



Godfrey steps down NMU seeks new athletic director

By **Amanda Monthei**
 staff writer

After a career that spanned more than 30 years, Northern Michigan University athletic director (AD) Ken Godfrey has resigned his position to focus on his health.

Godfrey was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia in Fall 2010, and has been on medical leave since that time. He had served as AD since June 2002 and prior to that worked in many different sectors of the athletic and recreational departments.

"My hope is to return to NMU when I am once again healthy, but not as AD," Godfrey, who was unable to be reached for an interview, said in a press release. "It is in the best interest of the department and

the university at this time to get a permanent athletic director in place who can continue to move Wildcat athletics forward."

Godfrey, who came to Northern in 1979, also served as a special assistant to the president, according to the press release.

"He has had many different roles through the university," Godfrey's co-worker Steve Reed said. Reed is also the associate director of operations in the recreation department. "It's a little bit more than an athletic director position that you would find at some other universities.

"He is an individual that many of us have worked with for many years, and I think he has always had a team approach regarding

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Students 'snow' off their sculpting talents



Taylor Syring/NW

Northern Michigan University sophomore Nina Lehto spent her snow day outside, making a sculpture of "Old Man Winter" out of snow on Monday, Jan. 23 in the Hunt Hall courtyard facing Wright Street.

Visiting students learn leadership skills

Central American youth participate in Ambassador Program

By **Delaney Lovett**
 editor in chief

Marquette and the NMU International Programs Office is playing host to Central American students as part of the Youth Ambassadors Program from Tuesday, Jan. 24 to Monday, Jan. 30.

The students, ranging from age 15-18, traveled from nearly every Central American country to the United States to learn about entrepreneurship, leadership and community service.

The Youth Ambassadors Program, funded by the U.S. Department of State, is administered by the Center for Intercultural Education and Development at Georgetown University.

"Every visit we do to businesses, every talk they hear, everything they see, I hope they take just an idea—something that they can duplicate in their countries," said Analisa Algodona, program coordinator at Georgetown.

The students are scheduled for tours, lectures and activities that showcase entrepreneurship, leadership and community service.

For instance, the students will shadow American students at Marquette Senior High School, tour businesses in downtown Marquette, visit the U.P. Children's Museum and participate in community service projects.

"The figure (of community service) is not well known in the countries in Central America, because they always expect something in return," Algodona said. "Here, they're learning you can go good without getting something back."

The Central American Youth Ambassadors will volunteer at either St. Vincent de Paul, the YMCA or the Marquette County Animal Shelter.

The students who go to St. Vincent de Paul have the opportunity to do a little shopping after the community service portion of the day.

"There is a spectrum of youngsters and you can get into the idea that they're all successful, therefore they are all capable to pay for everything," said Jim Edwards, general programming and explainers director at the Children's Museum. "Some of them aren't."

The visiting students stay with host families, often those of upper level high school Spanish students. The families are trained to use body language and facial expressions to help communicate with the students.

"I didn't hear one unhappy thing about last night at their host families," said Susan Morgan, coordinator of education abroad and exchange programs. "By the time they go, most of them are crying to see their student to leave."

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Adelle Whitefoot/NW

Students from all over Central America visited Northern for the last stop of their Young Ambassador trip. Above students look through the windows of the above ground walkway to the Academic Mall

Drive-by shooting suspects charged

By **Adelle Whitefoot**
 news editor

Two men were charged with multiple felonies in connection with a drive-by shooting Sunday, Jan. 22 in Marquette.

Phillip Swanson, 19, of Ishpeming was arrested on three felony firearms charges: possession of a short-barreled shotgun/rifle, punishable with five years or a \$2,500 fine, discharge in or at a building punishable of four years or a \$2,000 fine and discharge from a vehicle, punishable with four years and/or \$2,000 in fines.

Dylan Olli, 17, of Marquette was arrested on two felony firearms charges: discharge in or at a building punishable of four years and/or \$2,000 in fines and discharge from a vehicle punishable of four years and/or \$2,000 in fines.

The shooting occurred around 3:21 a.m. Sunday on the 572 Center St. near campus. According to the police report, officers interviewed the owner of the home who informed them he believed the front window of his residence had been shot out by a known group of individuals driving by.

Neighbors confirmed they heard

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DRIVE-BY

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what they thought was a gunshot and witnessed a suspect vehicle leaving the scene.

At about 4:24 a.m., a Marquette officer located the suspect vehicle traveling on South Front Street. Olli and his twin brothers were held on possession of marijuana and Swanson was held on violation of parole and was considered the prime suspect in the shooting.

The incident stemmed from an argument between parties over a girl and a bad drug transaction, according to the police report. After further investigation, it was determined that Swanson was in the vehicle the shot came from and was determined to be the shooter and Olli was driving the red Dodge pickup that was used during the incident, the press release said.

Dylan Olli and Swanson were arraigned on Tuesday, Jan. 24 and were both scheduled for a preliminary examination at 3:30 p.m. on Feb. 6 in the Marquette County District Court.



Ashley Wiggins/NW

The house targeted in the drive-by shooting had one of its front windows shot out by a shotgun early in the morning on Sunday.

AMBASSADORS

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While language might pose a problem or learning experience for host families, the barrier is eased with the help of interpreter Mar Siller during presentations and tours. The students wear headphones to hear Siller's translations.

There are four adult group leaders, also from Central America, who guide the students through discussions, activities and debriefing sessions.

While the students are doing their community service projects, the group leaders will speak to members of Northern's Student Leader Fellowship Program.

The students started their trip in Washington D.C. then went to upstate New York. Northern is their last stop on their trip. They head home early Monday morning.

For more information about the Central American Youth Ambassadors, visit webb.nmu.edu/InternationalPrograms.



Adelle Whitefoot/NW

The students started their tour at Whitman Hall.

WEEKLY WEATHER

	Thu	Fri	Sat	
High	35°F	35°F	29°F	
Low	25°F	22°F	15°F	
	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
	18°F	25°F	31°F	31°F
	10°F	24°F	27°F	25°F

ASNMU update

Changes proposed by members made to constitution

By Elizabeth Bailey
staff writer

There was some confusion at Tuesday nights Associated Students of NMU (ASNMU) meeting concerning possible changes to their constitution.

