Northern Michigan University's Independent Student Newspaper Since 1972

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this year's Southern Blow
see the insert —

Volume 82, Issue 11

Students join rally in Lansing

By James Dyer staff writer

For Drew Janengo, a freshman political science major at NMU, it was time to give the Michigan Legislature a wake-up call.

"We need to let our legislators know that they can't give (students) the runaround. We are going to stand up and be heard," Janengo said.

On March 25, Janengo and around 700 representatives from all 15 of Michigan's public universities traveled to Lansing and gathered on the steps of the Capitol building to protest the state government's proposed budget cuts to higher education.

Janengo, a down-campus representative of the Associated Students of NMU (ASNMU), was one of the members in charge of organizing the event for the 40 NMU students who attended the rally. ASNMU received a lot of support from President Les Wong, who helped pay for the bus, but most of the credit goes to the students who attended the rally, said Janengo.

"Students from NMU showed true character in coming to the rally. It's important for us to fight for our right to education," he said.

The rally was organized by the Student Association of Michigan (SAM) and the student governments from universities across the state. SAM was founded in 2007 by student government representatives from across the state to allow students to have their voices heard by the state Legislature.

See Rally • page 5

Kim Martino, a senior environmental science major and ASNMU representative, stands together with students from all 15 of Michigan's public universities at a rally for higher education funding in Lansing.

Forum to outline NMU's financial future

By Cameron Witbeck

news editor

NMU administration officials will hold an all-campus forum next week to outline what steps are ahead for the university, in the wake of the Michigan Senate's proposal to cut 3.1 percent in appropriations to higher education.

The forum will be held in Jamrich 102 on April 7 at 4 p.m.; President Les Wong said he will discuss how the university plans on meeting projected reductions in funding. Wong said that he will be outlining 10 planning points, a mixture of specific and broad-based approaches to balancing NMU's budget, that will help the university decrease costs and find new sources of funding.

"We're trying to focus our planning on

both savings and revenues," Wong said. "For me, the 10 planning points are about balancing the budget and positioning the university, not just cuts."

The planning points, which Wong said will be expanded upon in detail at the forum, include initiatives such as "assess, evaluate and decrease technology costs" and "identify and implement new policies and procedures that bring about major health care savings, including becoming a smoke-free campus by Jan. 1, 2011." The planning points also outline a reassessment and review of NMU's academic portfolio, which are all of the programs and degrees offered by the university.

"In a tight budget, you're always trying to examine your priorities," Wong said. "Where are we successful? Where can we

ter's location from Presque Isle

Avenue to Morgan Meadows lo-

cated between Marquette and

tion can be received.

Negaunee, and expand the

area in which the radio sta-

If the students approve

the increase in funding,

Radio X would use the

additional money to get

a loan from NMU and

pay it back over the

next eight years. The

total cost of the mov-

ing and improvement

get better? Are there areas that we can just stop (funding)?"

Wong said that it is difficult for the administration to make any concrete decisions due to uncertain enrollment rates and the state's budget not being finalized, both of which affect NMU's funding. The Senate's budget contrasts with the governor's February proposal, which outlined no cuts to higher education funding. Once the House of Representatives completes their budget, they will work with the Senate to produce an official budget, which is then approved by the governor.

Wong said that he hopes the final budget will reflect the governor's proposal. He expects the final cuts to be close to 3.1 percent, which will translate into roughly \$1.4 million in lost funding. Wong said that, due to federal stipulations, 3.1 percent is the highest amount that state legislators can cut from higher education without endangering Michigan's Stimulus Bill funding.

Gavin Leach, vice president of finance and administration, said that it is too early to predict to what degree tuition prices will increase, if they increase at all.

"That's a discussion that we will be having with (the Board of Trustees) in the likelihood of a 3.1 percent cut. We look at everything when it comes down to that decision," he said.

Leach said it is possible that a larger cut to funding could occur if the federal government waived Michigan's obligations to Stimulus Bill requirements. Leach

See Forum • page 3

Radio X seeks approval for ballot initiative



By Ben Hocking

assistant news editor

Radio X is asking for students' approval for more funding to help make improvements to the station's transmitter system and location.

In the upcoming referendum vote on April 6 - 7, Radio X is asking for a \$0.70 increase per student per semester. The organization would



use the money to buy a transmitter with both digital and analog capabilities, change the transmit-Radio X advisor Charles Gan-

Radio X advisor Charles Ganzert said that Radio X received a loan from the university to get its initial funding when it was started in 1993.

"We have a history of getting help and paying it back," he said. "We are making one big change all at once instead of just doing (the improvements) in smaller pieces."

In its current location, the analog transmitter is vulnerable to hazards such as dust, debris and moisture on the smoke stack of the Wisconsin Electric power plant, said Radio X's production director, Louis Justman.

"It's kind of like when you go to the beach and bring a camera," he said. "When fine dust (and other particles) gets into any kind of electronics, it can really screw things up."

The new analog and digital transmitter would provide the station with 1,700 watts of power compared to the 360-watt transmitter that is currently in place. With more than five times as much power, the coverage area for the signal would reach approximately 32,000 people instead of the roughly 17,000 the current transmitter can broadcast to. With this improvement, Justman said he hopes that Radio X will be heard in more areas in the U.P. such as Negaunee, Ishpeming, Big Bay and potentially as far away as Munising.

"Radio X has by far the most diverse variety of music in the entire U.P.," Justman said. "By voting for this, (NMU students) will be able to hear what we broadcast more efficiently, and we will be able to compete directly with the other radio stations in the area for listeners."

See Radio X • page 4

-Briefs-

Speaker addresses tax reform

NMU will be holding a symposium concerning tax reform in Jamrich 105 on Tuesday, April 6 from 3-4:30 p.m.

Guest speaker Charles Ballard, a professor of economics from Michigan State University, said that he will be addressing the recent history of Michigan's economy, the state's current financial situation and how the state can find its way to a brighter future.

Ballard is the author of the books "Michigan at the Millennium" and "Michigan's Economic Future." He is a leading expert on the state's budget and financial problems and has done over 100 lectures in the past three years.

Ballard said he believes increasing education funds and developing a more highly skilled work force would get the state out of its continued economic decline. The event is free and there will be time during the forum for questions and answers.

— Gary Snyder

Ethics focus of new workshop

The NMU Student Leader Fellowship Program (SLFP) will be hosting a Skill Builder! on the ethics of social responsibility on Tuesday, April 6 at 3:30 p.m. in the Back Room of the University Center.

It will be led by Jon Barch, assistant director of the Center for Student Enrichment and SLFP coordinator. Barch said the event is going to be about the feeling of responsibility for people who are having a harder time in the community.

Barch said that he wants to make the skill presentation an active exploration of the idea of people feeling responsible for helping out those who are less fortunate and why people feel that way. The Skill Builder! will talk about whether the feeling is an innate part of being human or a social thing. Barch added that students will be welcome to share ideas and experiences with helping others along with participating in roleplaying exercises.

-Dalten Krause

Speaker to touch on violence

Violence prevention educator Paul Kivel will give a free public presentation during a visit to Northern Michigan University. He will speak at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 12, in the Whitman Hall commons.

Kivel is a social justice educator, activist and writer. He has been an innovative leader in violence prevention for more than 27 years. He is a trainer and speaker on men's issues, racism and diversity, challenges of youth, teen dating, family violence, raising boys to manhood and the impact of class and power on daily life. Kivel is the author of numerous books and curricula, including "Uprooting Racism: How White People Can Work for Racial Justice," "Men's Work," "Making the Peace," "Helping Teens Stop Violence" and most recently, "You Call this a Democracy?: Who Benefits, Who Pays and Who Really Decides." Kivel will also lead some workshops for NMU students, faculty and staff. His visit is sponsored by the office of the provost and vice president for academic affairs and the office of the associate provost for student services and enrollment.

Students catch the Rogue Wave



Indie-band, Rogue Wave, performs in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center on Saturday, March 27. The show, which was free for NMU students, also featured bands I love CATS! and Laarks.

By Ben Hocking

assistant news editor

President Jason Morgan gave a presentation at Monday's meeting of the Associated Students of NMU (AS-NMU) about the results of a recent survey of NMU students' views on the student government and what it should be doing as their representatives.

Of the 413 people who started the survey, 392 completed it. The highest numbers of participants were from the College of Arts and Sciences which had 247 responses.

The results showed that 84 percent of the people surveyed said "Yes" to the question "Do you think ASNMU should be taking positions on legislative issues affecting students (i.e. Michigan Promise Scholarship, Medical Amnesty, Guns on campus)." The results also showed that 51 percent of students thought that ASNMU should advocate for the legalization of marijuana, which Morgan said reaffirmed the organization's decision to not take a stance on the issue.

"The survey showed that students don't think that we should really be advocating one way or another on the marijuana issue," he said.

Concerns about the legitimacy of the survey arose when Secretary of the Board Megan Schneider, a senior elementary education major, said that one person commented in the survey that the individual had taken the survey six different times.

"There is no way we can know how many times that one person could have taken the survey," she said. "When you look through the numbers, there is no way to tell if they are (accurate) or not."

Schneider said that even though some of the comments left on the survey were helpful, there wasn't a definitive way to know how many comments were left by the same person or how many comments each person gave.

"There is some very good information that can be gained, but there is no way of knowing if people commented in different ways on the same issue."

In other news, the board members approved \$790 to the election budget to cover expenses such as laptop rentals and wages for polling station workers. The board also approved \$400 to fund expenses for the Student Association of Michigan conference at Eastern Michigan University on April 9 -10.

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1) A student's wallet was reported stolen at 11:17 a.m. on March 27 at the PEIF.

2) A student was arrested for operating while in-

CAMPUS CRIME MAP

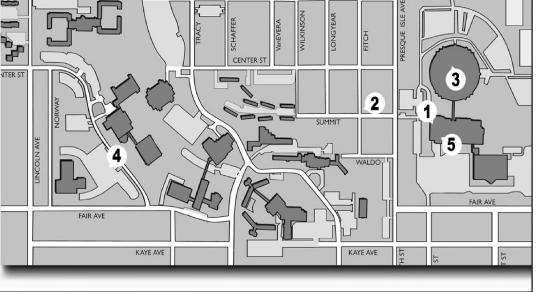
-NMU News Bureau

toxicated at 1:38 a.m. on March 28 on Fitch Street and Summit Streets.

3) Damage was reported to four ATVs at 2:37 p.m. on March 28 at the dome.

4) A student's parking permit was reported stolen at 12:51 p.m. on March 30 in Lot 17.

5) A student's wallet was reported stolen at 9:40 p.m. on March 30 at the PEIF.



Relay for Life: Cancer survivors take the lead

By Adelle Whitefoot

contributing writer

Students and members of the community worked together on NMU's sixth annual Relay for Life event which was held this weekend to raise awareness and money for the fight against cancer.

Relay for Life was a 24hour walk-a-thon that started in the Vandament Arena Friday, March 26 at 1 p.m. and lasted until 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 27. The event is put on to raise money for cancer research, services, education and advocacy, said Carl Fulsher, a community representative for the American Cancer Society.

"Relay is one of the most powerful things I've ever experienced," Fulsher said. "Everyone is different, every one is unique, and every one has a different atmosphere."

Every year, the Relay for Life Committee sets goals that they want to reach, said Thao Do, a junior speech, language and hearing sciences major and a member of the NMU Relay for Life Committee. Their goals this year were to have 30 teams registered and raise \$25,000 by the end of the 24-hour event.

They surpassed their team goal with 38 teams registered online but came up short on their goal for total money raised by raising \$20,000.

Do said that she has been involved with Relay for Life for three years. She was in charge of the Luminaria Ceremony this year, which was one of the many events that took place at Relay for Life.

"The Luminaria Ceremony is one of the more emotional parts of the night," Do said. "It's an hour of remembering and honoring those that have won or lost the battle (against cancer)."

All the lights in the gym were shut off for the Luminaria Ceremony and tea lights were placed in the luminaria bags that lined the gym walls. Luminaria bags are decorated in memory of someone who was affected by cancer.

Many people listened as



Several area cancer survivors participate in the Survivor Lap at this year's Relay for Life. The event raised cancer awareness and \$20,000 to go toward research to find a cure.

committee members told stories of their family and friends who fought with cancer and survived or lost the fight.

"This year, we tried something new, with the use of glow sticks and a script, instead of using just a speaker," Do said. "We got really good feedback about it and hope to keep doing this for years to come."

Amber Baillargeon, the chair of NMU Relay for Life Committee, has participated in 21 Relay for Lifes. This is her fourth relay at Northern and third year on the committee.

"The reason why I participate is because cancer has affected me personally," said Baillargeon. "I've lost both my grandmothers to cancer, and my sister is a 15 year cancer survivor."

Each team that participated in the walk was required to have one person walking at all times. Every team had a different fundraiser going on during the walk as a way to raise money on site. Teams sold cupcakes, offered pictures with a person dressed up as the Easter Bunny and walked with a dog from the Humane Society.

"Overall, I think (Relay for Life) was extremely successful," said Baillargeon. "We definitely had our biggest turnout in participators yet, and I hope this continues to happen next year."

— Forum -

Continued from page 1

also said that some of the 10 planning points, specifically "space and schedule consolidation to maximize use of general classroom space and maximize

energy sav-

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already been

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extent. The

Jamrich Hall

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closure



LEACH

w e e k e n d s has resulted in savings for the university in terms of heating and energy expenditures, said Leach. for (the Board of Trustees) is to do a balancing act between providing a quality education at an affordable cost," Roberts said. "If we raise tu-

the past seven to eight years. Some other states are getting hit all at once."

The NMU Board of Trustees will make many of the decisions about how the planning points will be implemented based on recommendations from the administration and representatives from various other organizations on campus.

Doug Roberts, chair of the Board of Trustees, said that it is important that the educational quality of NMU is affected as minimally as possible by the decisions that are made.

"The most important issue for (the Board of Trustees) is to do a balancing act between providing a quality educa-Roberts said. "If we raise tuition too high, students don't come. If we don't raise it high enough, we can't provide quality staff." Roberts said it is important that everyone involved works together and are willing to work together and compromise in order to find financial stability for the university. "This is a terrible economic downturn, not everyone is going to be happy when it's all said and done," Roberts said. "There's not a whole lot that any of us can do but make the best decisions we can."

The 10 Planning Points for increasing revenue and decreasing costs at NMU

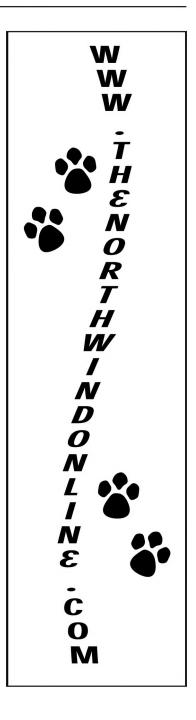
1. Make significant changes to the way we use our facilities, which will impact class schedules and workweeks. This includes space and schedule consolidation to maximize use of general classroom space and maximize energy savings.

2. Examine employee scope of work and seek to maximize coverage and assignments while focusing effort. We must identify what we will not be able to do. Service levels will be examined and changed, workforce and succession planning will be considered and the use of furloughs explored.

3. Seek some permanent building closures.

4. Review the academic program portfolio. Also, determine what measures will be used to evaluate continued program support, enhanced program support and program termination.

5. Review sports team portfolio and what array of varsity, club and intramural activities justifies continued investment and/or opportunities for enrollment growth (and revenue).



"The other thing that we are looking at is doing some performance contracting over the summer and looking at systems that we can replace and (possibly) see some energy savings," he said.

The situation that NMU is facing is not only shared by universities across the state, but also by institutions nationwide, Leach said.

"The challenges are never ending these days, it's a challenge right now across the state," Leach said. "Michigan has been facing this for 6. Assess, evaluate and decrease technology costs.

- 7. Identify and invest in new revenue-positive initiatives.
- 8. Examine unit and divisional reorganizations, including support services and auxiliary functions.

9. Identify and implement new policies and procedures that bring about major health care savings, including becoming a smoke-free campus by Jan. 1, 2011.

10. Review fringe benefits and services as compelled by federal and state political discussions.

Thursday, April 1, 2010

Greek organizations push for signage

By Audrey Menninga

contributing writer

Members of NMU fraternities and sororities are working on a proposal that would allow them to display Greek letters on their houses in areas of the city where they are currently not permitted.

The proposal, which is in its final draft, would ask for an exception to the ordinance known as the City of Marquette Sign Ordinance. Connie Goudreau, a member of Phi Sigma Sigma and a junior pre-law student, said that she wanted to try to make a change to the ordinance.

Goudreau hopes that by getting permission to put letters on the Greek houses, recruitment of new members will grow and hopefully add to Greek life at NMU.

"I want to see the Greek community at Northern grow. I've heard the stories and seen the yearbooks of when it was huge at NMU, and I want it to get back there," Goudreau said.

