach, you never project. It's, 'show me first and then I'll tell you where we're going to be.'"

Sirota said he wasn't going to take anything for granted.



File Photo

Sophomore forward Mark Olver takes the puck up ice while teammate and fellow forward Billy Smith looks on. Both players are in their second year on the team and will be expected to contribute this season.

"I think, for myself, year by year, you want to get better. As a hockey player, you don't want to get in a stagnant stage where you're not improving," he said. "That's not easy, because it's easy to fall into that and think that you're good enough already. You think your shots good enough because you had so many points last year, but every day after practice, you have to get your shots in, you still have to put in the effort every game."

Senior defenseman Derek May said the sophomore slump wasn't something the team should be superstitious about.

May is coming off a year were

he played all but one of the 44 games last season.

"Some of our top guys are probably going to come under more attention from top players from other teams, but I think they have the skill to play through that," May said. "And, if everyone steps up their game and does the little things well, then they should be in good position."

T.J. Miller, a junior defenseman and alternate captain, who played in 42 games last season and earned 9 points on 2 goals and 7 assists, said he expected good things from the upcoming year.

He said that the reason for the high amount of confidence is that

the team has chemistry and a willingness to play all out, day by day.

"Our mentality is that we're going to work hard every night," Miller said. "We might not be the most skilled team, but we know every night, that we're going to just put our heads down, and we're going to go for it."

"Heart is probably the biggest thing that we have got on this team. [This team] is just a bunch of guys that have certain roles and they stick to it, because they know that's what we have to do in order to beat teams like Michigan and Michigan State."

Minding the net for the 'Cats

this season are returning juniors Brian Stewart and Derek Janzen, along with freshman newcomer Devan Hartigan. Hartigan got the start in Sunday's pre season bout against University of Toronto stopping 13 shots and allowing 1 goal.

Stewart played the most games last season with 35. He had a goals against average of 2.6193 and recorded three shut outs.

He said avoiding the slow start, like last years, is important, but he said he knows it will be difficult.

"Obviously, we want to come out to a good start," Stewart said. "We play some good teams early, so it's going to be a great test."



File Photo/NW

NMU head coach Walt Kyle patrols the bench while assistant coach Rob Facca scans the ice during a game last season. In all but one year under Kyle, the NMU hockey team has made it to CCHA Championship weekend at the Joe Louis Arena. After returning the vast majority of last year's team, the coaching staff hopes for more success in the upcoming season.

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From 'C' to shining 'C'

By Curt Kemp
sports editor

Tim Hartung is characterized by many as a good guy.

So nice, in fact, that last season, NMU's fifth-year senior forward picked up only one penalty. And, fittingly, the penalty was a minor infraction.

Earlier this week, it was announced that the player whose name people outside the hockey program have heard, but know little about, will be wearing the "C" as captain for the 2008-2009 Wildcat hockey team.

"I think some people outside of the internal workings of the team might be surprised with Tim Hartung (being named captain), but there's no one on the inside that is," NMU head coach Walt Kyle said. "He's a guy I really believe, in naming him captain, we're just giving him our blessing. He's a fifth-year guy. He knows the values I instill and he knows the values of the program."

Days after the announcement, Hartung, who hails from Apple Valley, Minn., still deflected the attention.

"Obviously, I accepted it because it's a great honor," he said. "We've got 25 leaders in the room. I'm just the guy that gets to wear (the "C")."

It's in talking to his teammates that you find out exactly why Hartung was the only candidate from the NMU hockey team who could follow in the footsteps of previous team leaders such as Nathan Oystriek, Pat Bateman and Matt Siddall.

"If I had to choose who was a captain, last year I would have picked Matt Siddall," sophomore forward Mark Olver said. "This year, it'd be Tim Hartung. For one reason: Tim Hartung is probably one of the best guys in the locker room. Tim would do anything for anyone. Tim is a great role model, he's got great morals. I think Tim is someone to be looked up to and someone to be followed, and that's what you look for in a captain."

Along with Hartung, Kyle has anointed four assistant captains this season. Senior Nick Sirota and juniors T.J. Miller, Billy Smith and Matt Butcher will all have an "A" on their jerseys.

Two players will be assistant captains for home games, while the other two will be assistant captains for games away.

"When you pick captains, you don't pick them. The leaders are

out there, you just anoint the guys," Kyle said. "These are the guys that wanted to lead; these are the guys that are leading the team the way we want it to go. I'm going to give them my blessing."

Sirota, one of the anointed leaders, said Hartung was more than up to the task.

"He's been here. He's the type of guy who'll be able to step up and say, 'Alright, we've got to do this,' or 'We've got to take this type of direction,'" Sirota said about the newly-named captain. "Tim's a guy that everyone respects, and that's kind of what it's all about."

Hartung was voted the team's unsung hero at the end of last year's CCHA playoff run, and his head coach said Hartung played a pivotal role for the hockey team.

"He came in as a true walk on, and was able to not only establish himself in a regular role here, but the last half of last year, became a major impact player for us in a lot of ways – a lot of it didn't show up in the score sheet, but he was a guy that played a key role in our run at the end," Kyle said.

Hartung was described as easy going and someone who never gets too fired up, both characteristics making Hartung quite the departure from previous captains. "You look at the last three captains: Oystriek, Bateman, Siddall. Those are three guys you don't want to run into in a dark alley," Hartung said. "And I'm not a guy that's going to be in a dark alley."

— Tim Hartung
NMU hockey captain

three captains: Oystriek, Bateman, Siddall. Those are three guys you don't want to run into in a dark alley," Hartung said. "And I'm not a guy that's going to be in a dark alley."

"Those guys were great captains though," he added. "And they're great to have with you when you go into a dark alley."

Despite his soft-spoken demeanor, Hartung is a captain who knows what he wants from his team, and knows what to expect from Northern Michigan hockey players.

Words Hartung used to describe NMU's hockey tradition ranged from team and hard working to in-your-face hockey and down and dirty. And with NMU picked to finish fourth in the CCHA, he knows from experience that preseason polls don't mean much.

"I've been around a long time, and we've always had high expectations, and things just don't happen. You've still got to work hard and come to work everyday. It's not going to be given to us," Hartung said. "You've got teams like Michigan, Michigan Tech obviously. You've still got to come ready to play every night because any team can beat you on any given night."



File photo/NW
NMU captain Tim Hartung has taken over the captain role this season after four years at NMU beneath other hockey captains such as Nathan Oystriek and Pat Bateman.

Sirota displays Northern ideals

By Curt Kemp
sports editor

NMU senior forward Nick Sirota believes in building a solid foundation.

Whether it's in regards to the Wildcats upcoming season or his path he's taken to NMU, Sirota would tell you, it all starts with the first steps.

And, considering the NMU hockey team started last season 1-8, a promising start to the season is the first thing on his mind.

"Last year we had a young team, and we weren't quite sure how we were going to match up to these teams," Sirota said. "But now, for the younger players and for the coaching staff, we can see how they grew over the course of the season and it's, 'OK, we did it once, and it didn't turn out; we went 1-8. And now we have the same schedule and we get a re-do. We get to do it all over again.'"

When the 'Cats begin the regular season on Friday, they'll be confronted by a difficult slate of games.

NMU starts the season against regional-rival Michigan Tech on Friday. Saturday, the Wildcats play another WCHA opponent in University of Minnesota-Duluth. Then, Northern will face three of the four CCHA teams that reached the NCAA tournament last season: Michigan, Michigan State and Notre Dame.

Sirota, one of NMU's four assistant captains, said this year's team knows what it will take to make it through that stretch. This season, the sights are set on the conference championship, and a berth in the NCAA tournament.

"Yeah, it's great to finish third or fourth in the league. Yeah, that's pretty high. But, we don't want to say, 'We're only good enough to get third or fourth in the league,'" he said. "We want to be at the top battling."

"If you set your goal any lower than a CCHA Championship, you might as well not even play."

Coming into the year, Sirota is the second-highest returning scorer, after picking up career-highs in scoring last season, with 36 points on 18 goals and 18 assists.

NMU head coach Walt Kyle said that despite Sirota's junior-season stats, the senior assistant captain will have to produce again this year in order to cement his Wildcat legacy.