The changes to the constitution were in response to the All Student Judiciary's (ASJ) decision to change their name to the Conduct Board. Since it is a referendum year ASNMU can change the wording or content of their constitution by sending a proposal to the referendum committee. And since ASJ will be changing their name ASNMU has to change their constitution to include the changes.

The proposal will separate ASNMU

from the Conduct board. Currently, ASJ serves as the judiciary board for ASNMU. However, if the proposal goes through their main focus will be to deal with conduct issues throughout campus.

"We feel that ASNMU and the conduct board should be separate," said Justin Burgman, president of ASNMU. "The conduct board shouldn't be dealing with ASNMU constitutionality."

At the meeting members of ASNMU had a chance to read through the rough draft of the changes to be made on their constitution. The main concern of the ASNMU board was the number of members allotted to ASJ and how that would come into play. Since their tasks will be cut down there is no

need to have 16 members especially because ASNMU will be taking over some responsibilities.

After some debate, the board decided to take some time to look things over and come up with ways to rearrange the rough draft. However, the board will have a meeting later on this week to discuss and vote on the outcome of the constitution changes.

Also this week there were two representatives nominated for the Student Affairs Chair, Adam Papin and Robin Feuerman. After brief descriptions of themselves, ASNMU members voted resulting in Papin getting the position.

The Student Affairs Chair is responsible for acting as a liaison between the executive board and representatives.

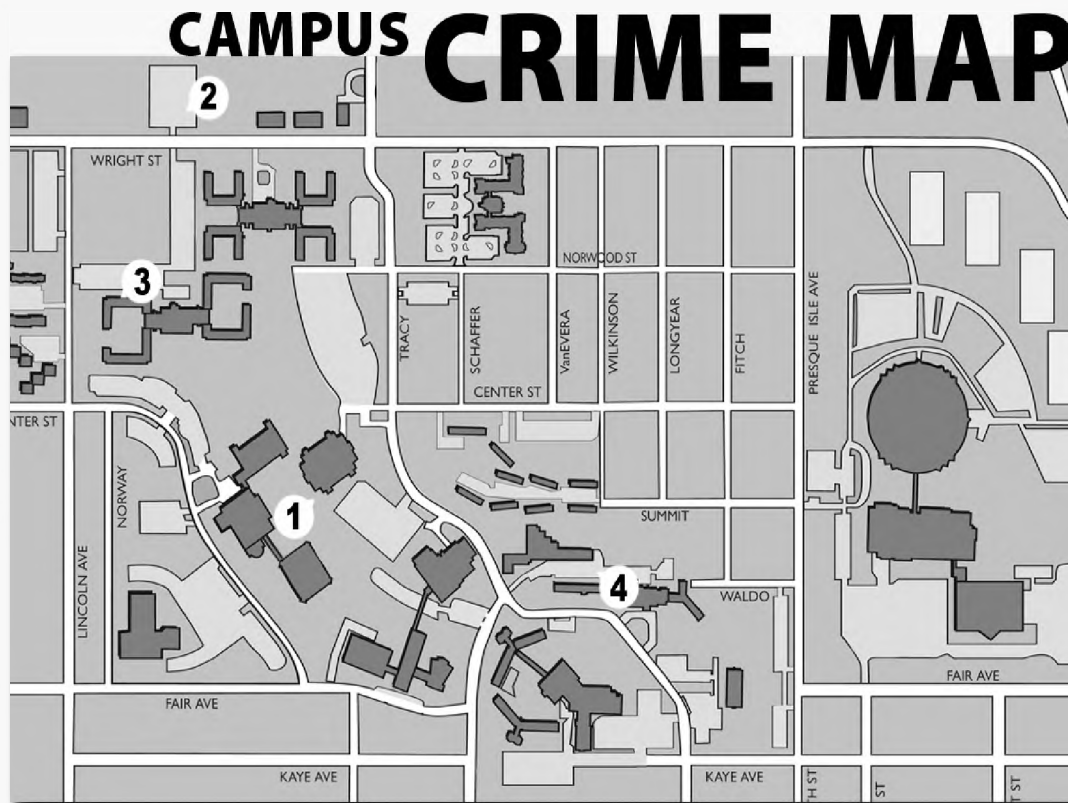
Map Key

1) A person was charged with minor in possession at 12:45 a.m. Jan. 21 at the Academic Mall.

2) A person was charged with malicious destruction of property to a motor vehicle at 12:40 p.m. Jan. 21 at Lot 46.

3) A person was charged with larceny of private property at 8:55 p.m. Jan. 21 at Gant Hall.

4) A person was charged with malicious destruction of property to a motor vehicle at 2:10 p.m. Jan. 22 at Lot 2.



—GODFREY—

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staff as much as he did with our sports teams.”

Northern is now in the process of finding a new AD, a decision that will be made at the end of the semester in May. The first committee meeting regarding the decision will be held later this week.

“I think his commitment to excellence is the one thing that would stand out,” Reed said. “It’s just kind of the tone that he sets for all of us.

“That’s what he tried to instill in each and every person in the department, whether it was a staff person, a student athlete, a student employee, or a volunteer on a project. I think that excellence is the one word that would be the common denominator of what we are looking for.”

Reed added that in 2006, when NMU first began the Excellence in Service award for its employees, Godfrey was chosen to take the honor.

“That shows a respect that the people in the university have for him,” he said.

In general, Reed commended the way that Godfrey has dedicated his life and career to the improvement of NMU athletics and students.

“Northern has always been a very important part of his life,” he said. “He’s worked here as a career, his kids have gone to school here and graduated from here.

“When you think back over that time span, I’m sure he can tell you the number of students – even from 30 years ago – that have still contacted him to tell him some anecdote or something that was meaningful in their lives that they took from Northern and from working in the [athletic] buildings or from participating in the programs. I think that is number one.”

The AD position is closed to applicants on Feb. 15, and NMU hopes to make a final decision on the position by May 1, with a start date soon after.

Internet censorship bills postponed

By Shaina James
assistant news editor

Congressional leaders announced Friday they would postpone the two bills aiming to prevent online piracy, after several top Internet websites protested.

The senate bill, Protect IP Act (PIPA) and the house bill, Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) were created to stop illegal downloads of copyrighted material, such as movies and music. The bills are

supported by Hollywood studios and music recording companies who are losing money because of illegal downloads.