Goudreau researched surrounding college cities that had sign restrictions and how their Greek chapters had dealt with the laws. Then she met with Dave Bonsall, the director for the Center for Student Enrichment and advisor for the Greek Council, and David Haynes, a political science professor who has had a lot of experience with state and local governments, to write the first draft of the proposal.

According to Goudreau, the ordinance was not necessarily targeted at the Greek organiza-

tions. When the ordinance came into effect, residential families feared that Greek houses with signs on the property would bring down the value of their own properties.

"(Signs) have to be in an area zoned appropriately for the use. And the multiple family residential area is what it is," said Dennis Stachewicz, the Marquette City Planner and Zoning Administrator. Stachewicz went on to explain that the community zoning district has an ordinance that allows the community to decide where to put signs in the districts.

The proposal outlines all the contributions the Greek chapters bring to Marquette's community, including an average of 500 community service hours a semester along with raising thousands of dollars for

organizations such as the AIDS Foundation and The National Kidney Foundation. It also outlines the restrictions their signs would have and the process Greek chapters would have to go through to put signs on their houses.

This proposal also introduces the idea of a "Greek row," in which all of the Greek houses would be located in a one block area. The area proposed would be on Fourth Street and Pr-

on Fourth Street and Presque Isle Avenue between Bluff Street and Wright Street. If the proposal is passed, Greek letters and signs would only be allowed in this area. With all the houses in one area, Public Safety would be able to patrol the area instead of leaving it up to the city police.

The proposal is likely to be presented to the Marquette City Council before the end of the semester.

If the proposal fails, Goudreau intends to take any feedback from the council and rewrite the proposal to submit it again.

"We do a lot on the NMU side of things and a lot in the Marquette community, and we just want to get some recognition out there of who we are and what we do," said Amber Snyder, member of Phi Sigma Sigma, and a senior public relations and political science major. Snyder helped Goudreau with the drafting of the proposal.

Goudreau says that students who wish to support the proposal, which she can include in the document can e-mail her a letter at cgoudrea@nmu.edu.

Environmental summit offers indigenous views

By James Dyer staff writer

On Monday, April 5, a series of presentations and workshops will take place to inform students about environmental issues from a Native American point of view.

The Indigenous Earth Issues Summit is organized by the Center for Native American Studies (CNAS) and the Native American Student Association (NASA), and will give students the opportunity to listen to professors and students from around the country talk about the environment. The summit is scheduled to take place in the Great Lakes Room of the University Center between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. "We hope to make this an opportunity for people to learn about the environmental issues that affect (everyone)," said Aimee Cree Dunn, an adjunct professor of Native American studies, and the coordinator of the Indigenous Earth Issues Summit.

In order to achieve this goal, the summit will be set up differently this year than it was during the past two years, Dunn said. Instead of the presenters just giving speeches, it will focus more on attendees participating in different workshops to learn how to actively make a difference in the environment, she said.

The keynote speaker at the summit will be Ward Churchill, an award winning author and member of the Rainbow Coalition of Elders and the American Indian Movement of Colorado Leadership Council. In Churchill's presentation, "Water is Life: Reflections on an Omnicidal Equation," he will discuss the effects of colonialism on North America's water-based biospheres.

be on display during the summit. Hasek put out a call to students at NMU and other area schools for posters or banners that address local environment issues and motivate viewers into action.

"It's important for students to stay aware and see the causes and effects of living here," Hasek said.

The art show is accepting entries until Friday, April 2 and is open to all students who wish to submit a piece of artwork. The art is just another way for students to express themselves in service to environmental awareness, said Hasek.

Adrianna Greci Green, an assistant professor of Native American Studies at NMU, said

Continued from page 1

Megan Green/NW

Radio X general manager Erin Astle said that the new transmitter's ability to broadcast digitally would give people with a digital receiver sound quality comparable to that of a CD without eliminating audiences with only analog capability in their radios.

"(Radio X) understands that it could be a few more years before all students have digital radios in their cars," she said. "But newer cars come with digital radios, so it's really only a matter of time (before everyone benefits from the digital capability)."

Astle said that she believes that the improvements will help to raise awareness of activities at NMU because Radio X broadcasts student announcements and promotes campus organizations, and only 32 percent of students live on campus.

"The average (NMU) student will get better service within Marquette city," she said. "But the big advantage really comes from people that are commuting from the surrounding towns. A lot of people don't listen to Radio X because of the spotty service (in the areas around Marquette)."

Astle said that it's up to students to decide whether or not think the changes are necessary.

"The most important thing is not whether they say Yes or No. (It's that) they get out there and vote," she said. "It's up to the students to get out there and decide whether it's important to them and to have a say about what's going to happen at NMU."

The summit is aimed toward getting students involved in environmental issues on a community level, she said.

"We're looking forward to students coming and being inspired to take action in their own communities," Dunn said. Other presenters include Lee Sprague, the former director of economic development for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, and Jessica Koski, a student at Yale and a member of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community. "Instead of sitting and listen-

ing, (attendees) will get the opportunity to talk and interact with the presenters," said Samantha Hasek, a freshman environmental science major at NMU.

Hasek is involved in a freshman fellowship at CNAS and is also organizing an art show to that this year's Indigenous Earth Issues Summit presents the opportunity to make environmental awareness more visible.

"The purpose of the summit is a call to action. We're not that far apart in terms of our effect on the environment," Greci Green said. Greci Green expects students to learn about these environmental issues from a Native American perspective, and that students will be inspired to become more involved.

"I hope that students will walk away fired up. There's a lot that can be done to help," Greci Green said.



Business competition challenges students

By Amber Snyder

contributing writer

NMU will host a competition which will feature several students presenting business proposals as they compete for a variety of cash prizes.

The New Business Venture Competition, which is open to the public, will be held on April 8 from 12 - 7:15 p.m. in the Explorer Rooms of the University Center. The competition consists of a trade fair, a 60-second elevator pitch explaining the proposed business, an oral business plan presentation and an awards reception. There will be cash prizes totaling \$9,000, which will be awarded to the top three business plans, best trade fair presentation and best elevator pitch.

Ray Amtmann, an instructor

in the College of Business, is one of the competition's organizers.

"It's an opportunity to take your academic experience and turn it into a money-making proposition that could be a major developmental step in your life," said Amtmann. "As a college student, you can create and get a business off the ground. Look at Bill Gates—he started Microsoft in a college dorm room."

The competition will offer competitors an opportunity to network with judges and start a successful business.

"It's not academic. It's a chance for students who are interested in business to get advice from successful business people," he said. "The first-place businesses from the past two years are both up and running."

Competitors Steve Farr, a

graduate student, and Chad Walker, an NMU graduate, are putting together a plan for their business, Great Lakes Cremation Services, which would be located in Gwinn, Mich. Farr said their business would offer services not offered by other crematories in the Upper Peninsula and lower prices.

"Our business will offer pickup and delivery services, which make things a lot easier for the funeral director," he said. "We're going to keep our business costs, like office supplies, low so we can be as cheap as possible. The money we save will be reflected in our prices."

Farr said that he has high hopes for what the competition will do for his business and how he can put his new skills to use.

"Hopefully we can get people

interested in this business and get things off the ground," he said. "Each part of the competition makes you think critically and is a learning experience."

Joshua Petrovich, a junior computer information systems major, is presenting a remote data backup company called Pulsar Backup. The business will backup computer files through the Internet. Petrovich said that backup services are essential with today's technology.

Petrovich said that the skills he learned in the classroom are being put to the test by the competition.

"I've been forced to think about my business on so many different levels," he said. "I find potential problems, and then I have to find backup plans. I've gained a whole new skill set."

Petrovich said that he hopes to gain investors as a result of the competition. To start his business, he said he will need between \$275,000 and \$1 million.

"I'm hoping one of the judges is interested or can give me contacts of investors or venture capitalists that would be interested in the business," he said.

Amtmann said that the competition will be fun for competitors and spectators alike. "Students can see what it's like to present a business idea," he said. "Students will be able to see their peers in a competitive environment. They should come out and support their classmates who are trying to get their businesses off the ground."

For more information about the business competition, contact Amtmann at 906-227-2647.

Gun training class offered on campus

By Alex Eisner staff writer

On Saturday, April 3, students will have the chance to take a safety and training class and possibly get their carrying a concealed weapons (CCW) permit upon completion.

The class costs \$65 per person and participants should bring their own firearm to the range. The class will begin in the University Center for classroom lecture and then participants will go to the Negaunee Rod and Gun Club. It's important for participants to remember not to bring their guns to the classroom lecture as they are not allowed on campus.

Fredric Gygi, president of the NMU Sportsmen's Gun Club and a sophomore criminal justice major, said it's important for people to know about concealed weapons so they abide by the local and state laws and know when they can and can't carry.

"You can't just flash your gun out when someone annoys you," Gygi said.

Sgt. Charles Pelfrey of the Battle Creek Police Department will course is complete, participants will take a test and when they meet all the requirements they get a certificate that they turn in to the county clerk's office to get their permit.

Sara Smolucha, a freshman nursing and Spanish major, said she's going to take the course, though she's not 21 yet, and therefore can't legally receive the permit.

"I just want to be more familiar with the rules involving carrying concealed weapons," said Smolucha. "I decided (to take this course) because it's our second amendment right to be able to carry concealed weapons and I wanted to be able to exercise that right."

Pelfrey said it's important for private citizens to know about concealed weapons.

"I've been a police officer for 24 years, and the way the crimes are evolving, it's getting worse," Pelfrey said. "With the economy people are getting robbed and their homes are getting broken into."

The Sportsmen's Gun Club is making this class possible, and it will be the fourth class they've offered so far. Pelfrey and Gygi both said that they have not had problems teaching this class on campus from people opposed to concealed weapons.

Continued from page 1

"We want to start doing real work for the students; we want to make our presence felt," said Jordan Twardy, president of SAM. "This rally shows that students want to participate and be active."

Students who attended the rally arrived at the Lansing Center and met along the banks of the Grand River before marching up Michigan Avenue toward the Capitol building. After stirring up the crowd with chants such as "No cuts. No fees. Education should be free," Twardy addressed the crowd.

"Coming here today shows that you all care about higher education and what our government is doing to it," said Twardy.

During Twardy's speech, he outlined SAM's proposal to the Michigan Legislature to preserve higher education funding in Michigan.

"The rising cost of higher education cannot continue to be ignored by the state. Michigan is dead last in America for per student appropriations, spending roughly \$2,000 less per student than the national average," Twardy said in the proposal.

Twardy also recognized students from Michigan Technological University (MTU) and from the legislators.

NMU who drove through the night to make it to the rally. Students from NMU left at 12:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 24, and arrived in Lansing at approximately 8:30 a.m.

ASNMU President Jason Morgan has been working with SAM to coordinate this event for months.

"We can't cut our way out of our problems. It's not politically popular to say we need more tax money, but the consensus is that we need more," said Morgan.

Morgan, who is also one of NMU's representatives in SAM, said that students made an impact at the rally. Legislators could hear students chanting outside from inside the capitol itself, said Morgan.

"Several legislators even complained that we were disrupting their meetings," said Morgan.

Morgan spoke at the rally along with presenters from the state house of representatives, the mayor of Lansing and other students and members of SAM.

After listening to the various speakers, students who attended the rally were invited to sit in on the Michigan Senate and the House of Representatives, which were both in session. The students were recognized by the House of Representatives, and Morgan said that while many of the state's legislators have been hesitant to endorse more funding for higher education, Rep. Joan Bauer and Sen. Mike Prusi have been helpful from the beginning. Rep. Steve Lindberg has also been involved securing more funding for higher education.

"If we cut public education to where the middle class can't afford to go, (Michigan) doesn't have a future," Lindberg said.

One of the ways to secure more funding for higher education would be to reform the state's correctional facilities by locking up fewer criminals for a shorter period of time, Lindberg said. This is not a perfect solution however, as the jobs created by prisons are important in many communities, particularly Lindberg's own district.

"There is no magic solution. What's good for the state isn't always good for my district, and it's my job to represent my constituents," Lindberg said.

While the chances of benefits like the Michigan Promise Scholarship coming back are slim, Lindberg is glad students are here to protest the cuts.

"Sometimes (legislature) doesn't see a problem until it is brought to them directly. Students like (those at the rally) are the future," he said.

be instructing the class, which is sanctioned by the National Rifle Association (NRA) and has been approved by the state of Michigan. There will be five hours of classroom time and three hours spent at the range. In the classroom, participants will learn how to avoid and escape confrontation and about the laws governing concealed weapon carry.

Gygi added that the time at the range is very beneficial for proper shooting techniques.

"The instructor really emphasizes shooting techniques at the range," Gygi said.

Pelfrey said that once the

"People don't really understand that people who have gone through this class have gone through extensive background checks," said Pelfrey.

For more information about the concealed weapons class, contact Gygi at fgygi@nmu.edu. If there's enough interest, an advanced concealed weapons class that focuses more about concealed carry and tactics may be offered.



6 Definition Thursday, April 1, 2010 The North Wind Staff Editorial Staff Editorial VOTE FOR REALLY COOL THINGS VOTE FOR REALLY COOL THINGS

Important election deserves attention

The upcoming Associated Students of NMU (ASNMU) elections are important because they include more than just candidates for president and vice president. Ballot initiatives for ASNMU, The North Wind, Radio X and Students for Campus Wellness are asking for input on where students' money should be spent.

It is important that students familiarize themselves with the issues before they vote in order to make the most educated decision.

This week, before the April 6 and 7 election, we encourage students to talk to the candidates in order to find out what they really stand for. To circumnavigate the drama, it is important look at what the candidates believe ASNMU should be about and decide from there what direction the student government should go in.

The North Wind will not be endorsing a candidate. We do, however, encourage students to vote. This is an important election, like the others, because it is a chance for students to decide how they want to be represented, and the most immediate way to have a say in next year's administration is to vote now.

The student government has a lot of respon-

elected, though, will maintain what they are running on right now throughout the year and consider what their boundaries are. Too often, those in power in ASNMU assume they can solve the world's problems when really they should just be focusing on the problems of students.

Along with those elected following through with their promises, we also encourage students to follow through with their current interest in ASNMU's purpose. It's great to be so concerned with what is happening within your student government, but it's only effective if it's carried beyond the time of elections to when the student government is fully functioning throughout the year. As students who are being represented, we have the responsibility of making sure that's happening adequately not just now, but throughout the year.

It also presents four questions that request the advice of students, three of which determine how much the student activity fee should be raised per student. As this is something that is directly affecting each student, it is in every person's interest to vote. Students can vote on April 6 and 7 by going to asnmu. nmu.edu or going to one of the polling sta-

Letters to the Editor -

'Prom Girl' Column shouldn't attack girl

opinion.northwind@gmail.com

Tom Cory

As the former co-president of OUTLook and an avid supporter of LGBT rights, I was disappointed by John Mercer's recent column about Constance McMillen's fight against the Itawamba County School District. While Mercer certainly has a right to his opinion, attacking a teenage girl for having the courage to stand up against a long pattern of injustices and civil rights abuses comes off as misguided at best and willfully ignorant at worst. Not only did Mercer attempt to write off McMillen's sexual identity as a "lifestyle decision" (which is as much of a "choice" as handedness or eye color), but he criticized her for the very reason why her actions are heroic.

McMillen refused to deny her right to express her identity in a culture in which heterosexuality is considered the default sexuality and where she knew she would be criticized by people like Mr. Mercer who have no conceptualization about how privileged heterosexuals are in this country and how frequently LGBT citizens face discrimination. This isn't an issue of whether McMillen wanted the school's approval. If she cared about that, she would have pretended to be straight. This is about a long history of intolerance and injustice. People like me and Constance aren't going to take this treatment lying down anymore.

As far as the issue of whether or not the ACLU should be involved, perhaps Mercer missed the "civil liberties" part of the "American Civil Liberties Union." The ACLU works tirelessly to defend people like McMillen and Mercer and everyone in between because they believe that our rights are more important than popular opinion. To say that their work, such as the cited lawsuit regarding police brutality "wastes hundreds of thousands of dollars of taxpayer money every year" demonstrates a clear difference in opinion on what "waste" means. I would argue that it wastes taxpayers' money to continue to pay government employees who disregard our constitutional rights and abuse their positions of power. And while I agree that the rest of the

prom, the fault clearly lies on the school board for setting unfair and illegal policy and refusing to change their antiquated, moralistic rules.

> Amy Hickey NMU Alumnus

ASNMU is standing up for students

In response to the March 25 letter to the editor written by Holly Kasberger: Last week, ASNMU took a busload of students to rally in Lansing, the first statewide rally for higher education in the past several years. Speaking to hundreds of students about the importance of our funding from steps of the state capitol was one of my proudest moments as your president. Why? Because students were actually being activists, we were standing up for ourselves and our fellow students to demand that we be a priority to state legislators.