"The important message to Nick is, guys are not remembered for the early part of their career; players are remembered for what they do at the end of their career, and players are remembered for where they lead their hockey teams," Kyle said. "He'll be remembered for what he does this year, and where this team goes."

After last year, in which Sirota started strong, scoring 12 goals before the Christmas break, he went on to score only six goals for the remainder of the season.

Both Sirota and his head coach expect a more constant performance this time around.

"I definitely want to have a consistent season," Sirota said. "I don't want to go up and down. I kind of want our team to play that same way – consistently. Every game they play the same way and every game they're getting better, and if our team can

do that, then it'll be exciting."

Kyle added that Sirota will undoubtedly get more attention from opponents' defensemen, but that he has to find a way to rise above that.

"One of the keys to his success will be his ability to contribute night in and night out," he said.

Senior defenseman Derek May, who is both Sirota's teammate and roommate, said Sirota is the type of player who will be able to find a way into the stat sheet this season, and will build from the experience of last year.

"He's just really driven," May said. "All summer long, I don't think there was a day that went by with us not talking about this year, and how excited we were to get back at it."

Badgered into Hockey

But Sirota, who was an All-State running back at Beaver Dam (Wisc.) High School, didn't always bleed the Green and Gold.

As a kid growing up, his colors were the cardinal and white of the University of Wisconsin. And when he graduated high school, Sirota garnered interest from the Wisconsin football program.

"Not a lot of attention," he said. "But I got some attention from the Wisconsin Badgers."

In his senior year at Beaver Dam, Sirota rushed 166 times for 1,050 yards (6.3 yards per carry), with 11 touchdowns. He also threw for a touchdown and caught another. Currently, Sirota's lead-blocker from high school, Bill Rentmeester, is a fullback for Wisconsin.

The main reason he didn't pursue the cardinal and white football jersey, and instead went for the green and gold sweater? Size.

"I'm only 5'10" and coming out of high school, I was barely 180 pounds. I wasn't quite sure if that was something that I would have been able to excel at a very high level at," Sirota said. "I might have been able to make the team, might have been able to play, but with hockey, I always took it the extra length to improve myself as a hockey player."

After bypassing the football lifestyle, Sirota concentrated on hockey, playing in the Swedish Elite Junior League for a year as well as the America West Hockey League and Alberta Junior Hockey League.

"It was kind of a decision where I didn't feel like I wanted to go to school, and I wanted to take the hockey route," he said. "It paid off, because I grew up a lot living by myself and living on my own. You can't go to Mom and Dad for everything."

And maybe Sirota's football background has helped him fit into the Northern Michigan University hockey program thus far. The wear-you-down hockey of NMU often has the same feel as an interior lineman battle in football.

"Northern's not the type of program where you're going to get the first, second round draft picks to the NHL. It's a lot of guys that have enough talent to play at Division I, but they're still hard working," Sirota said.

"It's a hard-working attitude. We definitely have to get by on our grit."



file photo/NW

Nick Sirota (above) comes into this season as the second-highest returning scorer. In addition to his scoring, Sirota has also taken on the added responsibilities of being a senior leader.



**THE 2008-2009
NMU WILDCAT
HOCKEY
TEAM**



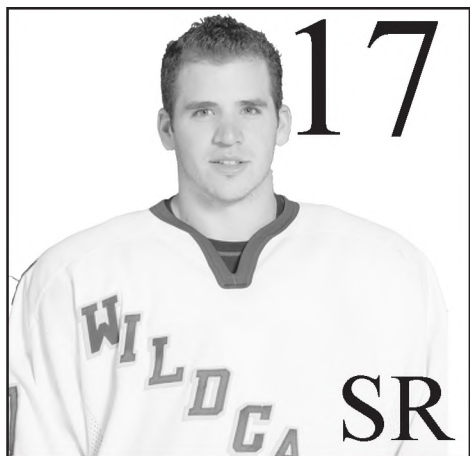
TIM HARTUNG
6-0, 190 Apple Valley, Minn.
Forward
Hartung has 28 points, including seven goals and 18 assists in 90 games.



NICK SIROTA
5-11, 190 Beaver Dam, Wisc.
Forward
Sirota has 63 points on 33 goals and 30 assists in 104 games with the 'Cats.



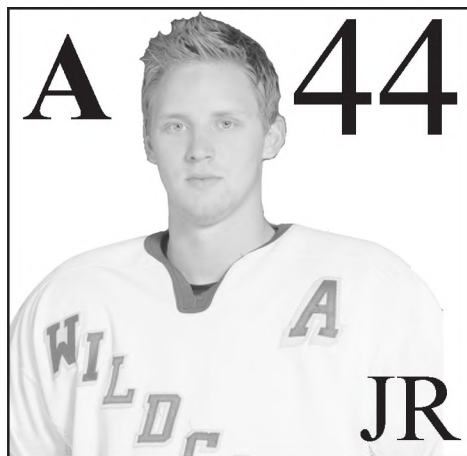
NATHAN SIGMUND
5-7, 150 San Diego, Calif.
Forward
Sigmund has 16 points in his 94 games at NMU, from four goals and 12 assists.



DEREK MAY
6-0, 185 White Rock, B.C.
Defenseman
In 81 games, May has three points, coming all from assists.



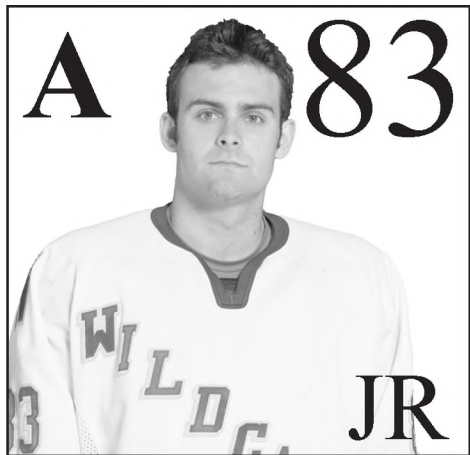
BLAKE COSGROVE
5-10, 190 Chilliwack, B.C.
Defenseman
Cosgrove has picked up 11 points, from 10 assists and one goal, in 83 games at NMU.



T.J. MILLER
6-4, 220 Placentia, Calif.
Defenseman
In his 79-game career, Miller has 23 points, off four goals and 19 assists.



BILLY SMITH
6-2, 176 Sterling, Alaska
Forward
In Smith's first season with NMU, he managed 15 points (4-11) in 44 games.



MATT BUTCHER
6-2, 205 Bellingham, Wash.
Forward
In 84 career games with the 'Cats, Butcher has 27 points, with 8 goals and 23 assists.



ALAN DORICH
6-2, 205 Orland Park, Ill.
Defenseman
At NMU, Dorich has 13 points, all on assists, in 68 career games.



DEREK JANZEN
5-11, 180 Abbotsford, B.C.
Goalie
Janzen has appeared in 17 games for NMU, posting a 5-5-0 record.



RAY KAUNISTO
6-4, 185 Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.
Forward
While at NMU, Kaunisto has picked up 16 career points (11-5) in 81 games.



BRIAN STEWART
6-4, 200 Burnaby, B.C.
Goalie
Stewart has an 18-18-4 record in the 48 games he's seen action with the Wildcats.



PHIL AXTELL
6-5, 250 Menominee, Mich.
Forward
Axtell comes to NMU by way of regional rival Michigan Tech.



JARED BROWN
5-10, 180 Gardner, KS.
Forward
Appearing in 43 games last season, Brown managed 25 points (9 goals, 16 assists).



ANDREW FERNANDEZ
5-11, 180 Thunder Bay, Ont.
Defenseman
Fernandez has played in 22 games at NMU, picking up 2 points, both on assists.



PHIL FOX

5-11, 205 Stillwater, Minn.

Forward

In 42 games, Fox has picked up 18 points on 13 goals and five assists.



ERIK GUSTAFSSON

5-10, 180 Kvissleby, Sweden

Defenseman

Gustafsson's first year yielded a +16 plus/minus in 44 games, and 27 points.



GREGER HANSON

5-10, 185 Lidingo, Sweden

Forward

Hanson managed 18 points, from six goals and 12 assists in 44 games last season.