“The problem of online piracy is too big to ignore. American intellectual property industries provide 19 million high-paying jobs and account for more than 60 percent of U.S. exports,” said Republican congressman Lamar Smith or Texas in a news release.

“The theft of America’s intellectual property costs the U.S. economy more than \$100 billion annually and results in the loss of thousands of American jobs. Congress cannot stand by and do nothing while American innovators

and job creators are under attack.”

Smith is the creator of the SOPA bill. In a news release he said the House Judiciary Committee will work with copyright owners and Internet companies to develop proposals that work for all parties.

When major companies like Google and Wikipedia protested for one day it was unlikely that the SOPA and PIPA bills would pass unless they were reworked.

“I am truly impressed at Wikipedia’s, etc., ability to get this issue on everyone’s radar screen,” said Steven Nelson, political science professor. “Very few pieces of legislation have ever gone from obscurity to the front page in such dramatic fashion, especially proposed legislation.”

Nelson also believes the legislation has the potential to protect an individual’s rights to profit from

their own property and works but at the same time people value free and relatively unrestricted communication, along with privacy.

“SOPA is a stab, possibly futile, at bringing policy up to speed with technology,” Nelson said.

Instead of talking to the press, many state senators have statements on their website with their opinion and what should be done about these two bills.

“I’m concerned about the current version of the bill. I’ve been meeting with concerned people on all sides of the issue, and hearing from many constituents,” said Michigan senator Carl Levin in a statement dated Jan. 18. “The Judiciary Committee is reworking the bill, and I’ll review the revised version carefully when it’s available.”

Contact Michigan state senators with comments or suggestions. Carl Levin’s information can be found at www.levin.senate.gov/contact and Debbie Stabenow’s information can be found at www.stabenow.senate.gov/?p=contact.



The English Wikipedia page was not available for 24 hours Jan. 18, and the above screen was displayed instead.



LEVIN

Health and wellness promoted

By Heidi Robitaille
contributing writer

A free community walking event will be held at the Superior Dome to promote health and

wellness.

It will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on February 1 and is free for all to participate. The Superior Dome will also be open for walking, free of charge through-

out the week.

“A group of health promoting agencies come together to encourage to get active and eat well,” said Barb Coleman, Coordinator of the Exercise Science Lab in NMU’s Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER) Department.

The walk was changed from a one mile walk test to just a walking event. Prizes will be given away and a raffle for a pair of walking shoes from Johnson’s Superior shoes will be held.

“[There is] no set distance that people have to walk. By walking, they’ll be entered to qualify into the raffle,” Coleman said.

Besides walking, healthy eating will be promoted. A meeting was held in November to review the results of the Marquette County Community Health Assessment results.

“As part of that collaborative process one of the top three areas of concern is the county obesity rates,” said Jill Fries, Marquette County Health Department’s Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

NMU’s Dining Services, Blue Cross Blue Shield wellness infor-

mation, and NMU’s Recreational Services will have displays on hand to encourage healthy living.

“It’s not just walking,” Coleman said. “I do think the nutritional aspect is equally important here because we have nutritional experts on hand.”

At the Dome Walking Event, there will be free access to a variety of professionals in the health and wellness fields to answer questions and concerns.

“This is a collaborative event,” Fries said. “There are several organizations involved in this. The Health Department in conjunction with the Marquette County Y have been leaders in the community to both assess the health of Marquette County residents and identify areas of concern and implement necessary changes to address identified health concerns.”

Marquette General Hospital, Bell Memorial Hospital, YMCA, NMU Exercise Science Lab and Recreational Services will be on hand. There will be a chance to sign up for the next upcoming community wellness challenge between Marquette, Negaunee, Ishpeming and Gwinn as well.



Kristen Koehler/NW

Heather Jackson of Marquette takes advantage of the Superior Dome during its open hours to run for free Wednesday, Jan. 25 in the afternoon.

Internships boost resumes, opportunities

By Drea Weiner

staff writer

With an ever increasing competitive job market, internships are a way for students to distinguish themselves from other job applicants.

An internship is a practical experience in the professional field that a student is studying.

It teaches hands-on, what is needed to succeed in their career.

Internships vary because the company offering the internship establishes the requirements and responsibilities of the intern.

"I advise students to get an internship as soon as (they) can," said John Anderton, earth environmental geographical sciences professor. "An internship is critical. If they have experience in their field it gives them a leg up on the competition."

Career Services

offer a variety of help to students looking for an internship: job fairs, internship postings and search strategies, types of positions typically available, workshops and Internet resources to locate internships.

Another benefit of an intern-

ship is if the employer likes the intern, they may offer permanent employment, said Steve LaFond, assistant director of Career Services.

"I look for a skill set (in an intern)," said Natasha Koss, program manager at the Superior Watershed Partnership and Land Trust. "Do they know how to write, basic computer skills, enthusiasm, (willingness) learn new things, taking initiative and whether they are able to work on their own."

Students who are looking into internships should look early on because some are competitive. If a student is looking for an internship in the summer, they should begin looking for internships in the fall, LaFond said.

[The internship] definitely helped in the job search process.

— Elizabeth Marker
NMU alumna

Elizabeth Marker, an NMU alumna, had an internship with Hennepin County Sheriff Office Crime

Lab Unit.

She worked in the latent print department, where she continued another intern's work creating a data base that used different print distortion.

"Although it isn't related to my current job, it helped me

stand out and it's a talking point in an interview," Marker said. "I applied for my internship in January or February of 2010, but kept my eyes open (during the semester) for other programs."

"To find my internship, I looked at the classes and course plan for my major, talked with my advisor and used a search engine online and kept my search terms broad."

When applying for an internship, students should prepare a resume, cover letter, application, recommendation letters and prepare for an interview.

Cover Letter

This is an opportunity for the applicant to tell the employer how they would fit into position, what they would bring to the company and what they would learn from the internship.

If there are classes that would apply to the internship, this would be a place to include them. According to Koss, students should keep it short and to the point.

"Pick out two to three really important highlights of your experience," Koss said. "It's the first thing they see and you want to leave a good impression to get them to read the resume."

"Check your spelling."

Resume

The resume should include student's name, contact information, major, minor, GPA, classes relevant to the internship (not mentioned in the cover letter), work experience and relevant volunteer experience.

"Use good grammar," Jill Leonard, biology professor said. "It may seem like common sense but you'd be surprised how often it happens."