The letter to the editor in the North Wind last week was flat out inaccurate and clearly shows how out of touch the author is with the everyday actions of ASNMU. To correct the inaccuracies: the "levelheaded treasurer" would have been up for impeachment due to neglect of duties if he hadn't resigned and the ASNMU president has not formally asked for the advisor to be removed, despite numerous instances of overstepping her role as an advisor. Lastly, the impeachment charges brought up at last week's meeting were brought up for personal reasons by those involved with his opponent's campaign. The moral of all of this: let's focus on real issues affecting students rather than wasting our time with dramatic nonsense.

The next year will be one of the most challenging times at NMU. We could be facing a 16.9 percent cut to state university funding, which in turn makes tuition increases very likely. I have worked with TJ Weber and Travis Crowe over the past year as president, and I assure you that they will have the courage, experience and passion to stand up for students as your next ASNMU president and vice president.

ASNMU President

sibility, so there's no doubt that this decision tions that will be set out around campus on students in the school were unjustly punished by the cancellation of their

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For What It's Worth

By Alex Belz - Opinion Editor



Health reform affects students directly

For months, the health care discussion has raged across the nation. The debate has been inescapable. Every small update in the process sent shockwaves across the news media. Suddenly, the world seemed to be in a constant discussion of death panels, public options, children's health care and Medicaid. The day the House of Representatives was scheduled to vote on this monumental bill, many students across campus were glued to their televisions watching C-SPAN on an unusually warm Sunday afternoon.

I've never really given much thought to health care for most of my life. Like many people my age, I've been on my parents' insurance since I was a child, so it was never something I had to worry about. I have a heart condition as well as some other medical issues, so having health insurance has always been a big help in dealing with those concerns. But last year I discovered I was fast approaching the cut-off date for staying on my father's insurance, and I began to worry about what would happen when I would be without it. I'm a senior graduating in May, then attending graduate school in the fall. Like many students, I'm trying to juggle working and going to school at the same time, as well as worrying about the future and trying

to balance my checkbook. The health insurance issue was just another weight on my back and I wasn't sure how I was going to afford health insurance with so much going on.

Then, I learned that of all the different age groups affected by this legislation. College-aged people may have the most to gain. Among the 2,409 page document produced from all the revisions and debate during the past several months, stipulations were put into place that increased the age that dependents can stay on their parent's health insurance to 26.

While I personally think that the health care bill is not enough to help everyone in the United States, I can't argue with benefits to my own life. I never thought this health care bill would impact me so directly. Though I follow the news pretty closely, I've been hearing more about death panels, public options and high-risk groups these past few months than what the health care bill actually contains. I'd also heard about government subsidies that would be offered to people who were below a certain tax level, and I suppose I've vaguely thought that eventually I might take advantage of that. But extending the age dependents can stay on their parents' health insurance benefits me immediately.

help current college students like myself. It'll also help recent unemployed college graduates or graduates who have jobs that don't offer health plans. This new stipulation on the age of how old dependents can be and still remain on their parents' health insurance will go into effect later this year.

Benefits to college age people don't stop there. Those subsidies I mentioned before are actually really beneficial. In 2014, current college students may be eligible for government subsidies to help pay for private insurance, as long as they're making below \$43,390. This will help current college aged people deal with the immense cost of health care as they struggle to go out and create a career for themselves in the real world. According to US News. currently 34 percent of college graduates remain uninsured during their first 12 months after graduation. Whatever students may think about the new health care reform, they should know that it directly affects them. I don't think there has been a piece of legislation during my lifetime which has benefited me such a substantial amount. And, in a country facing hard economic times, in a state with a dwindling job market, health care is one less thing students like me have to worry about.

U.S. should be harder on Israel



In the past weeks, Israel has announced their plan to build 1,600 apartments in eastern Jerusalem where the Palestinians would like to have their future capital. To make matters worse they made this announcement, while Vice President Joe Biden was visiting Israel. As a White House aide said, it was an insult. The United States needs to take a stand on foreign policy against its arguably number one ally.

The decision was made by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, leader of the Likud Party. He has said the settlements "in no way" hurt Palestinians. Of course he would have this view because the Likud party platform states "Palestinians will be able to manage their lives freely ... but not as a sovereign, independent state."

The prime minister's parliamentary coalition consists of multiple right-wing hawkish parties alongside his Likud party who embody this type of view, sometimes they are even more hawkish than Likud. Netanyahu has also been known to embrace hawkish policies in the past. Yet, he has said, "I want to advance a peace agreement with the Palestinians. I am capable of achieving an agreement. I have the political will inside me."

If he really wanted to advance peace with the Palestinians he would have the political courage to stop settlements in east Jerusalem and the West Bank, all of which are considered occupied territory by the United Nations and the International Court of Justice. He can't do this or he would risk losing support of his party and hawkish parties in his coalition.

The Islamic militant group

most powerful ally that gives them \$3 billion a year.

Israel gets most of its military weapons and assistance from the United States. Under the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act, the United States cannot provide assistance to countries that "engage in consistent violations of international human rights."

Israel would be in violation of this act by that definition many times over. One example is the Israeli Gaza offensive in 2009. A war crimes report by South African judge Richard Goldstone said Israel "committed actions amounting to war crimes, possibly crimes against humanity" because they used disproportionate force, targeted civilians on purpose, and used Palestinians as human shields. The report didn't forget about Hamas and said they also committed war crimes. The Israeli foreign minister called the report "one sided" even though both sides were charged with war crimes. The death total was 13 Israelis killed including three civilians, whereas 1,400 Palestinians were killed, including 800-900 civilians.

Israel gets such strong support in part in the United States because of AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee), considered to be the most influential lobbying group in the United States, which is intriguing considering groups like the Chamber of Commerce, Pharmaceutical Research, and Manufactures of America are also on that list. AIPAC has bi-partisan support including Barack Obama, Hilary Clinton, Dick Cheney and George W. Bush.

Maybe their lobbying power explains why only the United States, Israel and Micronesia have been against the UN effort to ban the militarization of space. China has called for banning weapons in outer space but the United States has led efforts to block negotiations related to this.

It is past due time for the United States to stand up against Israel. We must tell them that our efforts to support them will end if they don't stop settlements and give in to reasonable negotiations with the Palestinians. These would include giving the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to Palestine and having Jerusalem possibly being an international open capital. The Palestinians deserve a home and shouldn't be persecuted by a right-wing hawkish government that gets much of its funding from the United States who claims to promote "freedom, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." It is time to give the Palestinians freedom.

This change doesn't only

Hamas has also been guilty of being hawkish towards Israel. They have only emerged and now have ruled the Gaza Strip since 2007 because of the multi-decades illegal occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

American-brokered indirect peace talks were to began in late March between Israel and the Palestinians after the Arab League's approved of it, but Netanyahu showed his disregard for peace when he tried to embarrass Joe Biden by announcing new settlements while he was visiting. It also conveyed disregard for their

Vitamin D levels should be maintained



Robin Rahoi

Lately, the public has been receiving information about vitamin D and its connection to health. Researchers and policymakers agree that the Recommended daily allowance for vitamin D needs to be reassessed, as one half of the population is thought to be vitamin D deficient. This includes older adults, people at northern and southern latitudes, dark skinned individuals, children, pregnant women and exclusively breast-

fed babies. Also at risk are individuals with fat malabsorption disease such as IBS, Crohn's disease, celiac disease and cystic fibrosis.

Because this vitamin promotes calcium absorption and bone mineralization it is very important that we get enough. If we don't, our bones will become soft and weak over time, setting the stage for osteoporosis later in life. While this may not seem like something that you need to be concerned about, I urge you to think again.

Physical activity, calcium and vitamin D intake are now known to be major contributors to bone health for individuals of all ages. Even though bone disease often strikes late in life,

the importance of beginning prevention at a very young age and continuing it throughout life is now well understood.

One of the big problems in regard to adequate intake is that vitamin D is not prevalent in foods. Good sources of D include fortified milk, cereal. breads and margarine, egg yolks and fatty fish sources such as salmon, mackerel, sardines and herring.

According to studies from the American Dietetic Association, milk consumption in America is low. This is due in part to sugared beverages displacing milk's place in the diet.

Vitamin D is produced naturally when skin is exposed to sunlight. This presents a problem in the Upper Peninsula because we are bundled up most of the time. In addition we spend a great amount of time indoors. In order to synthesize Vitamin D through sunlight it is recommended that skin is exposed to the sun for at least 15 to 20 minutes, without block, at least three times per week. This goes against the recommendation for sunscreen but a short time in the sun with maximal skin exposure is necessary. However, be careful to avoid extended exposure to sunlight without sunscreen.

Supplementation of vitamin D3 is advised as the current recommendations are inadequate. The Office of Dietary Supplements suggests that in addition to food, 800 to 1,000 IU of vitamin D3 should taken daily during the winter months. If sun exposure is minimal, continued supplementation in the summer is also a good way to prevent deficiency.

In addition to its role in bone health, researchers are discovering hopeful connections between vitamin D status and chronic disease such as type 1 diabetes, cancer, heart disease, depression and multiple sclerosis.

The best way to determine if your vitamin D stores are low is to have your level tested. This is done through a simple blood test that can be administered at NMU's health center or through your family physician's office.

Gay people should fight for their civil rights



Scott Viau

Staff

There has been a lot of coverage lately about Constance Mc-Millen, the high school student who wanted to take her girlfriend to her high school prom, only to have her request denied and the prom cancelled. Thankfully, Mc-Millen did not cower back into the closet, but choose to fight a battle that gays and lesbians across the country and across the world have been engaged in for decades.

In a country where women weren't allowed to vote until 1920

and blacks weren't granted their civil rights until 1964, it comes as no surprise that homosexuals are still not treated like the human beings that they are. Yes, there have been advancements, like the landmark 2003 Lawrence v. Texas court case that rid the country of laws regarding sodomy. Yet repealing laws that pertain specifically to sexual acts is not enough.

As an openly gay person, it's a slap in the face whenever I hear someone speak about homosexuality as if it were a choice. Who in their right mind would choose to be ridiculed by classmates, be universally hated and be unable to marry the person they love? The first step to gaining rights is to educate those around us. We must make them realize that the life we live is not a choice made through a masochistic desire for hatred and intolerance but something that is felt within and cannot be changed. Simply saying that it is a choice gives an easy out to those people who want to deny us our rights.

The Matthew Shepard Act was signed into law by Barack Obama in 2009 and helped give authorities the ability to investigate deeper into hate crimes among other things. While this law was passed with good intentions, it's not enough to stop the amount of hate that is geared toward homosexuals in general. Separating us into groups only goes to further to accentuate our differences, rather than focus on the fact that regardless of race or sexual orientation, we are all the same and should be treated as such.

One of the biggest oppositions that gay people face are from those who feel our rights are not due to us because the Bible says it is an "abomination." While I can respect their right to believe in whatever religion they choose, I wish their decision about the well being and rights of their fellow humans was found within their heart and not within the pages of a book.

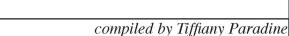
Gay people in this country don't have it nearly as bad as those in other countries. In Sudan, simply being gay can land you life in prison or with the death penalty.

In Guyana, male homosexuality is illegal while female homosexuality is legal. I'm thankful I don't think live in any of these places. But in the United States, it's a sad state of affairs when two people, regardless of sex, are unable to prove their love to each other through marriage in a country that prides itself on having liberty and justice for all

It's time for people of all faiths and backgrounds to reevaluate their stand on the rights of others. We are either a country united together or divided by petty differences. It's time for more people to have the same courage and conviction of McMillen to stand up for injustice wherever it may appear.



What's your favorite April Fool's Day prank?













John Williamson-Zacker freshman forensic bio-chem

"Draw a mustache on someone's face while they are sleeping."

Ami Mcioroy senior public relations

"Call my mom and tell her I am failing all my classes because I don't want to graduate."

Jimmy Lalich junior media production

"Tell everyone I am dropping out of school and moving to Japan."

Amanda Weinert freshman Art and Design

"I don't know I'm not really a prankster."

Jeoff Holloway junior, entertainment and sports promotion

> "Tell my friends I am transfering schools."

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Charlie Todd is the founder of Improv Everywhere. He is also a teacher and performer of improv comedy at the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre. Improv Everywhere causes scenes of chaos in joy in public places. Created in August of 2001, Improv Everywhere has executed over 70 missions involving thousands of undercover agents.

{WITH CHARLIE TODD & AND FRIENDS}

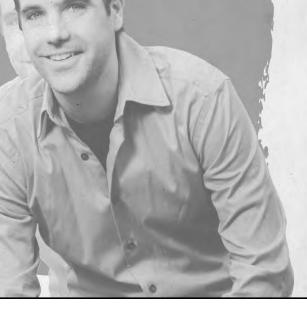
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http://www.youtube.com/ user/ImprovEverywhere



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We are among the NMU faculty, staff, and administrators (past and present) who believe that

"Christ is risen!" "He is risen indeed!"

This Easter, we encourage you to find out more about what the Resurrection of Jesus Christ means to many of us at NMU... and what it can mean to you!

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Similar ads are being planned for the future. For more info, or to be included, contact any one of us or Rob Engelhart (rengelha@nmu.edu).

Arts & Entertainment Rights activist gives speech at NMU



Ayaan Hirsi Ali gave a speech on her life living under the rule of Islan and female genital mutilation and afterward signed books for students, staff and members of the faculty.

By John Becker

staff writer

Human rights activist Ayaan Hirsi Ali spoke on Wednesday, March 31, in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center about the threat presented by Islamic social doctrine to human rights. About 450 students and community members attended the Platform Personalities event.

"It's very important to know that Islam as a theology, the political and social dimension of Islam, and not the religious aspects, are not just dangerous but also incompatible with the American doctrine of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," Ali said.

Ali's speech, titled "Refuse to be Silenced," reflected on her experiences with inequality towards women in the Muslim world that she grew up in. Ali called inequality a universal issue but also said there are some major problems faced by Muslim women that most Western women will never face.

cided to seek asylum in the Netherlands.

"I didn't want to be caught by my father, or the man who he married me off to. I felt the most threatened when I was discovered by my husband," Ali said.

Ali said a social worker told her that she didn't have to fear her husband, that she didn't have to follow him and the police could ensure her safety.

One of the biggest problems Ali mentioned is that the peace-loving and law-abiding majority of Muslims turn a blind eye to the injustices that occur often in their culture.

"When Muslims commit violent crimes in the name of the Qur'an ... the peace-loving majority goes into denial, they become defensive," she said. "I've also observed that there's a willful disregard of facts. It doesn't matter how many verses of the Qur'an you show, they will say it has nothing to do with Islam and that Islam is peace." Ali said ignoring the problem only makes it easier for the mistreatment of women to become accepted and perpetuated. declared sinful. It is creed that a woman's testimony is worth half a man's and her testimony means little," Ali said.

Ali said some men use Islamic Sharia to justify beating a woman for as little as leaving the house without the permission of her male guardian. The guardian is usually her husband, but if the woman is unmarried, her father, older brother or uncle would take on that role.

In extreme cases, Ali said the guardian could even sell a woman for an indeterminate amount of money, and that while some groups consider it immoral, extremists use circular thinking to make the ends justify the means.

Junior Melanie Bell, chairperson for the event, said Ali has a unique viewpoint being an apostate in the eyes of her Muslim family and friends.

"Ali has faced adversity in her life that most will never

"There is female genital mutilation that happens at the age of 5, 6 or 7 that is a sewing of the genitals and the cutting off of the clitoris to ensure that you are a virgin when you reach the age of marriage," Ali said. "It's justified in the name of Islam even though it's not in the Qur'an." In Ali's book, "Infidel," Ali described that while her parents were against genital mutilation, Ali's grandmother performed the procedure while her parents were away from home.

Ali said she wanted to show that a person born into Islam can change their mind about their religion, even though it is quite dangerous to do so. She said by going against her religion, she faced immediate rejection from her family. After a marriage was arranged for her, Ali deShe also said that while there is a universal history of excluding certain groups of people, whether it's women, gay people, or other minorities, the main difference in Islamic Sharia (Law) doesn't allow changes or amendments.

"When I came (to the U.S.) I found out that as far as the Constitution goes, I can fight the exclusion, I can influence congressmen to enact change," she said.

Ali said she was attracted to the U.S. because of the freedom of expression and the freedom to dissent. Under Islamic Sharia, Ali said women have to be especially careful to not speak out because men are typically warned and then intimidated before finally being attacked, but women are not so lucky.

"As a woman, if you want to change anything you're

come close to knowing," Bell said.

Bell also said that because of her outspoken nature, Ali has angered some Islamic extremists.

"Her short film 'Submission,' about the oppression of women under the Islamic faith, drew great attention," she said.

Even though Ali has become a target of Islamic extremists who wish to silence her, she continues speaking because the message she conveys transcends the blind hatred of radicals.