NICHOLAS KOSINSKI

5-9, 165 Marquette, Mich.

Forward

Kosinski played in 10 games last season. In juniors, he was a Marquette Ranger.



MIKE MALTESE

6-3, 200 Eastpointe, Mich.

Forward

Maltese has appeared in 15 games for NMU, scoring one goal.



MARK OLVER

5-11, 160 Burnaby, B.C.

Forward

At NMU, Olver's played in 39 games, with 38 points on 21 goals and 17 assists.



ERIK SPADY

5-11, 200 Deroche, B.C.

Defenseman

In 40 games, Spady has four points from two goals and two assists.



ANDREW CHERNIWCHAN

5-11, 165 Hinton, Alberta

Forward

Cherniwchan scored two goals for NMU, in the exhibition game against Toronto.



JUSTIN FLOREK

6-4, 194 Marquette, Mich.

Forward

Florek returns to Marquette after spending time with the U.S. NTDP.



TYLER GRON

5-11, 195 Spruce Grove, Alberta

Forward

Gron comes to NMU from the Alberta Junior Hockey League.



DEVAN HARTIGAN

5-11, 170 Boise, Id.

Goalie

Hartigan picked up a win in his first game, an exhibition against Toronto on Oct. 5.



BEN LINDEMULDER

5-10, 180 Edmonton, Alberta

Defenseman

Lindemulder picked up his first NMU goal in the last seconds of his first game.



WALT KYLE

7th SEASON

In five of Kyle's six previous years at NMU, he has led the Wildcats to the CCHA playoffs at Joe Louis Arena.



JOHN KYLE

6th SEASON

John Kyle is the younger brother of the NMU head coach, as well as an alum of the team; he played from 1977-1981.



ROB FACCA

2nd SEASON

Facca enters his second season with the team, after coming to NMU from CCHA-foe Nebraska-Omaha.



JOE SHAWHAN

FIRST SEASON

Shawhan comes to NMU after spending three seasons with Lake Superior State University.

2008-2009 SCHEDULE

Date:	Opponent:	Time:	Location:
OCT. 10	MICHIGAN TECH	7:30 p.m.	Berry Events Center
OCT. 11	UM-DULUTH	7:30 p.m.	Berry Events Center
OCT. 17-18	MICHIGAN	7:30 p.m.	Berry Events Center
OCT. 24-25	MICHIGAN STATE	7 p.m.	East Lansing, Mich.
OCT. 31-NOV.1	NOTRE DAME	7:30 p.m.	Berry Events Center
NOV. 14-15	BOWLING GREEN	7 p.m.	Bowling Green, Ohio
NOV. 21-22	OHIO STATE	7:30 p.m.	Berry Events Center
NOV. 28-29	FERRIS STATE	7:30 p.m.	Berry Events Center
DEC. 5-6	LAKE STATE	7 p.m.	Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.
DEC. 13	USNTDP	7:30 p.m.	Berry Events Center
DEC. 19	MICHIGAN TECH	7:30 p.m.	Houghton, Mich.
DEC. 20	MICHIGAN TECH	7:30 p.m.	Berry Events Center
JAN. 2-3	WISCONSIN	8 p.m.	Madison, Wisc.
JAN. 9-10	NEBRASKA-OMAHA	8 p.m.	Omaha, Neb.
JAN. 23-24	ALASKA	7:30 p.m.	Berry Events Center
JAN. 30-31	WESTERN MICHIGAN	7:30 p.m.	Kalamazoo, Mich
FEB. 6-7	BOWLING GREEN	7:30 p.m.	Berry Events Center
FEB. 13-14	NOTRE DAME	8 p.m.	South Bend, Ind.
FEB. 20-21	MIAMI	7:30 & 5 p.m.	Oxford, Ohio
FEB. 27-28	LAKE STATE	7:30 p.m.	Berry Events Center

Comedian to offer a night of laughter

By Jackie Stark
managing editor

This weekend, NMU's hockey team will face off against Michigan Tech for the first time this season. But before students head to the Berry Events Center decked out in Northern green and gold, they'll have at least one entertainment option that might prove to be a bit funnier.

Primetime Productions is bringing comedian Chad Daniels to Northern on Friday, Oct. 10 for what they call an evening of hilarity, especially for college students.

"He knows a college crowd," said Courtney McNeal, faculty advisor for Primetime. "He knows what makes a college crowd giggle."

Daniels has been performing comedy shows for over 10 years, according to his Web site, www.chaddanielscomedy.com, basing his comedy on things that happen in his own life.

"He's just a story teller. He tells really funny, great stories

based on his life experiences, his kids, his family, traveling around," said Alex Murray, Daniels' booking agent.

Some of Daniels' comedic material includes bits on the state of the environment, having children and many other day-to-day things.

It'll be a good, fun time. You're not going to come and be bored. You're going to laugh your head off.

— Courtney McNeal
advisor, Primetime Productions

"He makes fun of these everyday situations that are hilarious, little things that are funny about life," McNeal said. "It's not kiddy humor; it's adult-based humor."

McNeal added that she really enjoyed the type of comedy that Daniels has based his career around.

"He's got a funny one about how men are embarrassed by buying tampons," she said. "It's funny. I know a lot of girls who complain about their boyfriends

(buying them tampons)."

Daniels made an appearance on the "Late Late Show with Craig Kilborn" and has his own half-hour Comedy Central special.

He has also recorded two comedy albums: "Two Minutes for Stale Hacking" was recorded on Comedy Central's "Live at Gotham" and "Busy Being Awesome."

The show will take place in Jamrich 103. Though Daniels' performance was originally scheduled for 7 p.m., it was pushed

up one hour to 6 p.m. so students would be able to see Daniels perform and still make the NMU-Tech hockey game, which begins at 7:30 p.m.

"We moved it to appeal to all audiences," McNeal said. "People can still come to the show and go to the hockey game and get a full night of entertainment."

"It'll be a good, fun time," she added. "You're not going to come and be bored. You're going to laugh your head off."

marquette music scene

Thursday, Oct. 9

Northland Pub: Billy Alberts, 9 p.m.
UpFront & Co: Red Wanting Blue, 10 p.m.
Vango's: Jim & Ray, 9:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 10

UpFront & Co: Chicago AfroBeat Project, 10 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 11

Longshot Saloon: One Remaining, 10 p.m.
UpFront & Co: Chicago AfroBeat Project, 10 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 13

Lagniappe Cajun Creole Eatery: Zydecology, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 14

Harley's Lounge: Michael Waite, 9 p.m.
UpFront & Co: Boogie Tank, 10 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 15

Lagniappe Cajun Creole Eatery: Billy Butcher Band, 6 p.m.
Matrixx—Skyboxx: Wisecrack, 10:30 p.m.
UpFront & Co: Down Lo, 10 p.m.

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'Blindness' a must-see thriller



Film: Blindness
 Director: Fernando Meirelles
 Producers: Andrea Barata Ribeiro, Niv Fichman, Sonoko Sakai
 Writer: Don McKellar
 Starring: Julianne Moore, Mark Ruffalo
 Runtime: 120 minutes
 Rating: R



By Scott Viau
 staff writer

There are some films that are bound to divide audiences, and "Blindness" is one of them. Some may find it insightful and intriguing, while others may find it laughable and silly. I find myself in the former group.

Much like this past summer's "The Happening," the hows and whys are never fully revealed. What we experience is the aftermath of a group struggling to survive under horrible conditions.

The first case of blindness inflicts a man waiting for a traffic light to change. The man goes to a doctor (Ruffalo) who's unsure

of what has happened. At home, the doctor discusses this rare occurrence with his wife (Moore) who's disinterested and brushes it off. The next morning, the doctor awakens to find he's gone blind as well. Believing the disease, which is now widespread, to be contagious, the government quarantines those infected, sending them to a hospital ward with limited rations and little order. Unwilling to let her husband go alone, the doctor's wife, who mysteriously does not get infected with the disease, goes along to find that conditions in the hospital are far worse than expected.

We're introduced to the characters in an Altman-esque way where one character brings us to the next. The characters, ranging from meek to appalling, show-

case the wide gamut of emotions humans portray when thrown into drastic situations.