Career Services is offering resume workshops at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 2, Wednesday, Feb. 22, Thursday, Mar. 15 and Thursday, April 5 in 2303 C.B. Hedgcock.

Application

Fill out the application to the best of your knowledge. If a student has questions about an application, Career Services is available or talk to your adviser.

"We'll help," Anderton said. "If your adviser can't help then there is typically another professor who can."

Recommendation Letters

At least two letters, but three would be best. Students who are interdisciplinary should get one from each department. This helps inform the potential employer of the student's entire experience,

Leonard said.

"Have someone who knows your work ethic and discipline (write a recommendation letter)," Leonard said.

Interview

Approach an internship interview as if it were a professional interview. Career Services is available for students who would like advice, LaFond said.

"Have a professional attitude that is appropriate for the internship that you are applying for," Leonard said. "Do your homework; know what you're applying for."

Career Services is offering interview workshops at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 28 and Thursday, April 12 in 2303 C. B. Hedgcock.

There isn't a central system at NMU to find internships. Each department has their own system. According to LaFond, the Career Services website is a good starting point.

"There were pros and cons to the internship but I'm still really glad I did it," Marker said. "It definitely helped in the job search process. Don't be afraid to use a search engine."

"Keep terms broad and (one) might be able to find something you wouldn't normally find. Keep trying. Keep applying."

Students participate in Intel competition

By Marcellino Signorelli

contributing writer

NMU computer science students are among the first to experience Intel's newest breakthrough in technology.

The new device, called the Compute Continuum Software Development Kit (CC SDK), allows applications to be used on any device and any system simultaneously.

Intel held a competition for the students to see what apps they could make. The event took place Friday, Jan. 20.

The contestants were then asked to submit their resumes to Intel for a summer internship.

Junior Adam Jacques, a computer science major, was one of the competitors who was a member of two teams.

He was involved in designing Xstream Pictionary along with Dave Pfeiffer and Texas Hold'em with Nicole Ross.

"Intel wanted us to create anything, from games to apps that could work on smart phones, tablets and notebooks," Jacques said. "It was great to see the apps work not only across different devices, but on varying systems as well."

"The CC SDK makes it so

an app could function on Apple, Android and Windows devices."

Since the end of November, Jacques and all the other competitors have had time to develop their apps. Intel remained vague on what they wanted in the apps, as long as the app was networking based.

"It was very cool to take part in this, getting to work with new technology from a large company like Intel," Jacques said. "The CC SDK makes networking easy, pretty much doing most of the work for us, as far as having the apps work on the different devices."

Senior David Pfeiffer, a computer science major, had also worked on two apps. In addition to Xstream Pictionary, he created Acorn Audio, a music streaming app, with Steve Jarvis and Clayton Powell. Acorn Audio went on to win third place in the contest.

"The way the development kit functions is like that of a toolbox," Pfeiffer said. "The apps we designed utilize the kit in order to communicate with other devices."

"The programs we created use the SDK in order to connect to the same server."

Jeff Horn, computer sci-

ence Intel coordinator, helped organize the competition. He has been the Intel internship coordinator for a few years, making this a further step in the collaboration between Intel and NMU.

"By the start of last fall's semester, Intel first contacted us about the CC SDK and by the end of November we received it," Horn said. "It's a collaborative effort. By allowing us to use this new technology, we were helping Intel test the code so any problems could be worked out before being released to the public."

"The CC strategic thrust is this is the way to go and the fu-

ture of the industry needs to head in this direction."

With a little over a month, Horn was impressed with the apps he saw students create.

While they were creating their apps, the competitors had to sign non-disclosure statements with Intel but now Intel has allowed the information to be released to the public.

"Intel wanted to see the innovation from these students," Horn said. "The students worked great, not only collaborating with their teammates but other teams as well. They all worked together, helping each other out, despite being competing teams."



Photo courtesy of NMU Communications
Clayton Powell (left) and David Pfeiffer give a presentation of their team's mobile application that streams audio from one phone to another, winning third.

WiMAX dongles now available for students with Macs

By Shaina James

assistant news editor

MacBook users can now pick up dongles allowing them to access NMU WiMAX.

The WiMAX dongles arrived at NMU in the beginning of December after many students requested them. However, only 195 out of 830 dongles have been picked up by MacBook users.

NMU had WiMAX dongles for Macs, but the only worked on the Windows side of the Mac, unlike the new ones which work for the Mac part.

Chief technology officer Dave Maki encourages all MacBook users to pick up their free WiMAX dongles.

The white USB modems are available to any NMU students and faculty who have NMU MacBooks. Before connecting to WiMAX using these dongles, users must install software using instructions available on Micro Repair's website.

The dongles can be checked out and must be returned when user is done attending Northern. They can be picked up at Micro Repair, which is opened Sunday through Friday.

Active learning workshop held for professors

Faculty prepare for new technology class rooms

By Hannah Fermanich
staff writer

NMU will host a workshop showing faculty how to use the new active learning technology that will be coming to campus.

According to the press release, the workshops will be held on Monday, Jan. 30 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. in LRC room 108 and also on Tuesday, Jan. 31 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in LRC room 109.

They will feature a new “crisis” exercise for faculty, allowing them to use the new technology to solve a set of problems instead of simply watching a demonstration from the presenter.

“Attendees each will be part of a team,” said Darlene Walch, Dean of Academic Information Services, “The activity is a simulation of an event that occurred on the island of Montserrat where people had to be evacuated during a dual disaster of a hurricane and a volcanic eruption.”

Each team will conduct research about the natural disasters and the resources available on the island. As the exercise continues, the teams will receive news and data updates from a cen-

tral command center. Then the teams must use the data to make predictions and then make decisions about how best to evacuate the people of the island, Walch said.

The exercise will show faculty how best to make use of the technology that is going to be available to them and students with the coming reconstruction of the Jamrich building.

“We are focusing on faculty as a way of sharing possibilities for how classrooms might be configured during the Jamrich project,” Walch said.

The workshops are being held in preparation for the coming Jamrich renovation. With the new building, more active learning classrooms similar to the one already being utilized in the LRC will be available for use.

While the exact starting date for construction is not yet determined, workshops like these will help prepare faculty for the new

technology that will be a part of several new classrooms.

“Any area of study could benefit because of teaching strategies and technology involved,” Walch said. “However, classes that are less active and more reliant on lecture format will probably benefit the most.”