"As more people become aware of the violence, it will become more difficult for people to ignore it," Ali said. Harris said she hopes people stop ignoring these injustices towards women and call for action.

"I would like people to learn about what (Ali has) endured and what other women are still enduring. Hopefully we can not just be saddened by it, but hopefully empowered to help women in this situation," Harris said.

One-act plays at the **Black Box Theatre**

By Delaney Lovett staff writer

The one-act plays will each be performed March 31 – April 3 at 7:30 p.m. These student-directed, 30-minute lab shows will be performed in the Black Box Theatre located in the McClintock building. Admission is free.

"The Worker"

"The Worker," by Walter Wykes, is a dark comedy about the relationship between a husband and wife and how the man's desire to providedisrupts their bond. It portrays how the husband spending too much time at work can affect the wife.

"It just shows the lack of communication between the husband and wife," said Ashley Stein, senior theatre major and director of "Worker."

"The Worker" is the first show that Stein has directed but said her actors are very easy to work with.

"We have had a couple of rehearsals in which we give them different things to play with, and they switch roles and play each others' roles just for fun. They learn a lot from about the characters they're playing from doing that," Stein said.

Lab shows are a great way for Northern students to support other students and see high-quality theatre performances.

"You get a variety of experiences, be cause all three of our lab shows are very different, so you get to see three completely different shows in one sitting," Stein said. Mike Rudden, an NMU alumnus, plays a man who works for a big corporation, has a wife and has problems with both of these situations.

Rudden said that the Black Box is his favorite venue to perform in because of the intimacy it provides.

"There's a feeling of the audience really being part of the show and the actors are right there with the audience," Rudden said.

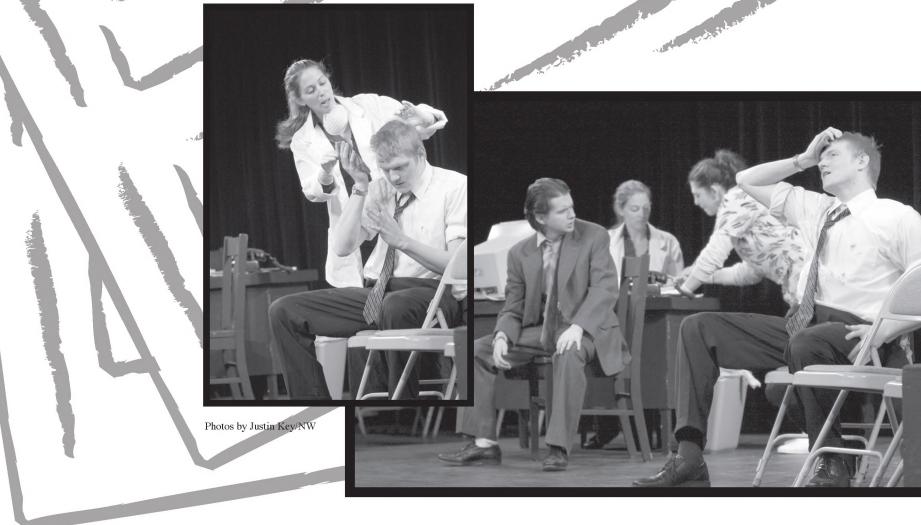
Each show has a different set of challenges, and "The Worker" is no different.

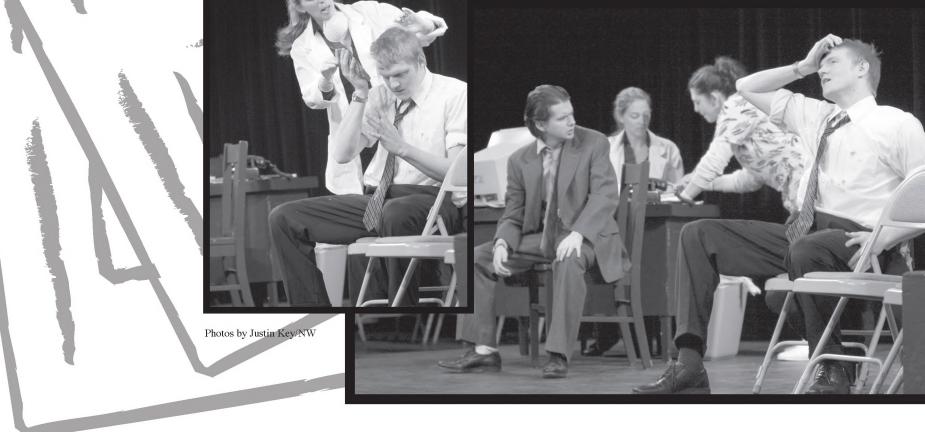
"This show has been ... difficult finding a balance between comedy and drama. There's been difficulty deciding which layers of the character to show at which times and which to hide, when the character's in control or not in control of what's going on," Rudden said.

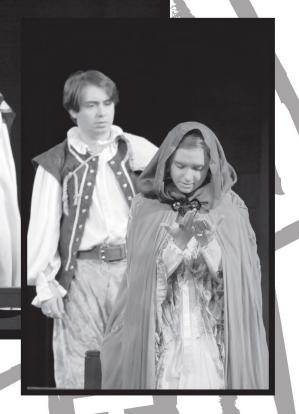
Rudden encourages Northern students to attend the shows because they provide high quality, free entertainment.

"It's something (students) won't see anywhere else on campus or really probably anywhere else in town."









Photos by Justin Key/NW

"Dark Lady of the Sonnets"

ROW

"Dark Lady of the Sonnets," by George Bernard Shaw, Shakespeare and Queen Elizabeth. Shakespeare is sneaking onto the palace grounds to meet up with the Dark Lady, the woman he supposedly wrote numerous sonnets about and runs into Queen Elizabeth, whom he ends up falling in love with.

'It's pretty funny but historically impossible," said Sarah Frame, senior theatre major and director of "Dark Lady."

As the director, Frame does her best to provide direction and blocking to help the actors have a better understanding of the show.

"The language is so rich that sometimes it's hard to hear the jokes that are happening. And just trying to pick

those out and find ways to amplify those so the audience can enjoy the piece as much as I do," Frame said.

Having the shows in the Black Box creates a unique atis about the hypothetical and impossible meeting between / mosphere and challenges for both the actors and the audience. It uses thrust seating, which means there's seating on three sides of the stage.

> "It's fun and frustrating for actors and directors because you have to make sure that everybody can be seen from all different sides of the stage," Frame said.

> Thrust seating also makes viewing interesting for the audience by providing different angles of the show.

> The Black Box provides opportunities for directors and actors that aren't necessarily possible on a larger stage. "When they put a show out on the main stage, (directors) tend to choose shows they know they can get an audience with. You can do more experimental theatre in the Black Box," Frame said.

"Thirty Minutes To Charlie"

"Thirty Minutes to Charlie," by Nick Zagone, follows two arrogant men who have only half an hour to get to an important meeting. They end up needed to make a trip to the emer-

them to do something better or be better," McDonoff said. Abby Ropp, a junior English major and theatre minor, plays a frazzled nurse at the payment desk of the emergency room trying to make sense of what's going on around her.

"She's a little overwhelmed and has to deal with these two

gency room where they're not getting the help they need, and the audience later finds out it is set on Sept. 11.

"It breaks down to being about the lack of communication and compassion between people," said Betsy McDonoff, senior theatre major and director of "Charlie." "These guys just don't care about anybody but themselves."

McDonoff said that she feels her role as the director is to share theatre with everyone and to make the shows more accessible to the audience.

"My role is to be able to take a show and give it to an audience, where they will get a little more out of (it) than they might if they had just read it or just heard about it. I'm also there to try and take these actors that are in my show and help kind of self-absorbed, arrogant businessmen who have no idea what's going on and she doesn't even really have time to explain it to them," Ropp said.

The biggest challenge for Ropp is trying to communicate the sense of immediacy and urgency the play has.

"They never say the word Sept. 11 in the entire show, so it's a little bit of a challenge trying to convey the emotions and experience of that morning right after its happening," Ropp said.

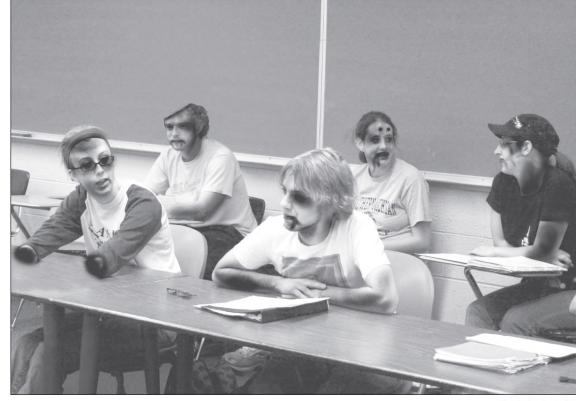
Ropp said she thoroughly enjoyed rehearsal and feels that McDonoff knows a lot about what she's doing. "It's like hanging out with your best friend doing theatre, so I couldn't really ask for anything more."



April 1, 2010

www.thesouthernblowonline.com

Volume 679, J77, Issue 453



Bigoledeadman/SB

Students conduct business as usual in professor Matthew Gilterman's Math Genius Studies class. The professor made claims that they appeared to be zombie-like, but his claims went unfounded.

Professor feels zombies have invaded classroom

By Pablo Skywalker

youthful wannabe

On Friday, March 25, associate professor Matthew Gilterman noticed something odd about the students in his morning Math Genius Studies class.

"I was about to begin the lecture with my analysis of the meaning behind imaginary logarithms when I noticed my entire class was either gnawing on their textbooks, or staring hungrily at my liver," said Gilterman.

Gilterman left the class after repeated attempts to get his students to pay attention to the lecture.

"They wouldn't stop moaning and whining. The students kept arguing about the deliciousness ment and Burial (DUMB) to look into the situation.

DUMB, an oversight committee created by former president Bush, has been sanctioned before for their use of unreasonable force in controlling zombie outbreaks. During a past incident, DUMB president Charles Norris was accused of needlessly delivering 344 roundhouse kicks to the face

Braaaaaaaaaains. Braaaaaains? Uhhhhhhh brains.

— Randy Peterfield articulate math student

of a 96-year-old woman falsely accused of being a zombie. "Our job is to investigate the

Norris.

Many of the accusations brought to DUMB are from concerned citizens who misrepresent facts, Norris said. There are several ways to identify a zombie, and the students in Gilterman's class didn't fit any of the classifications.

"Zombies are generally not very nice people. One girl (in the

class) asked me to go out for a bowl of juicy brains with her this weekend," he said.

Randy Peterfield, a student in Gilterman's MA 499 class, doesn't understand why this was brought to DUMB in the first place. Pe-

terfield, a junior and culinary arts major at NMU, enjoys Gilterman's class, mainly because of his interesting teaching style, and his delicious brains.

Child from affair creates controversy

By Pablo Skywalker child prodigy

The Southern Blow has recently received confirmed evidence from university officials that reveals a long-standing love affair between an unnamed member of the NMU faculty and the computer science department's Pioneer 3-DX model robot.

A university spokesperson spoke to members of the press after reports of the birth of the pair's android love-child surfaced.

"While the actions of the member of our faculty do both disappoint and puzzle us, no disciplinary measures will be taken at this time," said NMU press secretary James Cameron.

The android-baby, dubbed "Little Arnold" by his parents, was born on March 6, weighing 250 pounds with a height of over six feet. The baby has developed quickly; within weeks it has learned to walk and speak in short quotable catch-phrases. It is now able to blend in with the human population in order to relentlessly stalk its prey, said Cameron.

"We have absolutely no reason to believe that Little Arnold poses any kind of threat to humanity. One look at that adorable face is enough to prove to me it's harmless," he said.

The human-machine hybrid has sparked controversy throughout NMU's campus. Some stu-

dents believe that the child's indestructible skeleton, advanced tracking system and ruthless killer instinct pres-



ent a possible safety hazard to the students at NMU.

"You've got to be kidding me. Haven't any of you seen The Terminator? That thing's going to kill us all!" said sophomore outdoor leadership and computer science double major and local crazy person John Connor.

According to Connor, Little Arnold poses a direct threat to humanity's existence as a species, and it should be destroyed as soon

See Robot • page 2

Professor finds unlikely cancer cure in cigarettes

By Biggie \$teezer breakin' legs

An NMU professor has recently made a controversial discovery that has overturned that has been a thought of as a cause for cancer for decades.

Joe Camelo, a professor in the recently formed pseudo-science department, said that smoking doesn't cause cancer, but actually can help to cure people of the depression that surrounds getting diagnosed with the illness. "The best way to look at it is if you have cancer, you aren't going to be feeling that cool," he said. "But having that cigarette is going to make you more relaxed and feel good about who you are. So you will feel more confident when battling the disease." Camelo said the study that he and the graduate students from his department did over the past 18 months showed results that were undeniable in seeing improvement among the attitudes of his cancer patients, even if the survival rate wasn't as close to 100 percent as he would have

liked.

"Let's be honest if you don't have any hair you aren't going to want to leave the house," he said. "But once we gave them the cigarettes, they started feeling more confident and going out into the world and attending hard rock shows all the time."

Camelo said his patients are now often seen around town with cut-off white t-shirts, questionable tattoos and cartons of their favorite cigarettes rolled up in their sleeves, which he said was a sign that they were indeed tough enough to take on a serious disease.

of my brains. I couldn't teach the class," Gilterman said.

They had also failed to adhere to the university dress code, said Gilterman; many students had shown up to class in gratuitously torn and bloodied clothing, and almost all of them were missing various limbs and internal organs.

"I know it's probably just some new fashion trend, but this is a university. We have to be professionals," said Gilterman.

After reporting the incident to the dean of students, the university decided to contact the Department of Undead Manage-

situation and make an assessment. It's not like the movies, there is no such thing as a fast-

moving zombie. Mrs. Wickersham posed an immediate threat, so we dealt with her."

Norris and four DUMB operatives were brought in to observe the class on Monday. They covered themselves in fake blood, and attempted to blend in with the students, Norris said.

"Other than one student affectionately chewing on (Gilterman's) arm, we couldn't find any conclusive evidence of a zombie outbreak. I don't know why he left in the first place, the students really seemed to enjoy him," said

The class has been difficult since students found out about their professor's accusations. Many students are disappointed that Gilterman would bring forth accusations against them, said Peterfield.

However, it's hard to stay mad at (Gilterman), said Peterfield, because of his valuable life lessons, and his appetizing cranial contents.

"Braaaaaaaains," said Peter-field.

"What we want to do is give these people an image with enough edge to cut through their cancer," he said.

NMU student and cancer patient Jeff Badlung said he had a new found passion for living his life since using smoking to boost his ego.

"I can't wait for my hair to grow back so I can never cut it," he said. "It's going to look really cool flowing from the back of my motorcycle."

NEWS!

Robot · Continued from page 1

as possible to prevent the extinction of the human race.

"Forget that it's a killing machine bent on world destruction for a minute. Did anyone stop to wonder how it happened? Humans ... robots ... the parts don't match!" said Connor.

Connor has attempted to rally students together to his cause by founding The Resistance, a new student organization whose goal is to promote robot awareness and inform students of ways they can fight back against the coming storm.

Organizations like this inhibit the rights of robots everywhere and promote nothing but hate and misunderstanding, said Jerry Rewshigen, a spokesperson from Cyberdyne Industries.

"(Connor) has really stepped out of line this time. To encourage Human-robot relations, I think it is necessary for him to meet with Little Arnold and apologize ... preferably in a abandoned factory

with no exits," Rewshigen said. Rewshigen and Cyberdyne Industries have taken a special interest Little Arnold, and have been working with his family to provide special daycare and education arrangements that will develop him into a cold, calculating member of society. Cyberdyne normally specializes in weapons development and military, but they have made an exception for Little Arnold.

"We really care about the little guy. It's truly a miracle of life. How many children do you know who can crush a human skull with their bare hands?" said Rewshigen.

Cyberdyne industries has been behind many major robotics and artificial intelligence breakthroughs recently, and they don't plan on slowing down any time soon, Rewshigen said.

"We've been making a lot of breakthroughs lately. We've got a really important project coming through right now. It's going to be bigger than the apocalypse," he said.

Openly-viking woman named board member

By Thaddeus Thorilla Jenkins tellin' 'em how it is

In a landmark decision earlier this week, Gov. Gemini Graino appointed Michigan's first openly Viking-American politician to NMU's Board of Trustees.

Ingrid Svensdottir was appointed to the board after its members unanimously approved the recommendation from Graino. Svensdottir, who changed her name from Sarah Tea in the fall of 2004, has been a registered Viking-American for the past nine years.

"The governor has really made a courageous decision. I bring a unique perspective to finally provide NMU with the Viking voice that it has been missing for so long," Svensdottir said.

In her nearly four year political career, which has included with Svensdottir.