The acting by nearly all performers is top-notch. Moore gives a wonderful, caring performance. She truly exhibits a compassionate, altruistic side as the only person able to see, yet when pushed, she is not afraid to push back. Ruffalo is an actor many people may not be familiar with. He's given great performances in "You Can Count on Me" and "Zodiac," and his performance here is no different.

Gael Garcia Bernal is also a welcome addition. Fans of foreign films may recognize him from "Y tu mamá también." Bernal plays a sadistic man bent on seizing control and power at the hospital, and takes deplorable actions to do it. Danny Glover presents us with a restrained and soothing performance as the man with the eye patch, although it does seem ridiculous that he keeps his eye patch since he can no longer see out of either eye.

While many people may not notice it, none of the characters have a formal name. We only know them through either their profession or their physical characteristics. This is done to make the characters even further detached from those around them.

The premise of the movie does require a suspension of disbelief, but once you get over the implau-

sible plot, what's left is an intriguing and thought-provoking piece of filmmaking. As a sociological experiment, it's interesting to see director Meirelles' take on a society devastated by a disease. Human compassion is thrown out the window as the fight to survive is in full force. After taking control of the food, Bernal's character demands payment, which is completely useless to him since there's nothing he can buy. When everything valuable is given to him, he then demands women be sent to him to satisfy his sexual needs.

Although there's been backlash by special interest groups claiming "Blindness" portrays the blind as ruthless, immoral creatures, it's not necessarily the

blindness that's making them this way. These characters would act this way in any situation where they're forced to create their own society. "Blindness" is not a comment on the blind but on the way our society seems to profit off of the misery of others.

"Blindness" appears to be the cinematic child of "The Happening" and "Children of Men." The premise of the movie is ridiculous, but the after-effects are illuminating and horrific. Not being a fan of sentimentality, the ending does unfortunately suffer from it. It gives one hope, but in a society as ravaged as this one, is hope too late? Regardless, "Blindness" is a moving film that everyone should see.

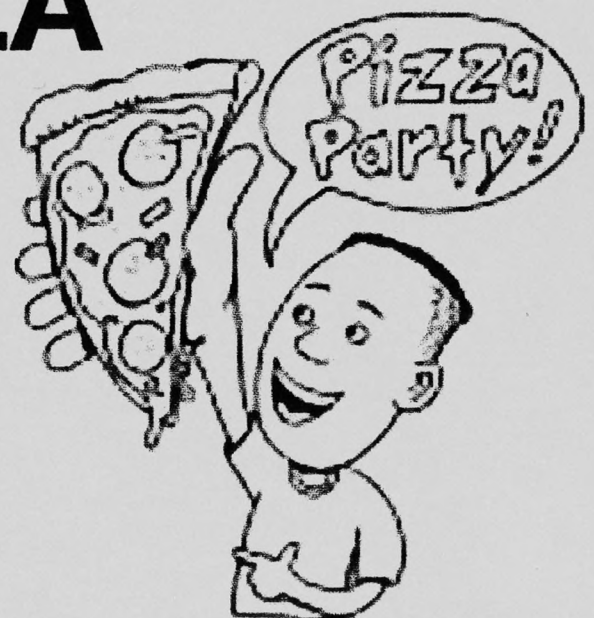


Photos courtesy of Yahoo!
 The doctor (Mark Ruffalo) and his wife (Julianne Moore) try to survive an epidemic in director Meirelles latest thriller, "Blindness."

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RECORDED IN STONE: VOICES ON THE MARQUETTE IRON RANGE

In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, people from northern and central Europe came to the Marquette Iron Range seeking jobs in the iron ore mining industries. The Marquette Iron Range straddles much of the western half of Marquette County in Michigan's central Upper Peninsula and encompasses the towns of Ishpeming and Negaunee, Michigan.

Northern Michigan University (NMU), in collaboration with the Peter White Public Library, the Marquette County Historical Society, the Michigan Iron Industry Museum, and the Beaumier Heritage Museum, and with funds provided by the Michigan Humanities Council has developed an educational web site on the history of immigration on the Marquette Iron Range. The project also includes an all-day, public symposium featuring scholars specializing in the history of immigration on the Range.

The SYMPOSIUM will be held in the Mead Auditorium, located in the West Science Building, on the campus of Northern Michigan University.

Saturday, October 18, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, please contact Marcus Robyns at 227-1046 or mrobyns@nmu.edu.

VIRTUAL RIBBON CUTTING

on the educational website
at 12:15 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 18.

Educational website: voices.nmu.edu

Dr. Arnold Alanen
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Dr. Alanen is the keynote speaker and will present a paper entitled, *From the Irish, Canadians, and Scandinavians to Finns and Italians: Changes in the Ethnic Composition of the Marquette Range, 1860-1910.*

Ms. April Lindala, Director
NMU Center for Native American Studies
– *Anishinaabe Migration and History on the Marquette Iron Range*

Dr. Rebecca Mead
NMU Associate Professor of History
– *Swedish Immigration History on the Marquette Iron Range*

Mr. Daniel Truckey
Director, NMU Beaumier Heritage Museum
– *French-Canadian Immigration History on the Marquette Iron Range*

Ms. Rosemary Michelin, Librarian,
Marquette County History Museum
– *Yankee Immigration and Genealogy at the Longyear Research Library*

Dr. Terry Reynolds, Professor
Michigan Technological University,
Department of Social Sciences
– *Nineteenth Century Immigrant Labor Action and Strikes on the Marquette Iron Range*

Dr. Russell Magnaghi, Professor
Head, NMU Department of History
– *Italians and Others in Marquette County: A Visual Presentation*



Volleyball wins two home games

By **Gordon Beedle**
assistant sports editor

NMU volleyball won two pivotal matches this past weekend at home against Ashland (3-1) on Friday and Tiffin (3-0) on Saturday.

The Wildcats are now 11-7 overall and 6-3 in the GLIAC North standings.

Bootstraps and comebacks

Head coach Dominic Yoder said his team has now reached a high point in the season and it's happened on both the offensive and defensive sides of the ball.

"For the most part, our offense was right on," Yoder said. "A lot of that has to do with decent setting, and our defense has been attacking."

But in Friday's match, it was Ashland who attacked first, winning the first game 23-25.

"I think our serve reception was the answer," Yoder said. "That's the reason why we were down, because our serve reception was poor."

To pick up the slack from weak serve reception against the Eagles, NMU looked to its four primary passers, senior Breanne Zaremba, freshman Rebecca Feuerherd and juniors Cassie Osiecki and Mandie Meyer.

"We all picked each other up, and we were able to overcome that (weak serve reception)," Meyer said.

NMU would rally to win the next three games, 25-18, 25-16 and 25-11 to get the victory.

"Those four players understood, because of [their] passing, we lost, and we need to pass better and they did," Yoder said. "Those players knew that, and they were able to pull themselves up by the bootstraps and come back in games two, three and four."

Leading the way in kills for the match was senior Caryn VanBeckum, with 16 and Daniela Bezerra with 11.

Madeline Ogden had 37 passes, and Osiecki helped with 21 digs.

Junior Katt Garvick suffered an ankle

injury in the Friday match that will take her out for two or three weeks, Yoder said.

"Injuries are part of the game, and it's very important to be able to keep going with a backup player or a player that'll fill in that role, and be very successful at it," he said.

In Saturday's match, sophomore Katie Twardzik got the start for Garvick.

"Katie was our starter in that position last year," Yoder said. "I think Katie earned that spot and she means to be very successful."

Dragon Wars

The 'Cats won their second home match of the weekend in three straight games (25-19, 25-13 and 25-14) against the Dragons of Tiffin University on Saturday.

NMU had 49 kills in 87 attempts. Three NMU players came up with more than 10 kills in the contest.

Meyer led the way with 13, while Bezerra and VanBeckum each had 12.

Osiecki added five service aces and Feuerherd had a team-high seven digs.

"We had a really good week at practice. Both sides of the court were going after each other and competing hard, and we took that into the weekend," Feuerherd said. "We're trying to get that same energy in practice and working hard and competing for it."