The current active learning classroom on campus utilizes smart boards, microphones, cameras, and active sharing technology between computers thanks in part to NMU’s laptop initiative. Students and faculty alike will be able to work collaboratively on different problems and projects.

Although there is still time for those faculty who are interested in participating to sign up for these workshops, space is limited in each session.

Other workshops are offered regularly on course design, technology, and classroom enhancements. For now, there are no current plans for other sessions like this exercise, Walch said.

Any area of study could benefit because of teaching strategies and technology involved.

—Darlene Walch
Dean of Academic Information Services

False reports of Joe Pa’s passing went out before death

By Shaina James
assistant news editor

False reports of legendary football coach Joe Paterno’s death were spread through out the media 12 hours before he was officially announced dead.

Major news broadcasters such as CBS Sports and the Huffington Post first started the false reports Saturday morning about the death of former Penn State coach.

After these rumors were spread through out Facebook and Twitter many news organizations publicly apologized.

Within an hour, the spokesman for Paterno’s family and his two sons denied the reports.

His family announced in a statement Sunday morning that Paterno died of lung cancer at the age of 85.



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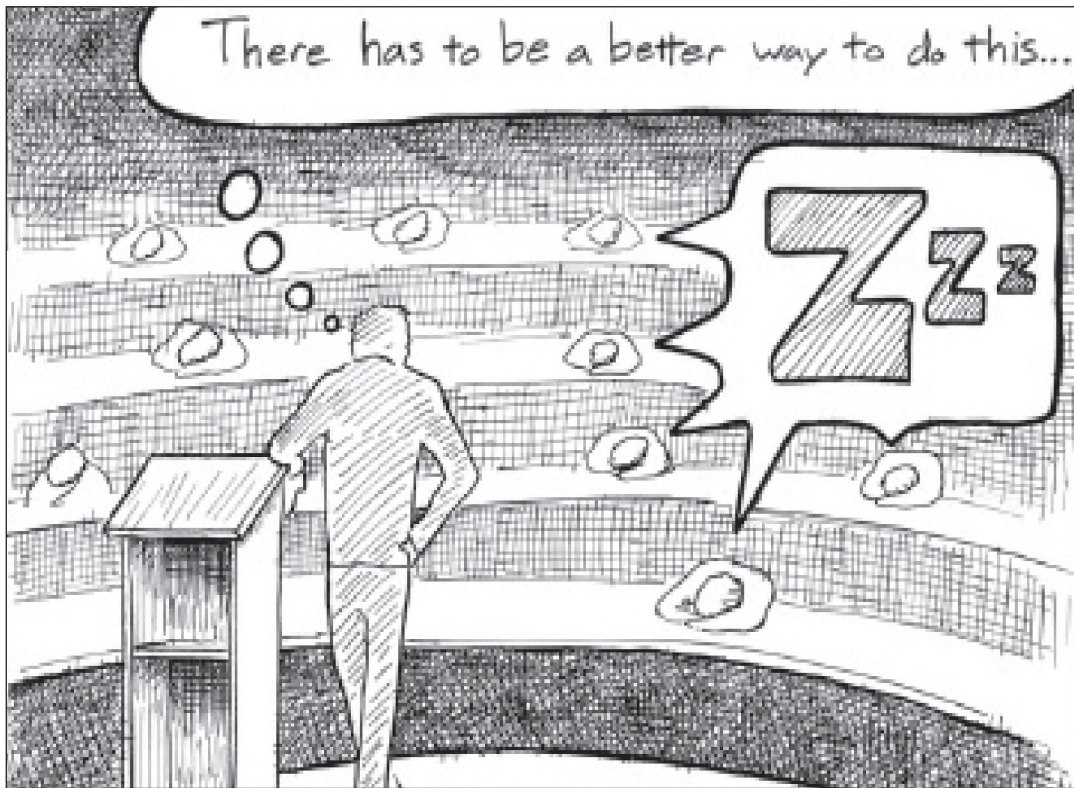
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Staff Editorial



Andy Harmon/NW

Active classrooms help students learn

Northern constantly innovates facilities with new technology, and active learning classrooms are the next step to make learning easier for its students.

In the past, technological advances have included Northern's Teaching, Learning and Communication Program, which allows full-time students and faculty members to use a university-distributed laptop.

NMU has also built a WiMAX network that helps students and faculty connect to the Internet off campus, covering much of Marquette County.

Now, Northern has innovated technology once again to help its students in the classroom. NMU built an active learning classroom in the LRC, with more active learning classrooms to be constructed in the building planned to replace Jamrich and Gries Halls.

Active learning classrooms use technology and other techniques to facilitate better learning and to help students retain more information.

The active learning classroom in the LRC has circular tables with LCD panels to project information from a laptop, whiteboards placed around the room and two projectors mounted to the ceiling.

Some subjects can be taught with nothing but a textbook, professor and whiteboard. However, there are some concepts, especially

at the college level, that require more involved mediums.

Studies have shown that students retain 70 percent of what's taught in the first 10 minutes of lecture. But by the last 10 minutes of a lecture, students only retain 20 percent of what's taught.

Active learning classrooms can help remedy this problem. Lectures are an important part of education. Yet, lecturing is only one part of it.

A professor could lecture on a subject for 20 minutes, giving students the information needed to succeed in class. Then, the professor could ask the students sitting around the circular tables to discuss or debate each other on a question that the professor poses to the class.

As students discuss or debate one another, they will be using and working with the information that was discussed in class. By working with this information, students will gain a better mastery of the information and be more likely to remember it. After students are done with discussion, the professor can go back to lecturing.

Active learning classrooms are a step in the right direction for Northern, which teaches its education students how to use this technology. It's time we take advantage of innovative learning instead of simply teaching it.

MLB salary cap would please fans



Staff
Column

Jon
Young

It's the most exciting time in Major League Baseball: the five-month offseason. It's a time to watch your favorite team acquire free agents, make trades, re-tool the roster, or for the small market teams, lose your star players.

After years of stacked rosters and predictable outcomes, it's time to implement a hard salary cap in the MLB.

Big market teams such as the New York Yankees, Boston Red Sox, Philadelphia Phillies, Los Angeles Angels and Chicago Cubs have been muscling out the lower-end market teams like the Tampa Bay Rays, Kansas City Royals and Pittsburgh Pirates for years. The cycle is taking the skill out of management and putting it in the dollar bill.