"She has a very interesting approach to university administration. She really knows how to make cuts to the budget. And I mean that literally, she takes an axe to the handouts," he said.

Long said that he feels Svensdottir's appointment will have a positive effect on Marquette's dwindling tourism industry.

"I think allowing the Vikings representation is an important step toward decreasing the number of picnics that are being raided during the summer," said Long.

While many student organizations, such as the crew team and sailing club, are excited about Svensdottir's appointment, several members of the NMU community have expressed concern about her possible biases.

"I've heard that she has been

Importance of old song rediscovered and shared

By George Malachi way too curious

John Sisko, an NMU English professor and writer, has been on sabbatical and touring the Midwest this summer to promote his new book on the lasting literary significance of pop band LFO's song "Summer Girls."

"It's a song that transcends time. It crosses cultural boundaries and reaches out to the listener and grabs ahold of them," Sisko said. "Especially for the male audience. I mean, doesn't every straight male think that it is fly for a girl to stop by for the summer?"

Though critics of the book say that "Summer Girls" is as dated as rough contemporaries BB Mak and 98 degrees, Sisko argues that the postmodern nostalgic collage technique employed in "Summer Girls" was revolutionary for pop music at the time.

He says that LFO's fly-by inclusion of multiple facets of American culture within the song took a snapshot of America in the '90s.

The song talks about a time when "Macaulay Culkin wasn't home alone" and when "New Kids on the Block had a bunch of hits."

"We're talking about a band

that wrote the lyric: 'Billy Shakespeare wrote a whole bunch of sonnets.' LFO is giving respect to its literary forefathers while at the same time playing them down. And rhyming it with 'When you take a sip, you buzz like a hornet,' is just plain brilliant," Sisko said. "I just hope the American Poet Laureate Commission is paying attention."

The book also touches on lesser known hits by the group such as "Girl on TV" and "West Side Story," and delves into the artistic significance of their music videos.

"Girl on TV' also did a lot for the literary community," Sisko said. "I mean, LFO met a fly girl, and they couldn't relax. I think we can all relate to that."

NMU English professor Frank Cool disagrees with Sisko's book. For weeks now, he's been publicly criticizing the book in nearly every forum, even going so far as to send a university-wide e-mail defaming both "Summer Girls" and Sisko.

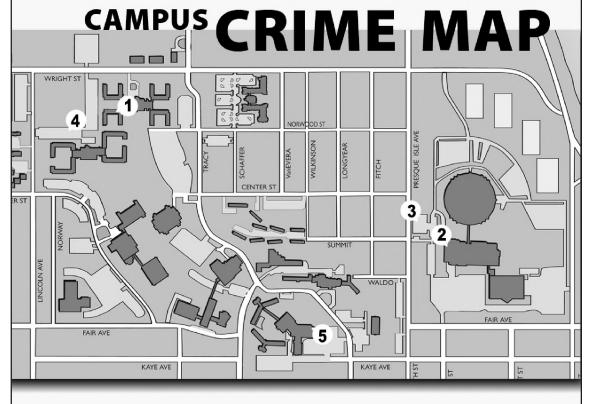
"There's no debate as to the literary significance of 'Summer Girls.' I've never argued against that. The song is well written, their use of slant rhyme is superb, yet even the great poets of the last few centuries had their flaws," Cool said. "It's mostly the chorus I have trouble with. LFO is basically asking for a call to arms for all the summer girls to shop at Abercrombie and Fitch. What about the Gap? What about Old Navy? Did Sisko and LFO even think about these things?

Not only that, while LFO may stand the test of time, we all know New Kids on the Block never will. What will our grandchildren say when they hear this song?"

When asked about criticism of his book, Sisko shook his head and traced the lips of lead singer Rich Cronin on the LFO poster which hangs in his office in the English Department and whispered, "Shhh, it'll be okay."

Sophomore Kate Booster, who has read the book, said she thought it was brilliant.

"I remember the song from middle school, but I never really considered the monumental implications of what LFO was doing until I read Professor Sisko's book," Booster said. "I mean, sometimes I wear Abercrombie and Fitch. I like Fun Dip and Cherry Coke. I mean, it's like LFO is writing about me. Only they're not writing about me. It's like they captured my soul."



city manager of Norway, Mich., Svensdottir has been a staunch advocate for Viking rights. Her efforts have resulted in a state ordinance allowing legal protection for marine-based pillagers and an open-carry law for axe-wielders.

"Viking-Americans are an underrepresented minority, and I want to speak on their behalf," Svensdottir said. "Nearly 45 percent of the NMU student body is secretly Viking. I want to help make the changes necessary so that students aren't afraid of being who they really are."

President Wes Long said that he is looking forward to working

very repressive toward (Ninja-Americans) and the Pirate community. That is a very serious concern, even though she hasn't expressed any outright hate toward us," said Terry Jimbo, a senior banana assessment technology major and president of the NMU Samurai Club.

Svensdottir said that will spend most of the school year in a lakeside home in Harvey, Mich., while vacationing in Denmark during the summer with her partner, Bonecrusher Ivarson, a lobbyist in Washington, D.C., for the herring and butter-cookie industries.

1. A student was found taking the tag off his or her mattress. Charges have been filed and she has been sentenced to five to ten in the state pen.

2. An older man was found ogling women in the women's locker room and was escorted out by Public Safety. The officer then high-fived him and let him go.

3. A student was found sleeping in the truck-bed of a car for over 5 days and was charged with disturbing the peace.

4. Twenty-five dollars in pennies was found in a cloth bag with a dollar sign on it in Lot 61.

5. A student with the flu was charged with biological terrorism after sneezing in the spicy black bean vegetarian soup at the Wildcat Den.

Opinion!! Thursday, April 1, 2010 The Southern Blow

Staff Editorial



Everyone should wear big fur coats

When the Malamute rule

comes, we want to make sure

that we're showing support

We've all seen the man who walks around campus wearing big fur coats, which range in color from blue to red to brown. He is an important landmark at Northern, representing a group of people who have long deserved recognition. We would like to bring to light his contributions to the Malamute Resistance Movement (MRM), an effort to implement Alaskan Malamute rule throughout the world.

This man, wearing large coats to metaphorically represent the fur of Malamutes, is a crucial symbol to this important move-

ment that needs to be approached with more seriousness, and we would like to take this time to encourage all students to start wearing enormous fur coats.

The MRM outlines the Malamute plan to take over the government and implement rule that is much more dog-oriented. The organization argues that for too long the world has been dominated by humans and the time has come for Malamute rule. The Southern Blow believes that Malamutes would govern the world much more

We've all seen the man who walks sanctioned naptime, government-sponound campus wearing big fur coats, sored treats for individuals who do well hich range in color from blue to red to and snow days every time it snows.

> There's probably lots of other good benefits, too. Think about what dogs do with their time. They run around and play. They seem to happy. Who wouldn't want to be ruled by a bunch of cute dogs? We could all quit our jobs and run around in the grass for a while, or throw a Frisbee around in the park

around in the park. But there could be a

dark side to all of this. When the Malamute rule comes, we want to make sure that we're showing

support, or else we might get on the bad side of those dogs. There's no telling what the punishment might be for those who disobey. There could be newspaper rolls to the nose, shouts of "Bad human!" and we might be forced to stay in our homes. We don't want that. So the Southern Blow urges all students to go out and purchase the biggest fur coats they can find in order to show solidarity with the MRM. Remember, too, to be nice to all the dogs you run across. They will be our masters

- Letters to the Editor —

Roads need to change so readers can read

Dear Editor,

Sharon Peters totally.not.legit@gmail.com

I recently crashed my car while trying to read a copy of The Southern Blow. It was on a particularly windy section of road near my house, and I was absorbed in your magnificent, intriguing and accurate coverage of Northern Michigan University. Would it be possible for you to make the local roads straighter and easier to navigate without attention? I understand that you can solve all problems. Thank you.

> Sincerely, Crashy Carr

More care should be used our silly articles

Dear Editor,

In response to your article on Page 39 of last week's North Wind, I had a really big problem because of how you used one word excessively: "the." I was offended that you thought such usage was ok, especially when it's such an offensive and humiliating word that offends so many people so often. I am a good, honest person and when I see such a word, I am immediately offended. I spend hours of my day shying away from such a word, and then to see it used to liberally. I am still trying to catch my breath. Please take time to consider other people's feelings

when writing your silly, silly articles about ridiculous topics.

> Sincerely, Agatha Grumble

XOXOs for Mr. Southern Blow Editor

Dear Editor,

How have you been? I haven't seen you since summer camp when we were six. I was really excited to receive your most recent letter on my doorstep last week. I've never seen such a big letter before. By the way, how did you get all of those pictures and advertisements into your letter? I am so impressed that you find the time to write me every week.

I tried to include photos into my letter but all I had were water color paints and it made the envelope soggy, so you'll have to use your imagination. WINK!

Anyways, I just wanted to let you know that I have been super duper. Surprise, surprise, I'm still not married. Don't forget our marriage pact! I hope it's not weird, but I'd love to be Mrs. Editor someday, if you'd have me. HAHA!

Seriously though, I love you. Well, that's about all I have this week. KISSES!

XOXO

Annie Omarsky The Smallest Apartment In the Smallest Building, Mesquite, Michitana

Letter Policy

Letters to the Editor must include anything you could possibly tell us about yourself so we really know who we're dealing with. Then, once we know EVERYTHING about you, we might consider reading your letter and then publishing it.

This especially goes for all the single ladies. You know what I'm saying.

Letters can be mailed to us, or emailed to us, or sent to us by owl or carrier pigeon.

peacefully. There would be no war, state- someday

2310 University Center, Marquette, MI 49855 Phone: (906) 227-2545

The Southern Blow

est. tomorrow

Red Rover ... takin' names Thaddeus Thorilla Jenkins... the great debater John Flocke ... with holes in his shirt George Malachi ... the explorer Pablo Skywalker ... grower of hair Sharon Peters ... looks like Brad Pitt Snoozy McSnoozerson ... shows up when he wants George Malachi ... apparently works the double Swoope De La Soul ... an honest man Babooshka ... wannabe grandmother Zeus, god of Olympus ... actually a small child Remington Rutherford III ... sings like a champ e-mail: editor.ohhhhyeah@gmail.com www.thesouthernblowdoesn'texist.com

Johnny Flame ... but not a flame of mine Full Throttle Energy Drink ... on a Wednesday Rumplestumpelpimpleton ... needs a vacation John Yukyukyukyukyuk ... also a swedish cook Pluto ... Lord of the Nether Realm and Disney dog Lord Tuffington of Popshire ... shouldn't work here

The North Wind is an independent student publication serving the Northern Michigan University community. It is partially funded by the Student Activity Fee. The North Wind has a circulation of 6,000 and is published every Thursday during the fall and winter semesters except on university holidays and during exam weeks. The North Wind is published by The North Wind Board of Directors, composed of representatives of the student body, faculty, administration and area media. Subscriptions are available for \$40 a year or \$25 a semester. The first five copies are free; copies exceeding that number cost 50 cents, to be paid at The North Wind's office.

ESERETLE E OF A NORTHERN PROPESSOR

While sitting in class a student's mind is bound to wander and think about anything but what the professor is trying to teach. Maybe it's the private life the instructor leads. For those who've always wondered what the faculty of NMU does after class, The Southern Blow has hired a private investigator to satiate those inquiring minds.

> Everyone on campus has a vice they like to indulge in, but the next professor may have taken his a little too far. Anyone who has had a class with history professor Charles Chuckles knows that he has never worn a short-sleeve shirt. Although many may think it's because he's perpetually cold, it's actually from his desperate need to hide the track marks on his arms.

> "I've been a hardcore heroin user since I was 12, and I've never looked back," Chuckles said. "Sure, I've had bouts of homelessness, but it's all part of the journey." Chuckles went on to say that due to his habit, he's had to partake in selling just as much as buying.

> "Have you ever dealt with those fellows south of the border? Yikes! Let's just say you don't want to give them a sack full of pesos and tell 'em it's American currency," Chuckles said. "I almost lost an eye over that, instead they took something else."

Chuckles then removed the shoe off his right foot to show that three of his toes were missing.

"At least I know that if I ever get fired, which will probably happen sooner rather than later, I've got a job in the circus waiting for me."



Our next professors are two people who are constantly at ends with each other. One of them moonlights as a superhero and the other as archenemy.

Professo, who requested that his real-life identity remain a mystery, protects the campus at night from skateboarding thugs and helpless women walking home from late-night classes.

"In class, I'm a nobody, but at night, I'm feared . . . sort of," Professo said. "It feels good to give something back to my university after taking so much from it for so long."

Ironically, Professo's costume is the same as what someone might find him wearing to class.



ONTITH

He wears khaki pants and a sweater vest with the only difference being a large P made out of construction paper taped to his chest.

"I know my costume's not much, but have you seen how much professors are paid here? I'm lucky I'm not living in a garbage can with professor Chuckles," Professo said.

On the other end of the spectrum is Antithesis, who also asked to have his identity remain hidden. Antithesis spends his nights dumping rubbish from the trash bins onto the campus and causing all kinds of general havoc.

"I do what I can to make Professo's life hell, and let me tell you, Professo will never catch me. I'm far too quick for him. Have you seen his costume? Not only is he a joke to superheroes but to college professors all over the world," Antithesis said.

NMU president Wes Long stated that he just wants this longstanding rivalry to be over. "I don't know how many times I've told those two to stop this tomfoolery," Long said. "They are grown men and it's pathetic to see them frolic out there like a couple of middle-aged losers."



Our first professor goes by two names. During the day, Ronald Rodam teaches English to illegal immigrants, but by night, he is known as Carla Komee. To avoid confusion, we'll simply refer to "him" as Rodam, although he did ask not to be named.

"My favorite thing to wear is a tight, little bustier with a garter belt. Oh, my! I'm getting a little flushed just talking about it," Rodam said.

It's not just woman's clothing that Rodam takes part in. He also has a vast array of makeup and other feminine products to keep him feeling girly.

"Next I put on my blush, lipstick, mascara, wig and baby powder. When I'm dressed as a woman, I feel like I truly am a woman." Rodam said with a wink.

Believe it or not, there's a former celebrity on campus just trying to live a normal life. Although professor Nigel Nightingale is known to most people as a man who teaches biology, to others he's a member of the flash-in-the-pan boy band known as Boyz 4Eva.

"Those were some of the best times in my life," Nightingale said. "I got tail every night, and thank God I was in that band because it was getting really expensive."

With songs such as "Baby, Baby, Won't You Be My Baby" and "Girl, You're So Fine I Want to Slap You Across The Face," it's no wonder that Boyz4Eva only made one album and no number one hits came out of it.

"I think our music was just so progressive that it shocked people. It was something they weren't ready for," Nightingale said.



Our next professor considers himself to be a collector of figurines, but the figurines he collects might be considered creepy to the average person.

Walking into Art and Design professor Arnie Harbinger's office, the first things most people will notice are the shelves and shelves of Precious Moments figurines. Harbinger prides himself on having collected every one released and considers them to be more important than his family.

"If anyone touches these things, heads are gonna roll," Harbinger said. "And if you think I'm joking, try me."

Harbinger went on to take each one down and talk about each piece in detail. His favorite one is of a boy and girl holding hands while swinging together on a tire swing.

"Look at the detail in the frayed rope holding up the tire. While they're still in the air in this image, you know if you could make this scene actually play out, that rope's gonna break at any second," Harbinger said. "It's that detail of impending doom that truly makes these things precious."

Five hours later, Harbinger finally finished showing his figurines. He said, "Precious Moments. I hope your day is full of 'em."





The final professor on this list is CAPS professor Betsy Brown. Brown's secret is plain and simple: she has 23 kids.

"About an hour after delivery, my husband and I request a little alone time and then nine months later out pops another one," Brown said. "It's really been an amazing 23 years."

Brown went on to say that the reason she has so many kids is not necessarily because she loves children or comes from a strict Irish

Catholic upbringing, but because she needs help on her farm.

"There are so many fields to plow and seeds to drop that I just don't have enough time to do it myself," Brown said. "Those kids are a real godsend."



Comics drawn by Tom Cory/NW

FEATURES!!!

Student makes the rounds



NMU student, Baby Boi, a sophomore in one of the resident halls takes on a social experiment where he really feels the emotions of clothing as they are tossed around in a washing machine. He is still on his quest for understanding, but he believes they are morose as they turn.

Kitten creates unrest amongst students

By Red Rover

making your life hard

As a part of the "Can you hear me, meow" series, the Cat Club is bringing Fluffy Smith, who has been cited by various home-living magazines as "the most controversial cat in the nation." The Student Finance Committee is reconsidering the Northern Arts and Special Talent Organization (NASTO)'s funding for this event, amounting to \$20,000, this Sunday, April 4 after voiced opposition to Fluffy from students.