Despite the two wins over the weekend, Yoder said his team must move on from here as they try to move up from third place in the GLIAC North Division.

"I think playing and using those matches as kind of a leap frog into our season is going to allow us to be very successful," he said. "But I think we have to improve every single day. We have to be better tomorrow than we are today."

"That is the only way we can achieve success," he added.

Both the North and South Divisions of the GLIAC are close races.

Wayne State and Northwood are tied for the top of the GLIAC South and could jeopardize NMU's record of third in the



Jeff Kitson/NW

Daniela Bezerra, (right) a sophomore outside hitter, goes for the kill against the Tiffin Dragons in Saturday's match. Three Wildcats had more than 10 kills in the 3-0 victory.

GLIAC North by beating NMU, and possibly help Saginaw Valley or Ferris State move up.

"[FSU and SVSU], they want our spot, and they're going to come in and compete for those positions," Yoder said. "But we have to take care of our business, and we're going to take care of beating Northwood and beating Wayne State this week."

Yoder added that the road to success

begins in practice and ends on the court.

"One of the things we talk about in practice is not to get comfortable now, just because we had two great matches," he said.

The next chance the 'Cats have to improve in the standings is this weekend. NMU will be squaring off at home against Northwood on Friday at 6 p.m. and Saturday against Wayne State at 2 p.m. at the Vandament.

Swim team hosts inter-squad meet

By **Trevor Pellerite**
staff writer

Amidst the publicity of NMU's football team's homecoming game, another NMU athletic event was somewhat lost in the shuffle. Despite the other event, only a short walk away, the NMU Women's Swimming and Diving team opened the competitive season on Oct. 4 with the Green and Gold exhibition meet.

The annual intra-squad event pits half the team against the other in friendly competition.

This year, the Green squad emerged victorious by a score of 313 points to 287.

The Green team was led by solid performances from team captain and senior Emily Olson, who won the 200-yard Individual Medley and the 100-yard Butterfly. Freshman Elyse Sawka also turned in a promising performance, winning both the 500 and 200-yard freestyle races. She won the 500 by nearly ten seconds with a time of 5:47.34.

"It's a good start, I think, for me and everybody," Sawka said.

It was a sentiment echoed by head coach Bob Laughna.

"I thought everybody swam well," he said, explaining that the team had hard practices the week preceding the meet, and that despite being tired, everyone competed strongly.

Also turning in solid races were newcomers Catherine Sromek of the Green team and Ashley Oliver of the Gold team. The two competed in the same races, and each finished seconds behind the other.

With half the individual races being won by non-returns, the contribution of the freshmen and other newcomers in the meet was significant.

This could be good for the team, as most of the top producing athletes from last year are



It was a good start for me and everybody else.

—Freshman Elyse Sawka

no longer on the team.

The Green and Gold meet gave Laughna a chance to test part of his strategy for this season, which will entail tweaking the races that certain swimmers will specialize in.

"I let them decide what events they wanted to swim," Laughna said, adding that the athletes might find new events they could succeed in.

Also competing at the Green and Gold meet on Saturday

was sophomore athlete Jackie Walsh. Walsh is the newest face on the team, after deciding to walk on several weeks prior to the meet.

"I just really felt like if I didn't give it a shot, then I'd spend the rest of my life wishing I had at least tried," Walsh said. "It's a lot of fun. I'm really glad I'm getting back in the pool. I just love to swim."

Although Walsh wasn't happy with her times, she recognized it was a disadvantage joining the team when the season was already underway.

Laughna said that he believes Walsh will have a positive impact on the team's season.

"She's a hard worker and a great person," he said. Diving coach Andy Ward was also pleased with the performances turned in by the NMU divers. Kelli and Kara Vander Baan renewed their sibling rivalry in both the 1 and 3-meter diving events.

Kelli took first in both, edging her sister out by several points.

"I've changed around this year's early practice sessions," Ward said. "We've been doing a lot more strength and conditioning drills and not as much diving. To see that the girls are where they are at this point in the season gives me great expectations for where I believe we can be by the end of the year. We've set some lofty goals and I expect to meet them."

The team will have another shot to gauge their performances against Moorehead state on Oct. 17 with the 'Cats first actual meet.

'Cards' deal Wildcats another heartbreaker at homecoming

By Drew Kochanny
staff writer

The Northern Michigan football team will be looking to turn things around when it faces Wayne State University (4-2, 3-2) Saturday at noon in Detroit. After a 1-4 start to the 2008 campaign, a win could be what the 'Cats need in order to finish the season strongly.

After starting the season with a win against Northwood, the Wildcats are coming off their fourth straight loss last week at the hands of Saginaw Valley State, in a 38-21 contest.

According to last week's starting quarterback Carter Kopach, since the season-opening win, mistakes, penalties and mishaps have frustrated the NMU team.

"Basically we need to start trusting each other," Kopach, a redshirt freshman, said. "I think we need to start having more intense practices. It's not the coaches' fault, it's our fault."

When the 'Cats face Wayne State, they will be going against one of the country's best backs in preseason, All-American running back Joique Bell.

Despite early struggles, Bell has 472 yards with five scores through six games.

NMU's main start in the backfield is 2007 All-Conference junior running back, Mark Bossuah.

Bossuah was hampered by an injury toward the end of last month, and has rushed for 445 yards and four scores in five games.

With five games to go, Bossuah is 285 yards from his 2007 pace, when he finished with 1,285 yards.

Bossuah will be a key player heading into the matchup with Kopach, a young quarterback. The Wayne State game will only be Kopach's third collegiate game.

On the year, Kopach has thrown for 511 yards, with four scores and four interceptions. Last week, the young single-caller couldn't pick up a win, throwing for just 85 yards, two touchdowns and one interception.

"I think he's doing the very best he can," head coach Bernie Anderson said. "He's a very good leader, he works hard and he's going to get better and better."

With five games remaining, the Wildcats' opponents contain a combined record of 18-11 and NMU still has to face Grand Valley, the nation's No. 1 team in the nation.



Jeff Kitson/NW

Quarterback, Carter Kopach scrambles during Saturday's homecoming game against SVSU. Kopach was 13-23 for 89 yards in the contest.

In favor of the 'Cards'

Saginaw Valley State came into its matchup versus the Wildcats with a 2-2 record and fans were curious as to how the Cardinals would respond to facing former head coach and current defensive coordinator Randy Awrey.

The Cardinals left the Superior Dome with a 38-21 win and confidence heading into the thicker part of the schedule.

For the first time all season Northern headed into halftime without the lead, with Saginaw taking advantage of Northern mistakes and penalties early.

Saginaw took the lead in the first quarter on a Brandon Williams run, putting the Cardinals up 7-0. Later, Northern freshman punter, Garrett Peck, was forced out of the back of the endzone for a safety on a first-

quarter punt, making the score 9-0 at the end of the first.

The 'Cats lightened the lead on a three-yard pass from Kopach to sophomore wideout Dustin Brancheau.

Saginaw was the beneficiary of the extra point when it was blocked and returned the other way, making it an 11-6 game.

"You can't give a good football team 12 points because of special teams — cause of not smart football," Anderson said. "We need to think a little more out there and not create the penalties. Penalties hurt us bad."

The lead extended to 17-6 on a touchdown by Saginaw 30 seconds before the half.

The Wildcats began to settle down in the second half after another touchdown by the Cardinals stretched the lead to 24-6.

Two quick scores from NMU tightened the lead to three.

"In the second half, we got in the locker room and calmed everyone down," Kopach said. "We came out ready to go but it wasn't enough again."

A late touchdown run and an interception return by Saginaw put the game out of reach for the 'Cats giving the game its final score, 38-21.

Baby steps

Late mistakes have been an Achilles heel for the Wildcats so far this season. The Wildcats are ranked fifth in the conference with a +1 turnover margin, taking

away 10, while giving up nine.

It has been late in games, though, when Northern has seemed to fall apart.

NMU has given up 112 second half points, while only scoring 63.

Kopach, who started for the first time this season on Saturday, has thrown an interception in three consecutive games with under two minutes to go, each of which has been returned for a touchdown on gains of 80, 75 and 27 yards.

"I don't care who you are or how young you are, if you're a young quarterback there's going to be a learning curve," Anderson said.