What's the point of playing small ball if you can buy a lineup that can slug its way to the postseason? Spending more money doesn't by any means guarantee a World Series berth or even a postseason appearance, but the discrepancy between the big and small markets is staggering.

The Royals and Pirates are two prime examples of the vicious money cycle in baseball. Both teams consistently kick it in the bottom five of lowest salaried teams in baseball and both teams struggle to stay relevant. The Pirates haven't made the postseason since 1992, while Royal fans haven't seen their team in the playoffs since 1985.

This has a snowball effect on teams. Fans won't pack the stands to watch their team finish last. Merchandise sales drop and teams can't muster the cash to hold their star players in the competitive free-agent market.

In the most basic sense, the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. Out of the last 12 World Series winners, six have been in the top 10 for highest payroll in their respective season and only one winner (2003 Marlins) have been on the lower half

of the payroll. They won the Fall Classic with the 25th highest payroll that season, but were unable to hold all their pieces together and missed the postseason in 2004.

The flip side of the argument is that teams such as the Yankees and Red Sox are generating the money to make these moves. We as fans determine the market value of players and make it possible for teams to shell out deals like Albert Pujols' 10-year, \$240 million contract. Pujols is guaranteed \$30 million in 2021, the last year of his deal. Last season, the Royals entire payroll was just over \$36 million.

So even though some teams have been able to stay competitive with a low salary, it's still unrealistic to expect teams to stay afloat when a player can make almost as much money in a year as an entire 40-man roster makes combined.

The Oakland Athletics are another great example of why the MLB needs a hard salary cap. They have consistently been able to make the postseason with one of baseball's lowest payrolls. They have used advanced statistics and smart drafting to get the most out of their dollar.

In a sense, they have changed the game. Their style inspired the book and movie "Moneyball." But with all the attention they have garnered, they still have the lowest attendance in all of major league baseball. They're a team who has been in the same city since 1968 and have won four World Series and 15 pennants. But why then do they rank last in attendance?

It seems simple to me. The Athletics drafted and brought a plethora of stars into the league over the last decade: Jason Giambi, Miguel Tejada, Barry Zito, Mark Mulder and Tim Hudson, to name a few. But as a fan, why would you want to pay to see these players who are no doubt going to big-market teams as soon as free agency hits? Teams like the Athletics can't sell tickets because they can't hold stars.

MLB needs to implement a concrete salary cap. It would make for better competition and would increase the fan base for teams who are forced to watch their stars walk during free agency. It's time to make "America's pastime" a sport again, not just a business.

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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 5,000 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.



Andy Harmon/NW

Money must be taken out of corrupt elections

For What It's Worth



Aaron Loudenslager

I like to think that I have a lot of power as an American citizen. I can vote for candidates, write my legislator with concerns and protest government policies. I even get to try to influence the views of others by writing articles such as this one.

Yet, the money in politics makes me realize that no matter how hard I try as a citizen, I will never have a comparable amount of political power equal to that of money.

If American citizens want their voices to truly be heard as I do and not diluted by the corrupting influence of monetary campaign contributions, elections must be publicly financed.

Politicians always claim to be populists concerned with the everyday problems of ordinary Americans. As they campaign for office every election, they tell us they will fight for us and make sure our collective voice will be heard.

Yet, in every election our political leaders allow the money that finances their campaigns to dictate their decisions and actions, rather than the American electorate's votes and concerns.

The economic collapse in 2008 highlights the problem of privately funded political campaigns. No American citizen wanted the economy to fall apart in 2008. People's entire pensions and life savings and were

depleted. Families lost homes due to foreclosure. Businesses went bankrupt; many just trying to survive the next day by breaking even.

This could have been prevented. The passage of the 1999 Financial Modernization Act, which repealed the 1933 Glass-Steagall Act, was the main cause behind the 2008 economic collapse. The 1999 Act removed the provision in the Glass-Steagall Act that separated investment and commercial banking.

Removing this restriction did nothing to help consumers; it only helped the banking, insurance and brokerage industries. This is why these three industries spent over \$300 million during 1997 and 1998 in campaign contributions to both political parties and lobbying efforts to repeal the Glass-Steagall Act.

Some politicians were wise enough to remember the lessons of the Great Depression and saw that this law was going to create another economic collapse like it. Rep. John Dingell (D-Michigan) warned on the House floor in 1999 that banks would "become too big to fail."

In 2008, Dingell's warning had become an eerie truth. Commercial banks had been acquired and merged with other investment banks and insurance companies.

These new financial conglomerates were now too big and interdependent with each other to be trusted with billions of dollars of America's wealth. If one financial institution ran into financial problems and went bankrupt, the other financial institutions would be at risk for bankruptcy too.

This is exactly what happened. The biggest financial institutions in America sell and trade financial derivatives.

Derivatives are financial instruments that allow investors to make speculative bets on any-

thing from simple futures contracts on commodities to more complex financial instruments such as collateralized debt obligations (CDO) and credit-default swaps (CDS).

Investors bet on different financial derivatives depending on if they thought the housing market prices would continue to rise or begin to fall. The problem with those complex financial derivatives like CDOs and CDSs was that the five biggest banks in the U.S. owned 96 percent of all U.S. bank-owned derivatives.

When the housing market collapsed in 2008, financial derivatives like CDOs and CDSs imploded in value. This meant that the biggest banks were losing most of its money, if not going bankrupt like Lehman Brothers. Now that the banks were interdependent, this meant the whole financial system was at risk.

The banks had lobbied for the repeal of the Glass-Steagall Act to become bigger and make more money. Banks reached their goal. In the process, they destroyed the global economy and took billions of dollars in hard earned taxpayer money to remain financially solvent.

This is simply one example showing the supremacy of monetary campaign contributions over the voice and needs of the American people.

If one looks around, you will see this phenomenon over and over again.

We have great powers as American citizens to change the political landscape of this country.

At the same time, the political landscape will never truly represent the will and needs of the American people without publicly financed elections. With privately financed elections, millions of dollars in campaign contributions will always have more political clout than a citizen's dire needs.

College football needs own playoff



Guest Column

Billy Littlejohn

Every sport you watch on TV concludes in some sort of playoff system. Whether it's the NFL, NBA, MLB, NHL, MLS or most NCAA sports, there is ultimately a playoff at the end of the season, which helps choose a deserving champion. The exception to this is NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS), which instead uses the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) system.