"No Fluff, Stop this Stuff" chanted students at various locations across campus who feel that Fluffy's hate remarks and glaring eyes should not be allowed on campus. Demonstrations have ranged from picketing outside of the NMU President's office to throwing pseudo-blood on the Academic Mall sidewalks.

"We don't want his hate- Bobo said. purrs on our campus; this is Fluffy owner, Billy-Tal-

uled to take place on April 12, although the Student Finance Committee has warned that they may postpone or cancel the show entirely after hearing out opposition and the case in support made by NASTO.

"We genuinely feel that Fluffy will be a nice event for students to attend if they feel like being around an adorable animal right before finals. He has told me directly that he feels that this fuss is unnecessary as he promises not to tear up the school's curtains," said Manny Bobo, president of NASTO.

Bobo said that he met Fluffy after house-sitting for Billy-Talend's fish one weekend, when the cat meandered down from under the man's bed to say hello. Bobo was so impressed with the cat's fur, that he insisted he come to Northern to speak to students.

"I think students can really learn a lot from a cat this old,"

because due to the overall anticipation for an event NASTO is hosting the following week, he suspects to have an increased amount of revenue overall. Said event is the presentation by Osama Din Kaden, a suspected terrorist.

"So really, if people want to bash Fluffy, fine. I'll hang out with him and my six other cats on my own time. At least we have Din Kaden coming," Bobo said.

Fluffy the controversial cat is coming to NMU next week and students are not happy



Blue's Clues a masterpiece





By John Flocke professionally unaware

Anybody who's ever watched Nickelodeon during the late '90s will undoubtedly be familiar with the hit TV show "Blue's Clues." and to be frank, it was probably the most brilliant thing to ever air on television.

"Blue's Clues" takes place in the bright, colorful of house of Steve, who lives there alone with his dog Blue and a host of other inanimate objects that are anything but. Throughout the episode Blue puts his paw print on cool stuff in order to give clues as to what he wants, because he's a dog and can't talk. And then, along the way, we run into salt and pepper shakers that can talk and a clock that also has a feisty temperament, among several other objects. Sometimes I wish my stuff talked.

Anyway, It must be said that whoever created this show is a bloody genius. The clues that Blue leaves in order for Steve to find what he needs to are mindboggling and surprising. By the time Steve figures it out, I was still wondering what the hell a bird plus a house could equal to. I thought of a monkey in a jungle gym, but I was wrong. The clues here are of an esoteric nature and I think I would be kind of intimidated by the kids on the show who answer those clues. They're really smart and I'd love to have them in a class with me so

Title: Blue's Clues Director: David Lynch Runtime: 1,516 minutes Release: Sept. 4, 1999 Box Office: \$42

'Thinks, Thinks, Thhiinnkkss.' Because as Steve puts it, "When you use your mind, take a step at a time, you can do anything that you wanna do!' But herein lies my only qualm. Steve is a baldfaced liar. Those kids will not be able to do anything in their life. Some of them won't even make it to their twenties. Perhaps Steve should just sing about how kids should start with relatively low expectations. I think it would be much more realistic that way. Steve also has his "handy dandy" notebook in which he draws all of his clues, which is an amazing idea so I often have a hard time remembering what a fork or a spoon looks like.

The salt and pepper shakers usually always have a clue for Steve and there way of giving hints to him is fascinating to watch. The yin and yang relationship and chemistry these two have makes them one of the most attractive and pleasure-inducing characters on television. Although I'm not really sure which one is a boy and which is a girl, they have a baby named Paprika. I wonder how salt and pepper shakers reproduce. Maybe Blue's Clues can do an episode specifically on that.

The talking mailbox is one of the highlights of the show and the song that Steve sings whenever the mail arrives deserves an Oscar for best song. For those who are unfamiliar with it here's a recap of the lyrics: "Here's the mail, it never fails! It makes me wanna wag my tail! When it comes I wanna wail, 'MAAAIIIILLLLLL!!!!!!?" Pure Brilliance.

To sum it all up, "Blue's" is one of the best shows to ever air

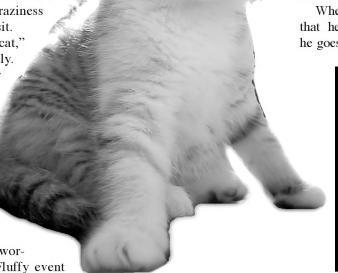
an outrage," said Betsy Jones, warranting cheers from those behind her, some wearing cat masks, other in dog masks. Jones is head of the group No NASTO which often challenges the presenters that NASTO brings to Northern. "Don't they see? Don't they see how Fluffy's evil demeanor brings down this school's reputation?"

Opposition has occurred since the announcement was made two weeks ago that Fluffy would be brought to campus by owner Billy-Talend Smith, a Marquette bank teller. The presentation and petting is sched-

end said that he is surprised at the craziness over Fluffy's visit.

"It's just a cat," he said, dumbly. "He's never even been outside."

In a statement released from Fluffy himself, he said, "meow." Bobo said that he is not worried about the Fluffy event



I could cheat off of them.

Whenever Steve has a clue that he finds particularly hard, he goes to his thinking chair and

on television. I only wish it was still on the air. Perhaps they could cancel that horrible show "Lost" and air this one in its place.

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NCAA to use blind referees in 2010-11

By Remington Rutherford III

senior banana correspondent

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) announced last week that it would employ only legally blind referees for all men's division I hockey matchups starting next season.

"Really, what it comes down to is plausible deniability," said NCAA President Frank Tomerston. "We realized that it was just too much to ask for our refs to make the correct calls all the time. Now, we have an awesome excuse for missed calls."

The announcement, which was issued on Friday, March 21, will take effect immediately at the beginning of the 2010-2011 season.

According to Tomerston, however, the NCAA has been testing the measure all season in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA).

"The CCHA has always had a reputation for choppy, interrupted gameplay that is virtually unwatchable," said CCHA Commissioner Grom Fantastos. "It seemed only natural for us to be the proverbial guinea pigs for this new measure. We like to consider ourselves on the cutting edge of the college hockey world. Blind referees seemed like a perfect fit."

As per the new rule, "Rule 432b. any potential referee must be examined by a certified ophthalmologist to ensure that they can not distinguish colors or basic shapes."

According to Tomerston, should the applicant be found capable of seeing, he or she can have his or her eyes surgically removed in a voluntary procedure.

"We would never require them to undergo a procedure like that, are you serious?" said Tomerston. "That would ruin the credibility of the NCAA, in addition to being completely absurd."

The provision has been met with general approval by the league's referees.

"I'm excited about it, to say the least," said Phil Johnson, referee for the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA). "It really takes a lot of pressure off. I mean, they expected us to go 60 minutes without making a mistake. It was really hard."

Added Johnson, "That's what she said."

Chris MacGuffin has been a referee for the CCHA for sev-



Flashy McFlasherson/NW

Chris MacGuffin, blind referee for the CCHA, tries to negotiate his environment using a cane. "You'd be surprised how often I get completely annihilated by the skaters on the ice," said MacIntyre. "Well, maybe you wouldn't."

eral years, including last year as a blind referee. When asked to comment on the new leaguewide policy, he said, "What? Who's there?"

Later, he explained the benefits of the style.

"Before, the game was depen-

dent on us making the right call. Now, it's totally out of our hands. If the crowd boos, we have to assume the visiting team should be penalized for something. It really creates a more immersive and interactive experience for the audience," he said. Tomerston said that if the measure is successful in this upcoming season, the NCAA could eventually apply it to their wrestling events.

"Who wants to look at that, anyway," he said.

Michael Vick to race in sled dog circuit

Former quarterback professes love for animals, racing, being cold

By Remington Rutherford III staff writer

In a move that shocked the professional football community, former Eagles quarterback Michael Vick announced his retirement from the NFL on Tuesday, March 30, saying he intends to venture into the world of profes-

sional dog sled racing.

"There's nothing more I can do as a pro football player," Vick said at a press conference early Monday morning. "Besides, no one will pay me enough."

Vick's retirement comes in the wake of a several monthslong struggle to negotiate a longterm contract with a Philadelphia Eagles, Minnesota Vikings, Detroit Lions, Johnson Senior High School Cougars or any other organized sports team Vick hoped would tolerate his presence.

"Nobody wanted me around," Vick continued. "I'm too real."

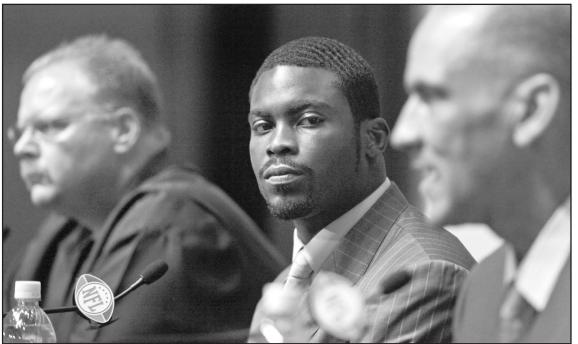
According to Vick, he has always held animals in a special place, dogs especially. Vick said, "I just love their competitive, cutthroat nature and their ruthless instincts. I can't wait to make them race each other."

Vick's admiration of animals recently culminated in his appearance in several advertisements for the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA).

Vick intends to break onto the dog mushing stage in grand style, competing in the world-famous Iditarod in Alaska, a 1,161-mile race commemorating the heroic actions of the famous sled dog Balto, inspiration for the popular movie. "When I saw that movie, I just loved it," Vick said. "It really inspired me. There's a scene in there where Balto gets into a fight with some other dogs. Seeing that just made me want to be a part of that world." said Jeffery Jorgersniffer, president of the Alaska Dog Mushers Association. "His recent charity appearances have been inspiring, and we believe that is the kind of person we trust to be alone with 12 dogs in a 1,600-mile race across the barren, isolated Alaskan wilderness."

When asked to comment, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell stated that he had mixed feelings about Vick's departure and encouraged people to buy Lions tickets.

"On the one hand, he was a very gifted athlete who brought a lot to the game. On the other hand, we don't want someone with his past criminal history to be affiliated with our fine organization," Goodell said. "And please, someone come watch the Lions this season."



Herna "Bork Bork" Ferna/NW

Michael Vick sits in front of a microphone with the NFL logo attached to it while wearing a shirt, tie and pinstriped suit. He is also sporting a new haircut and well manicured facial hair.

The announcement is creating ripples throughout the dog racing community, as well.

"We are excited to have (Vick) become the face of our sport," Goodell was referring to the fact that Vick was recently fined for two parking violations in downtown Philadelphia.

"I think this will be good for me, and I'm sure I will be successful," Vick said to conclude the press conference. "My dogs will be ready to go. At least, they better be."

BIG SPORTS!

I luv the wildcatsss!11! Marquette plans

By Ashlee Sparkleton

best writer eva

Hey cat fans! Its ur friend Ashlee here with ur wildcat nmu recap of the week! so, I just went to Minnesota for the nmu hockey game in st paul, what a drive lol! i luv nmu hockey,

and really wanted to go down and show my wildcat pride! my friend leslie and me totally painted our faces green and yellow and wore these tshirts we made ourselves with permanent markers and undershirts.

Sometimes people tell us that thats dumb, but whatever their just jealous because there incapable of showing the nmu pride like we are!!

OMG the hockey rink in st paul is sooooooo big lol! It was called the XL energy center, which I guess makes sense because it was huge, but what a stupid name! someone told me that it could hold three times as

many people as the berry could, but I didnt kno what that meant because berries are so small and how can they fit even one person in there unless they were really really small like an aunt lol.

Anyway, leslie and I got to the game, and there were fans from other schools their and they had on their stupid colors from other

someone told me that (the berry) could hold three times as many people as the berry could, but i didnt kno what that meant because berries are so small

schools like one school was the st cloud state huskies. I was like hey idiot, st cloud isn't even a state rofl! go cats! And they were like yeah?

And then they walked away laughing. NMU! NMU! teh pep band from nmu was there, and they were awesome and lelsie and me sang the na naaaaa na na HEY! GO CATS! cheer like a million times. one stupid st cloud fan was like hey can you please be quiet for a minit and i was all like back off this or ill tell your mom to be quiet omg!

well anyway, the cats ended up not being able to win, which was totes lame, because the cats rule.

they tried really hard tho, which i guess is the important thing, but it would have been a much funner weekend if theyd beaten the stupid huskies. leslie and me stayed for the second game too, which was the wisconsin badgers vs the vermont catamounts. um hello like earth to vermont, what the heck is a catamount?

teh badgers totes won that game, and then i was all like this is stupid why are we here and leslie was like i dont kno why dont we just leave and i was like ok lets just go. so we came home and now im home and teh cats are all done for the year and i cant wait to watch them next year their going to be soooooo awesum! GO CATS OMG!!

for Olympic bid

By Remington Rutherford III swedish chef

The Winter Olympics is one of the grandest athletic stages of all, and if the Marquette city council has anything to do about it, Marquette will soon get its chance to host the event. The council, at the bidding of Mayor Herna Ferna, put in a bid to host the 2020 Winter Olympiad.

"It'll be wicked sweet," Ferna said. "And it's perfect. I mean, we have an Olympic-sized ice sheet in the Berry Events Center. Hello Olympic hockey and speedskating."

When asked how he expected to accommodate the numerous other sports included in the winter Olympics, Ferna said he wasn't worried about it.

"What part of OLYMPIC sized ice don't you understand?" he responded.

Other sports facilities would need to accommodate ski jumping, cross country skiing, curling, ice skating and bobsled. "Why don't you just lay off, alright?" Ferna said. "We'll figure it out."

Bork Smork, treasurer of the Marquette City Council, said that

he had many ideas for how to utilize the city's offerings.

"Marquette Mountain could host all the skiing and snowboarding events, I think. I mean, people go skiing there all the time," Smork said. "And as for luge? Have you ever tried to walk down the main hill on NMU's campus? That'll do, I think."

When asked about accommodating figure skating, ice dancing, and curling Smork responded with "Oh (expletive) that, those sports suck. No one wants to watch that crap. Well, at least I don't."

Bjorn Ulaffsson, chairman of the International Olympic Committee, released a statement early Tuesday morning regarding Marquette's bid.

"Usually, when we get these bids, they are planned out down to the tiniest detail. The bid put forth for the city of Marquette omits lodging, transportation and other basic logistical contingencies. But, come on, Olympic-sized ice. We pretty much have to go there, right?"

No provisions for ticket sales have been created yet, but Ferna said that the council will "probably just let people stand on the roads to watch most of the stuff."

How the Lions pick players

By Tony Bologna

hides in the shadows

A successful NFL Draft can make or break a team's future. There are teams who walk away every year with a big draft and it shows in teams like the Philadelphia Eagles and New York Giants. Then there are those other teams. Organizations like the Tampa Bay Buc's and the Detroit Lions who haven't quite yet found their niche on draft day.

There are secrets to a great draft, however, especially in the first and second round where teams will go great lengths to get a leg up on the competition and relive some of the stress.

You can find it in every team, even the bad ones. The Cincinnati Bengals act as a rehab center for convicts, choosing players based on criminal records to rehabilitate while getting the most out of them on the field.

devised their own system for drafting first- and second- round said Mevhew, who acted as the players. Take their 40 yard dash time, divided by their height in inches, times that by their weight and there you have it. The equation was thought of by Al Davis, so nobody really knows what the significance of the score is; other owners just want Davis to keep using it.

marks as a staple of the city that seems to be losing everyone and everything. Chimpanzees had been helping the Detroit Lions select draft picks for over a decade, just up until before the 2009 NFL Draft when a strange fact was discovered by new general manager of the team, Martin Meyhew.

"We couldn't understand why all of our previous drafts had been so bad," said Meyhew. "Then it was discovered the chimp we had been using for seven years to select pictures of our draft picks was actually blind. It was a shock to us all."

It wasn't a shock to Lions fans who had been witnesses to picks such as Joey Harrington, Charles Rogers, Mike Williams, Drew Stanton, and Jordon Dizon. In fact, the three years in a row from 2003 to 2005 when the Lions selected a wide receiver first over all, made complete sense now.

"In 2005 we were down to The Oakland Raiders have two players; linebackers DeMarcus Ware and Shawn Merriman," senior Vice President at the time. "Mike Williams was given as a decoy. But the chimp picked him and (Matt) Millen said we had to go with the choice."

do under that kind of pressure," said head coach Jim Schwartz. "We left the decision up to the king of the jungle. A lion would make our picks. I mean, come on, we're the Detroit Lions."

The original decision to go with a chimp was thought of and hand picked by previous General Manager Matt Millen. Chimpanzees are thought of as one of nature's brightest animals. The new system includes Detroit placing three mannequins wearing the college jersey of three players the team has narrowed its choice down to. What ever one is mauled by the lion must be the right selection.

The 2009 system seemed to work better than originally planned. Quarterback Matthew Stafford and tight end Brandon Pettigrew both excelled for rookies in the NFL.

The first round picks gave the Detroit organization the confidence to go on and select three more players who started in the 2009 season.