Currently starting for the Wildcats are eight players with sophomore status or lower, with 17 of 22 being below a senior in class.


Additionally, the Wildcats rank first in the conference in penalties through five games with 35, totaling 326 yards on the year and an average of 65.2 yards a game in mistakes.

"We just got to play smarter," junior linebacker Nathan Yelk said. "I don't know if we just get stage fright out there or what, but you know we get them in third-and-longs and just that one more play we need to execute. I really don't have an answer for it, but we need to find one."


In one of the toughest conferences in Division-II, the GLIAC boasts four teams ranked regionally, including the No. 1 team in the country.

In such a conference, mistake-free football becomes a demand for winning. A conference championship may be out of reach for the 'Cats, but the season can still be salvaged if players keep attitudes high, the team's starting quarterback said.







"Now it comes down to guys wanting to play college football," Kopach said. "If we don't have guys like that, it's going to be a long season, but I think we've got guys who will step up."



Key Players



Northern vs. Saginaw Valley

<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <p>Mark Bossuah Running Back 19 rushes for 94 yards 1 TD</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <p>Carter Kopach Quarterback 13 of 23 for 89 yards 1 INT 2 TD</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Zach Gauthier Linebacker 13 tackles 1 interception</p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <p>Brandon Emeott Running Back 38 rushes for 174 yards 1 TD</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <p>Dan Stiefel Quarterback 15 of 28 for 187 yards 1 INT 2 TD</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Matt Black Defensive Back 3 tackles 1 interception</p> </div>
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Additional Information: World serious baseball



Ad-In

**Adam
Dompierre**

October is a baseball fan's favorite time of year; the marathon of a 162-game season is cut down to a few short series that separate the champions from the near-misses. For anyone who hasn't been paying attention since the opening days of spring, here is what you need to know about the teams still in the hunt.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Los Angeles Dodgers

The Dodgers snuck into the playoffs by virtue of winning the underwhelming NL West. At 84-78 on the year, and a full nine games below .500 on the road, L.A. was lucky to get into the postseason at all. Now that they're in, they've done some damage, upsetting the heavily-favored Chicago Cubs in the first round. The Dodgers looked awfully impressive in the sweep, but it remains to be seen if they can maintain the post-season pace. The July 31 acquisition of Manny Ramirez was a no-brainer

but it will be interesting to see if his added offense/general-wackiness will be enough to get them past the Phillies and into the World Series.

Philadelphia Phillies

The Phillies took the NL East for a second straight year after another hilarious late-season collapse by the New York Mets. For as much attention as the Chicago Cubs championship drought receives, the Phillies have just one World Series title in their 125-year existence; the 1980 team led by Mike Schmidt remains the only thing keeping Philadelphia from an Expos-esque streak of futility. Nonetheless this could be their year, especially with 2006 NL MVP and "The Office" character namesake Ryan Howard and his 48 home runs leading the way.

Chicago Cubs

Oh, wait...

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Tampa Bay Rays

Speaking of comically-inept baseball franchises, the Tampa Bay Rays have cast off a solid decade of irrelevance this year

with a meteoric rise through the ranks of AL East. Blazing past the Yankees and their trillion dollar payroll, the Rays found themselves locked in a heated battle with the Red Sox for the division title. The young Rays held off the defending world champions and rode their regular season success into a first-round victory over the Chicago White Sox. They will definitely be underdogs in the ALCS against Boston, but Tampa has been proving the critics wrong all year-long and doesn't plan to stop anytime soon.

Boston Red Sox

Even though they are the AL Wildcard, the Red Sox have got to be considered the odds on favorite to take the title again this year. The Sox will look to ride their young arms to their third championship in five years. First they would have to end the Rays' magical season, but with the Cubs out of the way, the Red Sox are the most talented team remaining. After the Patriots' heartbreaking Super Bowl loss it would be nice to see Boston fans get some redemption, but if it means another Jimmy Fallon movie, that should be enough to make Rays fans of us all.

NMU soccer splits

By Brice Burge
staff writer

The Northern Michigan University soccer team split another series over homecoming weekend, winning 2-0 over University of Findlay, but falling to GLIAC newcomer Tiffin University in overtime 1-0.

The victory over the Findlay Oilers gave NMU its first three-game winning streak this season. Forward Kari Buckel scored both goals, unassisted for the first goal five minutes into the second half, and with the help of forward Dana Stephens for the second in the 59 minute.

This game was the first time all season that the 'Cats were able to score more than one goal in the second half. Buckel is leading NMU in goals scored, with seven. Casey Wilcox and Brittney Buchanan are tied in second with two goals each.

However, none of the Wildcats were able to put the ball into the net against the No. 25 Tiffin Dragons on Sunday. Through a very physical game, the scoreboard was still empty. A lucky bounce off the crossbar was all it took for the Dragons to end the game, 1:47 into overtime.

"Another 1-0 loss and I don't know what I'm going to do," said head coach Matt Granstrand. "This was another typical GLIAC game where we had a 50-50 shot of winning it."

However there were general complaints about the way the game was played from the Wildcats' bench and stands. Players and coaches were frustrated with the lack of calls after the physical style of play from Tiffin.

"The refs did not have control of this game," Granstrand said. "When the refs don't have control of the game, the game becomes physical and it becomes dirty and we don't play that way."

Tiffin has the most fouls by a team in the conference with 138 so far this season and fouled Northern more times than any other team. Tiffin

received no cards in the game.

Instead of dwelling on the problems of the Tiffin game, the 'Cats are looking ahead.

"We played well and we played strong. Just one unlucky play, a few unlucky calls, some wrong follow ups by the refs, and it didn't go our way," midfielder Emily Lockery said. "All we can do right now is look forward."

Next up for the Wildcats is a road game against No. 1 ranked Grand Valley State University. NMU lost 1-0 at home earlier this season. However, this season the 'Cats are undefeated on the road.

"It's a great place to go to. A lot of our girls have family near there so we'll have the same support that we do here," Buchanan said. "When we play teams like [Grand Valley] we really step up our game."



Jeff Kitson/NW

On the weekend, Northern outscored opponents 2-1.



Wilderness necessities



**Staff
Column**

**Callie
Youngman**

As a member of the trail crew at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore and as someone who spends a fair amount of time out in the woods, I need to be equipped to deal with complications that can occur while in the backcountry. This need prompted me to seek certification to become a Wilderness First Responder. The training, focused on backcountry emergency medical care and survival skills, is offered at Northern as a Recreation course (RE 352). While this is a very hands-on class, we were excited to have our first field work experience this past weekend on the Yellow Dog Plains.

Planning this trip began weeks ago. In class, we discussed the necessities of any outdoor adventure: water (always overestimate or bring a way to get more, i.e. a filter or iodine tablets), food (candy bars are the poor man's energy bar), rain gear, a flashlight or headlamp (with extra batteries), a butane light, a whistle (you can only yell for so long), a knife or multi-use tool, a compass and map (GPS is not always reliable or accurate), a ground pad/cover, and my personal favorite, duct tape, which can be wrapped around a water bottle for convenience.

A med kit is vital, but most general first aid kits have too much of what you do not need, and not enough of what you do. I keep my personal med kit in a small waterproof river-bag with: some sort of disinfectant (to treat blisters and other open sores/wounds), small gauze pads, iodine (to put on skin around an open wound and/or for water) ibuprofen, safety pins (to aid in splinting, securing a bandage, etc), Benadryl (to counter allergic reactions), and a roll of athletic tape and/or bandage.

In preparation, we broke off into smaller groups to plan for and share food and equipment responsibilities. Knowing the weather was going to be cold, I laid out my gear and made sure I had the proper equipment to stay warm. Extra layers, a hat, gloves or mittens and oodles of

hot chocolate or another sugary drink are imperative. Equally important is proper sleeping gear: an insulating ground pad (you cannot do without this), a good sleeping bag (these are rated by temperature so make sure your bag is rated well below the predicted temp), and some sort of cover based upon weather (a tent, a tarp to make a lean-to, etc). With fall upon us and winter inching closer, nights are getting very cold — be prepared!