In essence, the BCS system makes the regular season an actual playoff. If you don't go undefeated or have just one loss, your team is presumably out of the running for a spot in the BCS national championship game.

FBS football needs to adopt a playoff format for its national championship. This would make its ultimate champion more deserving and help prevent criticism of polls from being biased and shortsighted at bay.

Some might say the BCS system is on par with the other playoff systems in other leagues and sports in choosing a deserving champion. I do not think this argument holds a lot of value.

It makes the eventual champion succeed mostly based on a skill to win games in the regular season and the strength of their schedule.

Other leagues such as the NFL make their champions win enough games to make it to postseason. Afterwards, teams must beat the best teams in the league who were also able to make the postseason to become champions.

For example, let's look at what happened in this year's NFL playoff so far. The Green Bay Packers lost only one game during the regular season, but ended up completely fizzling out and didn't even win a playoff game, losing to the New York Giants.

Instead, we find the Giants playing the New England Patriots in the Super Bowl. This type of scenario could never happen in FBS with its current system.

The NFL scenario with basically the same rules as the BCS

would have had the Packers playing one of the three teams in the NFL with a 13-3 regular season record.

That isn't what happened though. Why? It's because the NFL has a playoff system. The NFL's Super Bowl has a team with the second best record in the league playing a team with a record barely good enough to get into the playoffs. This is why NCAA Division I FBS needs a playoff system, to give teams a chance to be champions.

Today, the BCS national championship game is about having a perfect regular season. It's about having a big collegiate football program that has multi-million dollar TV contracts with media companies. It's about having a big football program that can gain positive bias in the pre-season poll rankings and hope to run the table and be given a seat to play for the national championship.

This bias in preseason rankings hurt schools in smaller athletic conferences, like it did to Boise State University the year they accomplished the now famous "Statue of Liberty play." This is one of the reasons Boise State is now moving from the smaller Mountain West Conference to the larger Big East Conference.

If we expect fairness in choosing a college football champion, then smaller schools and conferences need an equal chance without the bias granted to big-school college football programs such as Alabama and USC in the preseason.

Eliminating the bias in the polls would fix the problem. There seems only one way to fix the bias: through a playoff system.

If FBS had a playoff system like the NFL did, we would have much more excitement for fans and a champion who would be deserving of that title.

A team like Oregon could have made a run in a NCAA playoff system and had another chance at beating LSU like Alabama did.

Unless FBS gets a playoff system, there will always be debates about the flaws of the current BCS system. It is time to learn from the other sport leagues and initiate a playoff system.

Letter Policy

Letters to the Editor must include a full name, year, major and phone number for verification. Limit letters to 250 words or less.

All letters may be edited for grammar and length.

Letters can be mailed to The North Wind, 2310 University Center, 1401 Presque Isle Ave., Marquette, MI 49855.

Letters can also be submitted via email to editor.northwind@gmail.com, or through a website submission on www.thenorthwindonline.com.

Middle East democracy will take time to achieve



Guest Column

Ryan Smith

For anyone who hasn't noticed, the war in Iraq is over and has been for nearly two months now.

When the last U.S. troops crossed the border into Kuwait there was no fanfare, no parade, and nothing here state side to mark the ending of the eight year war that seemed to have so many in this country caring about what happened in Iraq.

No one really cared; it was just the cool thing to be opposed to on college campuses and in coffee shops. The criticism is still there today.

Everyone loves to show how the United States "failed" because Iraq has been left with a weak central government fighting to keep control of the country. Civil unrest and violence still occurs once in awhile.

People are still left without basic services and the Iraqi

Army, while able to deal with internal threats, could not hope to stand up to a foreign threat.

There is no denying these facts, but does this really mean democracy has failed and that the United States failed?

Perhaps we should not be so quick to judge and declare failure.

Freedom is not easy and democracy takes time, creating a nation takes time and there are growing pains. Consider our own country's origins.

We were a country with a weak federal government and no national identity. We were fiercely divided over how our new constitution should be written and the role government would play. Violence between rival political parties was almost common place.

Our military was so weak that even dealing with the small Whiskey Rebellion was a major struggle and our ability to deal with outside threats was nonexistent.

Our government paid ransom to the Barbary States to allow our merchant ships to pass freely through the Mediterranean Sea until 1803.

During the War of 1812 against England, our nation's capital was sacked and burned: a pretty rough start to a nation by any standard.

But our nation grew and persevered through the worst of it all, even after nearly 100 years of existence and enduring a civil war that cost over 200,000 people their lives.

Iraq, and point of fact, all the new democracies of the Middle East have their growing pain to go through, just as we did, just as every other nation earth has done.

Freedom and democracy takes time, hard work, sacrifice and sometimes even blood to succeed.

This is a price paid by thousands across the world. Maybe we should not be so quick to write them off and to write off the sacrifices we made there.

Change does not occur overnight and it does not come easy. It has never come easy for any nation in history.

We should all keep this in mind before we pass judgment on Iraq and the new democracies of the Middle East. History has a lot to teach us.

Sound Off

How did you spend your snow day?

compiled by
Kristen Koehler



Brianna Miller

sophomore, art education

"I walked to Temaki & Tea and then I pretty much stayed inside all day."



Courtney Guidebeck

senior, sociology

"I worked at a daycare and then I went home and made a delicious dinner."



Rhianna Carne

freshman, criminal justice

"I went to the ice caves."



Ian Clyde

freshman, aviation maintenance

"I slept in."



Andy Shindeldecker

junior, business

"I did homework all day. I'm taking two 300 level business classes right now so I'm pretty swamped."



Steven Abbott

sophomore, social work

"My girlfriend made me scrambled eggs for breakfast. Then I went to work and hung out with friends for the rest of the day."

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Electric cars not on road to sustainability



Guest Column

Lee McClelland

If you step onto any car dealership lot, you will find three varieties of engines: internal combustion, electric or hybrid.

Recent advances in technology have allowed automakers to create vehicles with higher fuel efficiency, but there is debate as to whether or not creating cars that burn less gas is the solution to dependence on petroleum and the environmental impact incurred by exhaust emissions.

The argument for buying hybrid and electric cars is its reduced impact on the environment and money saved by consumers by getting better gas mileage.