"I'm really looking forward to

Favre considers retiring for the evening

Brett Favre announced that he is considering retiring for the evening. The declaration comes after a long, satisfying day of Levi endorsements and backyard football. "I'm pretty tired, I've been at this for a long time," Favre said reclined in his living room La-Z-Boy. "I did a lot of worthwhile things today, I think it might be time to retire for the evening." According to his wife, Favre was expected to retire for the evening already. "Most people his age can't even last this long," Deanna Favre said. "Frankly, I'm surprised he didn't retire for the evening a long time ago. Regardless, he really needs to make a decision and stick with it." Favre has previously retired for the evening as early as 6 p.m., but came out to the next day's press conference saying he didn't want to retire for the evening that early. "I've got more in me, and I can prove it. I'm not ready to retire for the evening," Favre had said. When asked if that incident had any bearing on his current decision, Favre said that it did. "I don't want to retire for the evening while I still have more to give." The decision comes in the midst of a flurry of rumors that Favre no longer has the energy he had earlier in the day, and that by not retiring for the evening he only risks embarrassment.

The Lions have their own secret to drafting. The Detroit Zoo

Detroit was then forced to act quickly on fixing the matter. They couldn't risk another draft on the blind Chimpanzee who had cost them the last seven years.

"We did what any team would

the 2010 Draft," said Schwartz. "I've got a feeling the 'ole king of the Zoo is going to give us a couple of nice picks once again."

If Detroit fans are curious, the lion seems to act slightly more aggressive to manikins wearing red college jerseys. That could be big news for fans expecting Nebraska defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh in the blue and silver.

- Remington Rutherford III

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mostly joyless & a little lame



Film: Hot Tub Time Machine Director: Steve Pink

> Producers: Matt Moore, John Cusack, Grace Loh

> > Writer: Josh Heald,

Starring: John Cusack, Craig Robinson

Runtime: 100 minutes

Rating: R

ly comes from Nick. Robinson is



By Scott Viau features editor

With a name like "Hot Tub Time Machine," audiences aren't going into this movie expecting Shakespearean quality and a thought-provoking script. What they'll be getting, though, is easy comedy that has the requisite amount of bodily fluid jokes, many of which aren't very funny.

The lives of friends Adam (Cusack), Nick (Robinson) and Lou (Rob Corddry) have fallen apart since their glory days of the '80s. Adam is recently divorced from his wife, Nick is currently working in a dog grooming shop and Lou has been trying to kill himself, all to no avail. Their lives are all pathetic and useless. To make matters worse, Adam's nephew, Jacob (Clark Duke), lives with him and does nothing but play video games and sleep in his basement. In an effort to spice up their lives, they decide to revisit the ski resort that was the pinnacle of their young lives. When they arrive, the resort is rundown and not at all as they remember. However, when a mysterious hot tub doubles for a time machine, the friends are transported back to their heyday and must try to relive their lives without changing anything. Cusack gives an adequate performance. He brings the enthusiasm and small amount of charm necessary to make his character relatable and sympathetic to his plight, but aside from that there's nothing. Duke is as whiny as a prepubescent girl, although his one-liners are occasionally humorous. Corddry gives a believable performance, but that's only because of his ability to act like a moronic jerk. Throughout the movie, I hated his character, and the film's attempt to make us sympathize with him was lost on me. The best performance undoubted-

quickly becoming one of the best character actors out there, and the song he sings with his band in the film is worth the price of admission. The cameo performance by Crispin Glover is a pleasure to watch. His gestures throughout remind me of how he acted in "Back to the Future," and it was actually suspenseful to see how he loses his arm.

Although I have a feeling that a lot of people will really enjoy the soundtrack of '80s hits, I don't think it had anything special. I've never had a special spot in my heart for songs of that nature, but older audience members will probably have a rollicking good time reliving memories of their vouth.

The comedy provided in "Hot Tub" is really filthy, but there's a bit of intelligence behind it. Unfortunately, the toilet humor runs rampant and outshines all the truly funny bits, which are sparse. It feels as if the writers just took the easy way out. Had they spent more time on the script, they may have had a truly funny film on their hands.

No one's going to doubt the originality of a hot tub time machine, but the whole plot seems to be merely an excuse to make time travel and anachronistic jokes, which are funny at first but become old after a while. The editing and cinematography here is nothing to get excited about. Everything is all pretty boring. "Hot Tub" is occasionally funny and has a bit of cleverness to it, but that's about it. Otherwise, the film is full of expletive-filled jokes, which aren't always necessarily a bad thing, but when they are used as a means to an end, the impact that they are hoping to achieve is lost. Cliched Frat boys and those with low sensibilities are bound to enjoy this movie, but those hoping for a more cerebral experience might want to skip over this one completely.

FEATURES 'Time Machine' Students soon able to audition for NMU Idol

By Scott Viau

features editor

With American Idol fever in full force, NMU is holding its own competition of the same sort. NMU Idol is a campus-wide competition that will showcase the talent of people on campus.

Behind this event is graduate student Aaron Whitaker, a member of the Black Student Union. This is the second annual NMU Idol event. Whitaker said that she had many contestants show up to the event last year.

"We got some really great singers and a band and some dancers, so it was great," Whitaker said. "I was just really excited to see people who want to participate. I thought it was going to be hard to get people to come out and showcase what they've got."

The kind of talent that Whitaker wants to see at auditions is really anything that involves a performance of some sort.

"If you can juggle dishes and not break them, then you can audition for the talent show," Whitaker said. "Last year was singing and dancing; this year I want to open it up to people who can do more than that."

Whitaker went on to say that those who can do a magic trick or funny voices will be welcome to audition as well.

"We want a variety of talent, not just singing and dancing," Whitaker said.

The auditions will be judged by three people who Whitaker felt would be unbiased. She then gave them specific criteria for judging the competition. The judging of the actual show will be a mixture of staff and faculty.

"I want the judges to consider the effort and time they put into coming out to the auditions," Whitaker said. "We're not looking for anything specific. I told them to just be open. I have faith that they'll pick the best."

The competition will announce winners in three places and will be awarded prizes, as will the audience.

"We're going to be giving (the audience) raffle tickets on their way in, and throughout the show we'll be giving away stuff," Whitaker said. "Not only do the participants of the show have a chance to win, but the audience does too.

Senior secondary education major Curtiss O'Rorke Stedman participated in the event last year and won first place. Stedman said he received an invitation, auditioned and went on to the actual competition.

"There was a band and then a whole dance group that went. The rest were singers," Stedman said. "It's just fun. It's a fun competition to be a part of."

O'Rorke said he's a fan of the idea of doing an NMU Idol.

"I love the whole idea of it. It's great spinoff of something that's sweeping the nation," Stedman said. "For all the open mics that I've been to there is so much talent, so much raw potential at all age levels in this town and on campus. It's really cool to give students that opportunity to perform in front of 500-plus people."

The audition will take place Saturday, April 3, from 1 to 4 p.m.

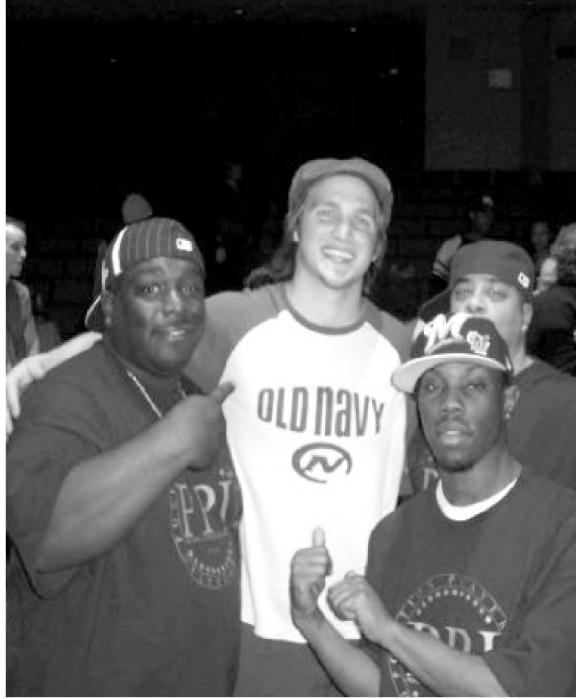


Photo courtesy of Aaron Whitaker Curtiss O'Rorke Stedman, first place winner of last year's competition poses for a photo with P. P. I Entertainment, who acted as DJs and hosts for the show.

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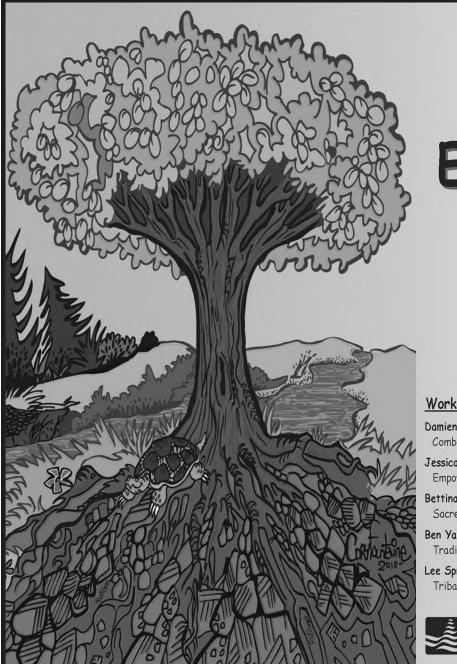


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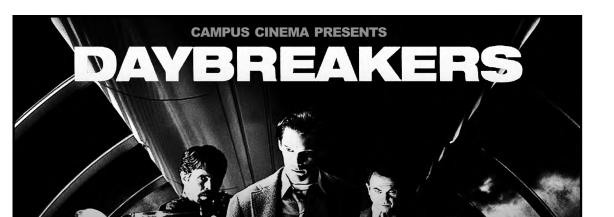
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WurdFor more sports, visit the Web site:
www.thenorthwindonline.com18Hockey Heartbreak: NMU falls in 20T

By Trevor Pellerite

sports editor

The postseason run of the NMU hockey team has finally come to an end. The Wildcats lost their first round game of the NCAA National Tournament on Friday, March 26 to the St. Cloud State University Huskies. The two teams needed extra frames to decide an outcome, but the 'Cats ultimately fell 4-3 in double overtime. Their final overall record ended at 20-13-8.

"We played very well. I thought that we had our opportunities to win it and didn't get it done, but it wasn't because we left anything on the table," said head coach Walt Kyle.

The 'Cats played from behind

for nearly the entirety of regulation, as twice they faced two-goal deficits, and battled back twice.

"We were real resilient. We got down a goal, we didn't panic, we just continued to play," Kyle said. "Give the guys a lot of credit, because that's not an easy thing to do."

The 'Cats picked up a goal in every regulation period. Contributors were sophomore Justin Florek, senior Ray Kaunisto and sophomore Erik Spady. Spady thought that Kaunisto's goal was the catalyst for NMU's comeback.

"That put us right back in the hunt," he said. "It kind of put them back on their heels, and the game wasn't out of our hands." Kyle felt that Kaunisto has been able to spur the 'Cats into action this year whenever they've needed it.

"I think that that line, and in particular Ray, was our best line through the playoffs, and I thought that Ray was our best forward through the playoffs," Kyle said. "Several times through the course of the playoffs, he was able to pick us up when we were down a little bit, and reenergize us, and I thought he did in that game."

The Wildcats were outshot 17-6 in the first frame, but closed the door on the Huskies after that, allowing just six and eight shots in the second and third periods, respectively. Spady's goal came with less than four minutes left in the game. It tied the game at 3-3 and was Spady's first tally of the season.

"It was crazy, we were almost down and out, and when we got that third goal and tied it up, everyone was just so focused and so ready. It didn't work out, but it was a good play by Mark (Olver) and the other guys on the ice. There was so much traffic out front, it just kind of found its way in," Spady said.

Kyle thought that Spady had a very good game, especially since he had to step into a more prominent role due to personnel problems.

"He played really well. We went into that game, we were very banged up on defense," Kyle said, explaining that he had to switch some players around. "Spady jumped into his spot, and played very well. He was very solid, he played very good in a big game."

According to Kyle, the team felt that after Kaunisto's second period goal it felt like only a matter of time before the 'Cats tied the game.

"I thought the rest of the way, five on five, we were the better team," Kyle said. "We looked great. Both goalies were great. That was, in my opinion, the only way we weren't going to tie it up, was if (St. Cloud goalie Mike Lee) stopped us." Lee finished the game with 42 saves, and NMU's goalie Brian Stewart ended with 50.

The 'Cats were outshot in the

first overtime period 22-12, and both teams missed on clean breakaway opportunities. NMU successfully killed one penalty but were assessed another as time ran out, which Kyle said took away a lot of momentum.

It took only 23 seconds of the second overtime for the Huskies to put the game winner in the back of the net. St. Cloud's Tony Mosey redirected a centering pass past NMU's senior goaltender Brian Stewart. It was the third powerplay goal allowed by the Wildcats, which Kyle believed was a huge aspect of the game.

"They beat us in the special teams in that game. You're not going to give up three powerplay goals and win very many games," he said.

According to Spady, losing a close game in overtime isn't any easier to handle than any other game.

"I don't think it makes it any easier at all. Overtime is ... a rollercoaster," he said. "Your heart's up, your heart's down, it was a really, really tough loss."

Although it was an emotional defeat, Kyle said that his team understood that games like that happen in the tournament.

"When I was in pro hockey, it was a seven game series. This is one game, now it's one shot," he said. "It's always heartbreaking, especially when you get that far. But, when you play that close and that tight a game, guys know that it is what it is."



File Photo/NW

Junior Wildcat defenseman Erik Spady, shown here in a home game earlier this season, scored his first goal in the NCAA tournament last weekend to tie the game and send it to overtime.

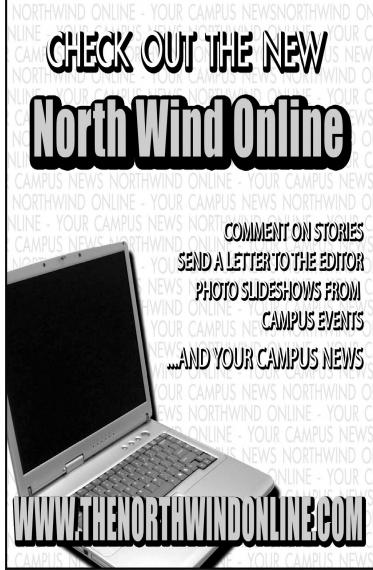
Three NMU 'Cats sign entry AHL contracts

The NMU Wildcats will return to the ice next year without two of their top performers. Defenseman Erik Gustafsson and forward Mark Olver, both juniors, signed entry-level contracts with the American Hockey League (AHL) on Tuesday, March 30. The AHL serves as a farm system for prospects of the National Hockey League.

Olver signed with the Lake Erie Monsters, farm team for the Colorado Avalanche, who drafted him in the 2008 entry draft. Gustafsson signed as a free agent with the Philadelphia Flyers AHL team, the Adirondack Phantoms.

Head coach Walt Kyle said the move isn't totally unexpected, but he wasn't sure if it would happen this offseason.

"We knew it was a possibility that we were going to lose those guys. Going into the year I didn't think we would because of their size," Kyle said.



He went on to say that both players had seasons that made themselves more marketable to professional clubs. Olver captured the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA) scoring title this season with 35 points off 17 goals and 18 assists, and 49 points (including nonconference) overall on the regular season. Gustafsson is a two-time winner of the CCHA Best Offensive Defenseman award.

"I thought one of them should probably have stayed, and one of them probably had to take the deal," Kyle said, declining to say which player was which. "Going wasn't a bad decision for either one of them."

Also signing an AHL contract that day was graduating senior Ray Kaunisto (18 goals, 14 assists on the year), who signed a two-year entry level contract with the Los Angeles Kings organization.

"We've known (about that) for the last half of the year," Kyle said. "(Kaunisto) was blessed to have six, seven or eight teams that he could have gone with, and he was able to choose kind of where he wanted to go."

Despite the departure of so much talent, Kyle is not concerned about the team's outlook next year. "We still have a good core of guys coming back," he said. "We have a bar, a standard that we want for ourselves, it's almost the same as when we get injuries."

—Trevor Pellerite

Track team dominates outdoor meet

By John Becker

staff writer

Great individual efforts added up to an excellent team triumph for the NMU women's outdoor track and field team in the spring season opener.

The Wildcats earned first place with 266 points at the five-team Sherman-Lukoski Invite held on Saturday, March 27, at Ripon College. Finishing second was St. Norbert College with 162 points. NMU head coach Tom Barnes said the team performed above his expectations.

"The team's attitude was great. I didn't expect us to dominate so much, but we do have a good team," he said. "When we get out of our conference, we can see the difference because our conference is tough, and it makes us tougher also."