Friday, we checked our gear with the folks at the Outdoor Recreation Center, supplementing if needed with gear that was available on loan. Caravanning up County Roads 550 to 510, we snaked our way down logging trails until arriving at the trail-head.

We unloaded our packs and hiked the short distance to set up camp on the banks of the Yellow Dog River. After eating some hot food over the fire (bacon on a stick is heaven), we shimmied into our sleeping bags hoping we would stay warm.

Saturday morning was cold, so class work was geared toward having us up and moving. Appropriately, we learned about hypowraps, which use tarps, sleeping bags and ground pads to treat someone showing signs of hypothermia.

Some things to remember in treatment, especially as we go into winter: minimize exposure, get dry, get fluids, get food, and get moving.

After a tasty lunch of hot soup and grilled cheese, we learned about joint and bone injuries and played around with creative ways of splinting these injuries until dinner. I had prepped meat and veggies with spices before leaving and my group had a hearty stew.

As we were finishing, our instructor gave us much-anticipated news: We were going on a search-and-rescue. The scenario: Three day-hikers had been missing for 24 hours.

Beginning at dusk and going into the night, we had to locate the patients, treat them and evacuate them safely. We found all three atop a rocky-steep mountain. After some problems caused by the initial excitement, the class began to function as a team.

We considered ourselves a success when everyone arrived safely back at camp.

Today, Oct. 9

Event: Superiorland Kiwanis will meet from 6:45-8:30 p.m. in the Pioneer A Room of the University Center.

Event: UP Human Resources will be meeting from 7 a.m. until 11 p.m. in Dining Room B of the University Center.

Event: Campus Crusade for Christ will be meeting from 6-10 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: Student Finance Committee will meet from 7-10 p.m. in the Cadillac Room of the University Center.

Event: NMU Swing Club will be meeting from 7-11 p.m. for swing dance lessons in the Superior Room of the University Center.

Event: Latter Day State Student Association will meet 8-9:30 p.m. in the Ontario Room of the University Center.

Film: "Akira" (R) will be show-

ing in JXJ 102 at 9 p.m. Admission is free for NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

Event: IntersVarsity Christian Fellowship will meet in the Charcoal Room at 7:30 p.m. The topic is finding answers to common spiritual questions.

Fri., Oct. 10

Event: Comedian, Chad Daniels, will be in JXJ 103 at 6 p.m. Admission is free for NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

Sat., Oct. 11

Event: Marquette Food Co-op Open House. Activities include music, samples and discounts, event is from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Marquette Food Co-op, 109 West Baraga Avenue.

Event: Fall Festival, enjoy samples from local businesses, music, arts and crafts and kids activities. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Baraga Avenue.

Event: Dreamscapes will be meeting from 12-11 p.m. in the Charcoal Room of the University Center.

Event: Falun Dafa Club will meet from 1-3 p.m. in the Pio-

neer B Room of the University Center.

Event: NMU Fencing Club will meet from 1-3:30 p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

Event: Cotillion Dinner Dance for the Cotillion Dance Club will be held from 7:15 p.m. until 12 a.m. in the PW lounge of the University Center.

Event: Chamber Music Recital will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Reynolds Recital Hall.

Sun., Oct. 12

Event: Hearts of Yoga will meet from 10-11:30 a.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

Event: University Choir, Madrigal Singers and Lake Effect Show Choir will meet at 3 p.m. in Reynolds Recital Hall.

Event: Earthkeepers will meet from 4-5 p.m. in the Nicolet Room of the University Center.

Event: Hearts of Yoga will also be meeting from 6-8 p.m. in the Nicolet Room of the University Center.

Event: Latin Dance Club will meet from 6-9 p.m. in the Charcoal Room of the University Center.

Event: Blue Cross Blue Shield will be meeting from 8-11 a.m. in the Ontario Room of the University Center.

Event: The Caregivers Support Group will meet in the Day Room on the 3rd floor of the Jacobetti Home for Veterans, 435 Fisher St., Marquette, at 1 p.m. For more information please contact Melanie Flanigan at (906) 226-3576.

Event: NMU International Dancers will meet 4-5:30 p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

Event: Chicks with Sticks will be holding a drop in hockey for women of all levels at 5 p.m. Some gear is available for introduction and beginners are welcome. Cost is \$10 and is held at Berry Events Center, NMU.

Event: NMU Cuong-Nhu Oriental Martial Arts Club will meet from 6:45-9:30 p.m. in the Nicolet Room of the University Center.

Event: Planetarium Show: Stars of Autumn and War of the Worlds, will be held at Shiras Planetarium, 1201 West Fair Avenue, in Marquette High School at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$3 for adults.

Event: ASNMU will be meeting from 8-11 p.m. in the Cadillac Room of the University Center.

Event: Northern Initiatives will meet from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Alumni Ste 2307 of the University Center.

Event: Student Leadership Fellowship Program will meet from 8:45-10:15 p.m. in the Charcoal Room of the University Center.

Event: Planet Chat will be held in Whitman Hall in Room 136 at 12 p.m.

Event: Alina Fernandez, a child of Fidel Castro, will hold a lecture at 7 p.m. in the Great Lakes Room of the University Center.

Event: Journey Through Breast Cancer Series will be held at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room Four, Marquette General Hospital, 580 West College Avenue.

Event: Jazz Band Concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Reynolds Recital Hall.

Event: Campus Crusade for Christ will meet from 9-10:30 p.m. in the Cadillac Room of the University Center.

Skill Builder: "Working Towards Social Justice" will be held from 5-6:30 p.m. in the Back 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

Mon., Oct. 13

Tues., Oct. 14




Platform Personalities presents...

MICHAEL USLAN

From Fan to Filmmaker:
The Journey to Bring Batman
to the Silver Screen


**MONDAY,
OCTOBER
20
7PM
JXJ102**

FREE FOR
NMU
STUDENTS
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Kevin Koch

for Marquette County Circuit Court Judge



EXPERIENCE You Can't Buy It. You Have to EARN IT!

I'm Kevin Koch. My message is very simple; I have worked for 28 years in our family court. I have learned from five different judges. My opponent, although a very talented and caring professional, has never tried a divorce or child custody case. If that was me, I know I would not be ready to be your next Family Court Judge. I'm asking for a chance to put 28 years of Family Court experience to work for the families of Marquette County. Please vote Koch on November 4th.



Paid for with regulated funds by the
Committee to Elect Kevin Koch for Circuit Judge
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Native American Music Tapes by five famous artists, also tapes of Andy's flute music. \$3 per tape. Call 225-9936.

ART SUPPLIES. Aging artist, selling most of my supplies, from books to canvases and EVERYTHING in between. Call 225-9936 for more information.

Volunteers Needed

Needed as Research Volunteers (ages 18-28)

People who get **Migraines** (at least 1 in 6 months)
People who **rarely or do not get headaches that do not regularly participate in physical activity** (Controls)

Looking at Neurocognitive deficits the 24-48 hours after a migraine. (How you perform on a test, reaction time, verbal and visual memory).

Participants will complete 4 survey and computerized tests (baseline, 3 post migraine)
Migraine participants can take medication, sleep, ect.
Tests convenient to your schedule.

Contact Maggy Moore MS, ATC
Faculty Instructor
HPER Department
(517) 331-1444 Cell
227-2228 Office
mmoore@nmu.edu

Prizes: Minimum (Candy bar).
Chance 1/6 to win target gift card (\$5-15) and i-pod shuffle for completing all four tests.

Shout Outs

Want to place a Shout-Out?
Call 227- 2545 by Monday at 5 p.m. or e-mail opinion@thenorthwind.org, no later than Tuesday evening.

Stark — Disgusting! — **Abent**

Curt — I hope you got some replies to your ad. And as always, thanks for all the shout-outs in all the previous weeks (not this week though). Its heartwarming to see how many people you can reach every Thursday. — **Claire**

LRK — Happy 24! Just remember that the big 3-0 is just a mere six years away. — **JDS**

Mom and Rob— I can't wait to

see you guys this weekend! (And the weekend after than too.) It has been far too long. — **Your Daughter**

Assassin Sessions — More YouTube videos please! — **NW Staff**

Blue Vacuum — Back. Now. It's called stealing! — **UCKrew**

Jeff — Welcome to 21. Soon I'll be there too. — **Claire**

Lundin — I see bruises on his body. Are you hitting Curt? — **Shane**

Liam — You're going to get some visitors soon. I've been telling Tracy about your awesomeness. — **Shane**

Benck — I expect to see you dazed & confused on the couch Fri, Sat, and Sun morning. Possibly in a suit. — **Shane**

Kyle — Shut your mouth. You've been running it all night. — **Anonymous**

Ma & Pa — It's been a few weeks. Sorry. But I'll see you soon!! — **Your daughter**

Abent — I'm chock full-o-brains. But it still took me three tries to write this. — **Stark**

Kemp & Snyder — I apologize. I may have overreacted. I'd like to bake you both some cookies to make you feel better. — **Stark**

LeMahieu — Can you e-mail me that meatloaf recipe? — **Stark**

Jstark — Ever thought about stopping eating for long enough to do something else in life? Like drink? — **Your personal health consultant**

SHK — Thanks for having a cookout. I know you are depressed being in the office - not being as cool as me, but that's no reason to start yourself on fire. — **Sup Sup Superfan**

Whitney Morgan — Thanks so much for driving me to get my car, coming to see me at work and bringing me cake. Thanks in advance for tomorrow night too. — **Ex-Roomie**

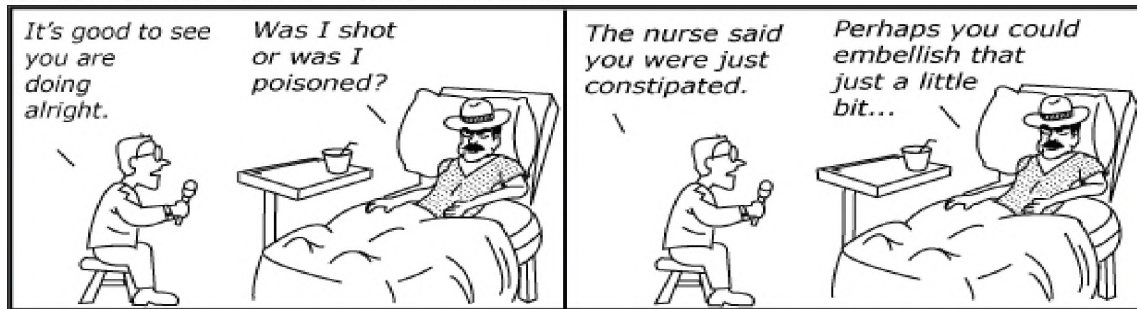
510 — Bottom line: you guys are awesome. — **Claire**

Dom — Thanks for the AAAs. I recycled the old ones. Dan this doubles as your shout and yours to Richie. Happy birthday Claire. Print the word ass. — **Forgetful**

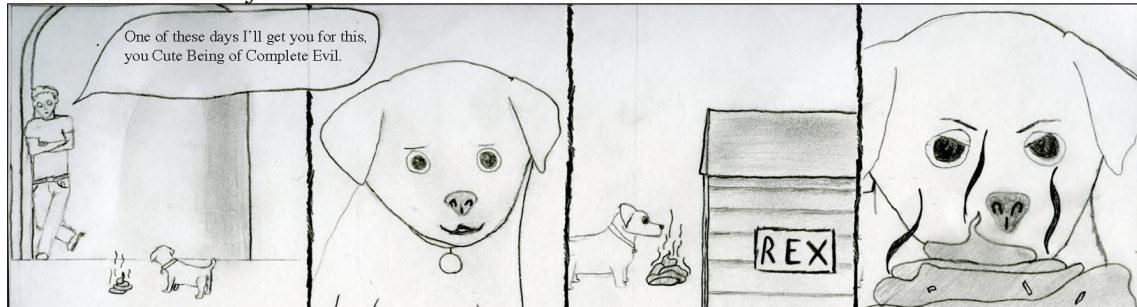
Inspirations

- Ooozinator
- Border Grill from Mama
- Sleeping in class
- Hockey
- 21st B-Days
- Little Caesars Pizza
- Food on Friday

ASSASSIN SESSIONS — Andrew McCanna



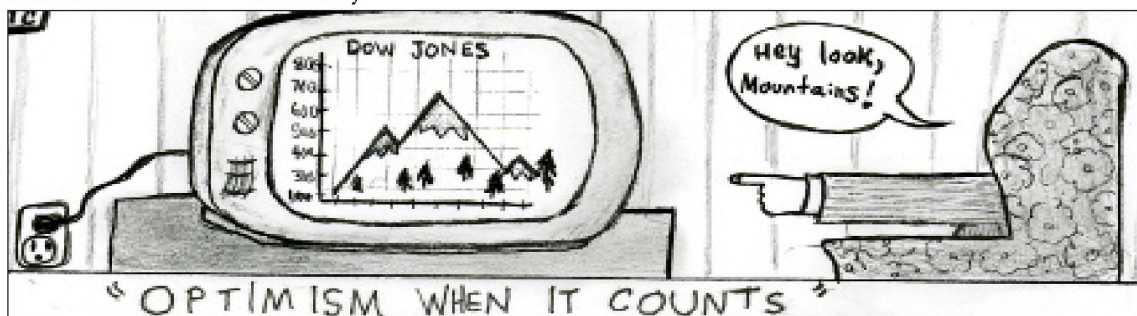
MOTHBALLS — Jeff Kitson



MUFFINTOPS — NW Staff



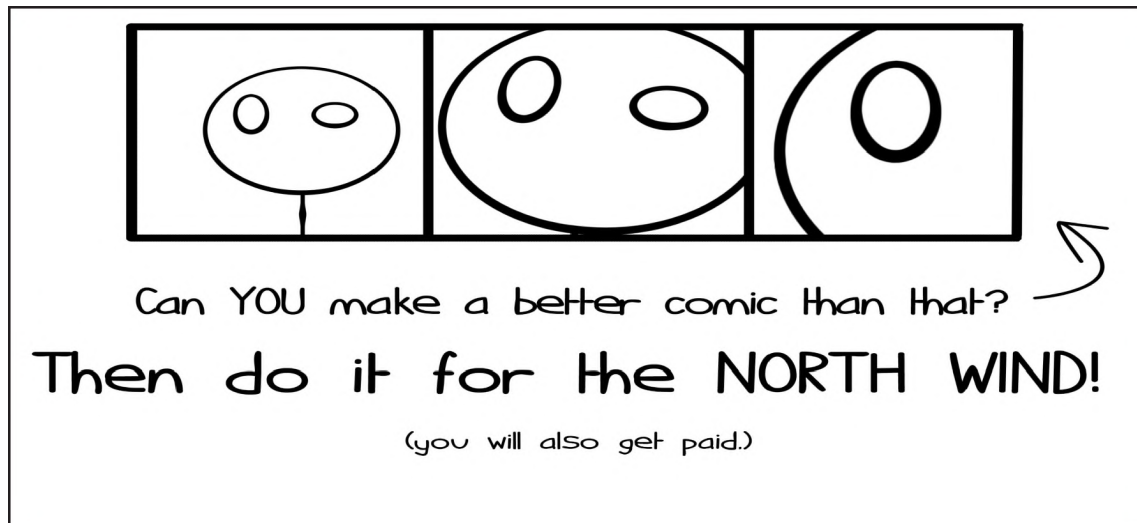
DEMOCRAZY — Tom Cory



ODDS AND ENDS — Geoffrey Riutta



DOLL HOUSE — Rachel Vogt





Alina Fernandez

Fidel Castro's Daughter

Tuesday, October 14 at 7pm

Great Lakes Rooms, UC

Free with NMU ID • \$2 General Public



As one of Fidel Castro's children, Alina shares her private and intensely personal point of view on growing up in Cuba. She will guide you through her experiences of the Cuban political environment during the years following her father's overthrowing of the Batista government during the 1959 Cuban Revolution. In the 1980s, Alina opened her eyes to the political climate in Cuba and rebelled with the political dissident movement on the island country. In 1993, Alina was ultimately forced to flee Cuba by mastering the art of disguise. She now resides in the democratic United States of America.