Senior Krista Squiers won the hammer throw with a new NMU record throw of 171 feet-06 inches. That throw ranks her at No. 3 in NCAA Division II and Barnes said he is confident that Squiers could qualify for the national tournament.

Three of the top four discus throwers were Wildcats, with Squiers throwing for first (127-02). Senior Angela Leckson won the shot put $(40 \ 1/2)$ and the javelin (117-04), where Squiers placed second (113-03).

The 'Cats took the top three places in the 100-meter dash with sophomore Catherine Angeli clocking at 12.89 seconds, junior Brittnee Balbierz at 13.11 and freshman Alyssa Erspamer at 13.34. Angeli, Balbierz and Erspamer also swept the top three in the 200 with respective times of 25.95, 26.77 and 27.48.

Balbierz said the outdoor 200 has a different feel than the indoor 200 because of differences in the track.

"The outdoor 200 is easier because you have a longer straightaway and you're able to accelerate and maintain your speed better," Balbierz said.

The Wildcat 4x100-meter relay team won their event with Erspamer, Balbierz, Angeli and freshman Becky Rotter clocking in at a combined time of 49.96 seconds.

In the 4x400, the Wildcat relay teams placed first and second, with the "A" team of Angeli, senior Erin VanEnkevort, senior Maegan Hendershot and Rotter posting a time of 4:16.13. Barnes said the performances in both 4-person relays were outstanding, but that there is still room for improvement.

"We could work on our handoffs a little bit, especially, in the 4x100. They did really well for the first meet, so (the handoffs) should improve," Barnes said.

Hendershot said the baton handoff is the most critical part of the race because the person receiving the baton has a short distance to do so, and they aren't really looking at the person handing the baton off.

"If you don't get the baton within the two triangles, your team is disqualified," she said.

Freshman Brooke Granquist and freshman Colby West took first and second place in the 400-meter hurdles with respective times of 1:12.53 and 1:14.44.

In the 100-meter hurdles, sophomore Bailey Franklin placed first at 16.19, with redshirt freshman Stephanie Hahn in fourth at 18.70. Franklin also won in the triple jump (36-03) and the high jump (5-04 1/4). Barnes said Franklin did really well, especially in the triple jump, and he is expecting her to perform consistently all season.

"She's won the league triple jump every time she's competed," he said.

VanEnkevort was victorious in the 800 at 2:25.41 and Hendershot was not far behind in second at 2:28.70.

Junior Kristen Schulz was first in the 3,000 steeplechase with a time of 11:49.02.

Hendershot said that as a senior she wants to be a positive role model for her younger teammates.

"(The freshmen) look up to you, so if you stay positive then they're going to exhibit that too, and it will make everyone run better," Hendershot said.

Barnes said the first meet of the outdoor season was a little chilly, but he believes the weather will be better for the next competition, and that different weather favors different runners.

"The cold's not good for the sprinters, but for the long distance runners, it's not too bad," he said."

For the sprinters, the heat's fine, I think it's actually a little better."

The next competition will be the Ferris State Bulldog Invitational on Saturday, April 10, in Big Rapids, Mich.

Barnes said that every competition builds on the last and that the team's training should peak in time for the GLIAC Outdoor Championships May 5-7.



Trevor Pellerite/NW

Junior sprinter Brittnee Balbierz finished first in the 100-meeter dash in the Coldwater Invitational in Ripon, Wisc. on March 27.



By Trevor Pellerite

sports editor

NMU's President Dr. Les Wong can be seen at plenty of Wildcat athletic events. The North Wind sat down with him to find out what he thinks about all things NMU sports.

Q: Lots of people call themselves NMU's No. 1 fan. Where would you rank yourself?



Wong:

ing at the hockey games?

Wong: Well, I'll have to tell you. First of all it looked very cool when it was given to me, almost my first year here. The first place I wore it to was a hockey game when we upset somebody; I think it was Michigan State. So it became my lucky jacket. So now the only event I wear it to are hockey games. So it's kind of a good luck piece for me.

Q: What has been your proudest moment as an NMU sports fan so far in your time here?

Wong: There has been a lot. I'll give you a couple. The first winning season of the women's box, have you ever gotten carried away and find yourself yelling at the refs?

Wong: Oh yeah. My wife usually grabs me, or I've learned to control myself a bit more. I've even found myself doing it at other sporting events too. So I do try to control myself, but I do get involved a little bit.

Q: Any one particular incident that you can recall?

Wong: Not really. I'm still a little upset over the penalty against Ray Kaunisto this year for his hit against a Lake State player where he got the one game penalty from the conference. I actually did spend over an hour on the phone with the CCHA conference chairman.

Q: As president, what does it mean to you to see NMU programs get the kind of success they've had this year?

Wong: The coaches will tell you this, I've met with them over the years, and I've always told them that winning isn't the top thing on my list, it's about 6-7 on my list. But what I want to do is reassure the coaches and the players that every game is an opportunity to do your best. And that good coaching produces a lot of those opportunities, I think you win. I don't know what's happening magically, but this year, the sports teams have done really, really well. I think the focus of the coaches and the level

pus is asylum from other parts. I don't know if you know, I was a former tennis coach, so I know what it means to prepare athletes, and I ask myself about preparation, and then winning.

After the session, Dr. Wong had some things he wanted to say.

The student section during men and women's basketball and hockey should be full. Soccer's pretty crowded. This year was a telling year for me in a sense that the crowds got bigger, so I know that winning attracts people to it. Maybe I could have a dialogue with the students about that, 'what does it take to get you to attend home games?' My other gripe was I thought the tickets (for the NCAA hockey tournament) for students were too expensive. I'm actually drafting a letter to the NCAA hockey committee, 'If you want students in the stands you shouldn't charge them what you're charging them to get into regionals.' In this economy and at this pay, you know you guys are forking out good money for tuition, and you're traveling all the way down there, why would we charge that much money? I just thought it was reprehensible. It wasn't like there was a shortage of tickets.

I would give our fans the No. 1 ranking, and I would, without too much ego, put myself No. 2. To me, the whole idea of watching our students do what they love doing, is just a way of honoring them. Sports is part of the fabric of a campus, when you think of the practice, the training, the commitment, etc., the stakes seem higher. I do try to go out of my way to attend as much of the Wildcat sports as I can, and I have to admit I've become a really addicted hockey fan.

Q: Is there a story behind the ski jacket you're always wearsoccer team three or four years back. To see them turn around the program in such a short time and to watch them play so well was quite stunning.

The second one more recently, when the women's, basketball team beat Tech when Tech was ranked number one, was absolutely fabulous for us. When Dominic (Yoder) took the women's volleyball team into the post season this year, was a symbol of a turn around as well. There's just a number of hockey pieces as well. I always enjoy beating Michigan.

Q: From up in the President's

Q: Do you travel to all of the regular season hockey games on the road?

Wong: No, I try to make it to all of the key ones. Like if we play at Miami and that kind of thing. I have tried to slip in and watch either of our basketball teams when we are away. The hockey games are really the only ones where I've made an effort to go with them. We usually try to tie in an alumni event with them.

at which coaching has matched up with student abilities.

Q: What would be numbers 1-5

on your list?

Wong: Number one is the experience. Number two is how do the athletes represent the school, how do they conduct themselves. Three is their studies. I am one of those presidents that review team GPAs, and individual athlete GPAs and academic progress, and graduation rates. High on my list is how do the student athletes engage the rest of the campus. One of my goals is that no part of cam-

Volleyball tourney takes toll on 'Cats

By John Becker

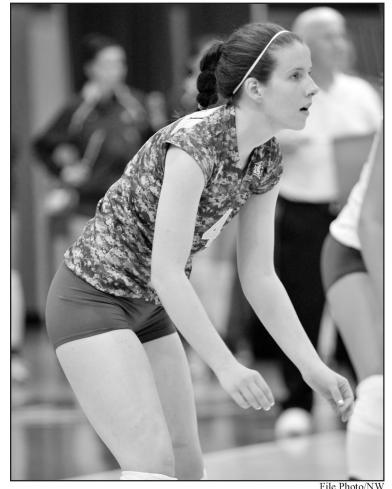
staff writer

The NMU volleyball team split its games last weekend during the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay (UW-GB) Tournament but is still growing stronger

every day.

NMU head coach Dominic Yoder said the team showed their ability to perform well during certain points of the tournament, but also showed their inexperience.

"We showed our inability



Sophomore libero Becca Feuerherd, shown here in a game last fall, contributing 44 digs during NMU's four-game trip to Green Bay, Wisc.

sometimes to be consistent emotionally and in being aggressive from start to finish," Yoder said. "At the beginning, we kind of felt like we were at the zoo staring at the aggressive animal instead of being the aggressive animal."

The Wildcats (3-3) faced an onslaught of four games on March 27 that tested their mettle on the court. Each game was played to the best of three sets. The 'Cats were victorious 2-1 against the first of two UW-GB Alumni teams, with set scores of 19-25, 25-20 and 15-10.

Freshman right side player Daniela Branco said she felt the team's conditioning was largely sufficient, but they still got fatigued.

"We are not used to playing that much volleyball in a day. It was something new and tiring for almost all of us," Branco said.

Two hours after the beginning of the tournament, the 'Cats earned a 2-1 victory in their game against the second UW-GB Alumni team with scores of 25-18, 19-25 and 15-9.

The Wildcats were defeated 1-2 against University of Minnesota-Duluth with scores of 11-25, 25-21 and 11-15. Yoder said Duluth set the tone for the kind of teams NMU will be playing in the fall.

"We played against a really good Duluth team that showed us how we need to play to be a quality team. Our team really stepped it up in the second set against them but it took a little while for us to get going," Yoder said.

In the final game of the tournament, the 'Cats were defeated 2-0 by UW-GB, 12-25 and 23-25. Yoder said the team was fine physically for the fourth game, but were mentally drained.

"That's where I think we showed our youth, in our inability to bounce back from an intense match and really get after the next match," he said.

The statistics for the tournament were conglomerated. Multiple 'Cats got more than 20 digs, with sophomore libero Becca Feuerherd leading the way (44), followed by freshman defensive specialist Julie Francek (29), Branco (24) and freshman setter Abby Lovell (21).

Offensively, Wolfe earned 31 kills; Branco had 27. Two of the Wildcats, freshman middle hitter Sami Vierk and freshman left side Andree Ring, both earned 13 kills as well. Feuerherd and Wolfe had four aces, while Branco had three.

On the season, Feuerherd leads with 80 digs and has 4.21 digs per set. Feuerherd and Wolfe share the team-high seven aces, followed by Branco with six.

The team is very close emotionally, Francek said, but there is still room for improvement.

"We could defiantly work on our communication on the court, but our team's chemistry is coming together," Francek said.

Yoder said he believes the team's camaraderie is solid, but that the team is trying to develop a different personality.

"Versus being really nice, you know, they can do that off the floor, but we're trying to develop and encourage more of an aggressive, attacking type team on the floor," he said.

Branco agreed with Yoder's analysis and said the team is beginning to find their chemistry and that doing so is one of the more difficult hurdles to overcome in the game.

"We have been working on (chemistry) lately with the coaching staff, and I feel like we are on the right track," Branco said. She also said everyone is pulling together to make the team better.

Yoder said each player needs to have pride in accountability, whether by making sure someone else is doing their job or rising to the occasion on the individual level. He also said the spring has been a learning experience for both the players and the coaching staff.

"We've gone back to basics; we've really worked on the team system, the individual discipline within the system and just how our coaching staff interacts with our players," he said.

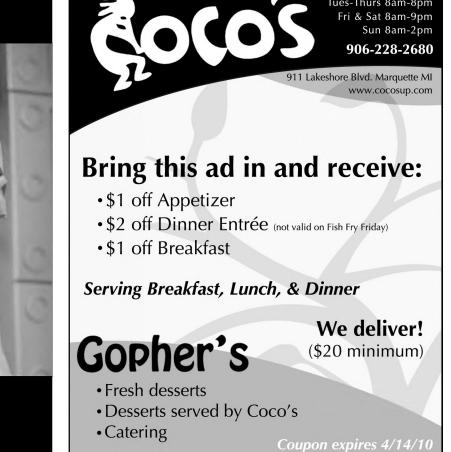


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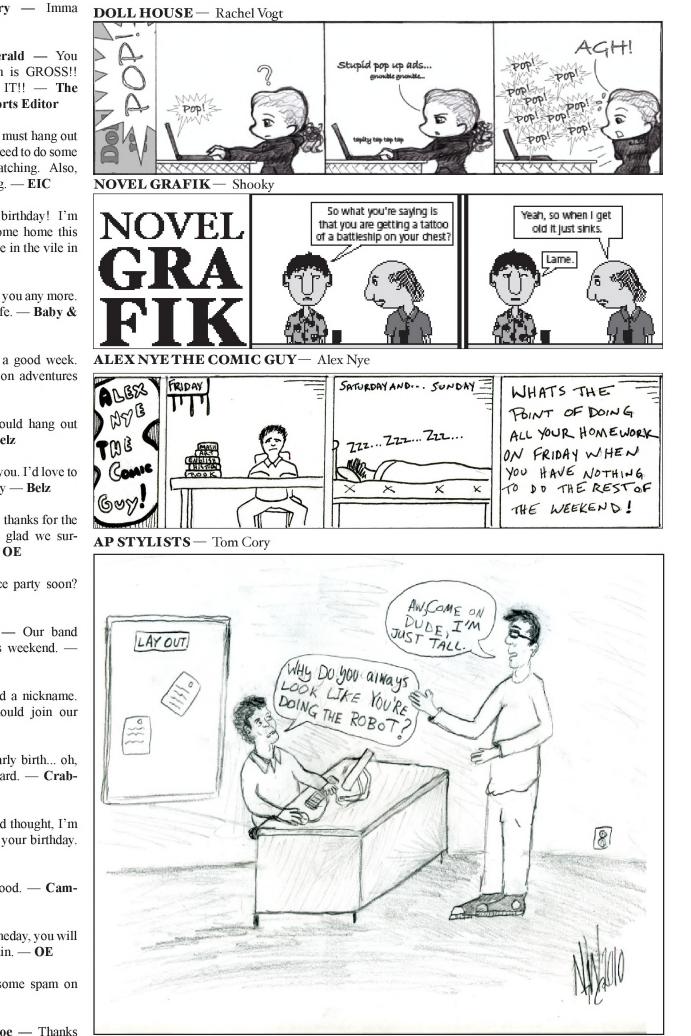


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Shout Outs

NMU Students — These things are free and you can put your own in. Call us at 227-2545 or e-mail northwindshoutouts@gmail.com - NW Staff

Murky-Moe — When the going gets tough, the tough get going. Hang in there- only 4 more weeks. Love you. - Jodi

Cameron — You're the best. And I love you. - Thao

Ben Kweller — You never did come to town, did you? I think we're long due for your first trip - Not a Real Fan Anyway

Thao and Mickdiq —It's about time the three of us can go to the bars. You guys ready for this? ----Belz

Colorado — The decision stands **EIC** — I can't wait until I can try

Big Sky Country — Imma comin'! - SE

Austin Daily Herald — You know what? Spam is GROSS!! THERE, I SAID IT!! — The Well-adjusted Sports Editor

FE — You and me must hang out this weekend. We need to do some serious movie watching. Also, Gumbo. Just saying. — EIC

Lynn — Happy birthday! I'm sorry I couldn't come home this weekend, but I'll be in the vile in a month. — Lucy

Man — I never see you any more. I miss you in my life. — Baby & Bobo

Lina — It's been a good week. Thanks for going on adventures with me. — Lucy

Larson — We should hang out soon, brother. — Belz

Presque—I miss you. I'd love to come back someday — Belz

EIC — As always, thanks for the sage wisdom. I'm glad we survived the week. — **OE**

Coolman — Dance party soon? - Roommate

Lola and Nemo — Our band should reunite this weekend. -Chief

Steph — You need a nickname. And also, you should join our band. — Alex

Jesus — Happy early birth... oh, well, this is awkward. - Crabby

Mike — On second thought, I'm not sorry I missed your birthday. - Cameron

Ben — You did good. — Cameron

Crossword — Someday, you will be in our paper again. — **OE**

SE — You have some spam on vour shirt. — OE

Tom Cory and Joe — Thanks for being patient and explaining to me how this how comic thing works. — **OE**

despite what the Great Plains may think — Michigan

your gumbo this weekend. It's gonna be so good. — FE

Matty J —I am so ready to rock this Thursday — Belz

ness, I hope you feel better you deserve so much happiness -**MichiCameron**

Everyone – Don't believe them. The Southern Blow is the real news. - Liar

Mike —Sorry for missing your birthday party, — Cameron

Tom Cory — Thank you for drawing all those comics. They look great! — FE

NW Staff — Good work this week. It's insane. - EIC

> Inspirations One small dash **Ridonkulous situations** Look Out! Baby body Southern Blow Stealing writers Saying no