That being said, it is important to know how a hybrid or electric car can have an impact on the environment. Let us start with the more popular of the two "environmentally friendly" engines: the hybrid.

The hybrid uses both an internal combustion engine and a battery system that can be charged by a household power source or by the car's braking system.

It is a compromise between both types of engines; you still get the range of an internal combustion engine, but you also get the increased mileage and the satisfaction that you are, in a small way, contributing to the green movement.

Though one would assume that people would opt for the hybrid version of an automobile, it's not always the case. Hybrid vehicles come with a substantially higher price tag than their internal combustion counterparts.

According to the Chevrolet website, the Silverado is priced at \$22,195 and the Silverado Hybrid is priced at \$39,640 — a difference of \$17,445.

That makes being environmentally friendly with regards to transportation incredibly expensive.

The latest shift in the auto industry is the growing influence of the electric car. There have been many concept cars and a few entries into the market such

as the Smart Car and the Nissan Leaf.

There has been a surge in the latest models of cars powered solely by electricity because of a growing demand in the market for cars that provide great range and a diminished environmental impact.

The Nissan Leaf, for example, gets an estimated 100 miles per charge. In comparison, the Smart Car gets 87 miles per charge.

Charging times for these vehicles takes hours rather than minutes, making fueling up less convenient. You can basically rule out any lengthy road trips with an electric car.

This is our future in automotive technology. I say this previous sentence with a twinge of sadness in my keystroke. People often hear the word "electric" without thinking of where electricity comes from.

The difference between an internal combustion engine and an electric engine is simple: one is a product of OPEC and the other a product of your local utility company. So where does electricity come from?

Generally, it is a coal-powered plant that generates the

electricity for a populated area. While you can install wind turbines and solar panels in suitable positions, they cannot generate as much power as your local coal plant, at least not at the rate that modern day society consumes electricity.

If coal generates the power for your electric car and OPEC's oil is the power for your internal combustion driven automobile, then what are the benefits?

Of course, cutting back the emissions released from gas-powered cars is a good thing, but coal and oil are both fossil fuels with limited supplies.

They are both obtained in environmentally unfriendly ways. Mountaintop removal comes to mind when I think of coal.

The problem that we face as a society, the limited supply of the lifeblood of industrialized society, is not being addressed, so the solution cannot be of the same category.

Utility companies have a hard enough time as it is keeping the power grid supplied with sufficient electricity.

When we start plugging in our cars, we'll start to create a new problem that requires yet

another solution.

I dreamt of flying cars and jet packs when I was a child, but all I have now is a rusted Volvo with a slipping transmission.

There is forward motion in the automotive industry, yet I don't see any viable technology that will lead us away from our current trend toward environmental negligence.

It is not a matter of caring about the Earth; it is a matter of preserving the place that we will live on for future generations.

I don't want my children to grow up in my filth. I don't wish for the following generations to ride the bus into oblivion.

It is time for our generation to start looking for viable technologies and taking responsibility for the mistakes of proceeding generations; no longer will we pass the buck.

A sustainable future is a promising alternative to our current predicament.

Perhaps, instead of trying to figure out how we can find further resources to consume, we could, as a people, try and figure out how to cut our consumption and enjoy sustainable sustenance.

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Eli & the Wolves
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CODING THE FUTURE

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING A COMPANION TO ANY CAREER

By Alisa Fox
features editor

It's no secret that the future is filled with technology, and computer programming may help prepare us for that future — or at least an Intel internship.

Intel, makers of devices used for communication and computing, as well as other companies both local and non-local, look to NMU to provide students for their internship programs. This is just one of the benefits of understanding programming languages.

“It teaches you to logically solve problems and gives you increased reasoning abilities,” said Ken Culp, a mathematics and computer science instructor at NMU.

These benefits are not limited to a career in programming applications or designing websites. Just knowing the basics of program-

ming could ease day-to-day relationships with technology.

Trevor Harrington, a senior network computing major, said this technology is everywhere and knowing how it works could benefit anyone.

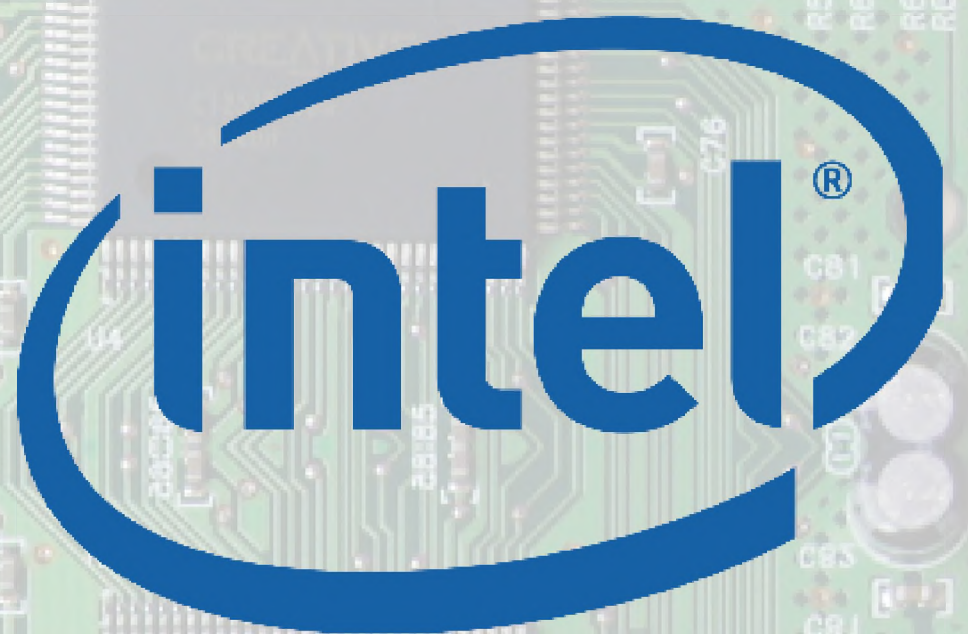
“The world today is dominated by social networking applications, web applications that you can download into your device, TVs and DVD players; they all do networking now,” Harrington said. “They’re all run by some computer-generated code to link up with other computers, other devices and they share information. It’s only progressing.”

Benefits of knowing basic pro-

gramming include a better understanding of computers and their programs which can lead to being able to correct bugs in the system, improving existing programs and more creative ways to entertain and share information.

“Just experiment and see what is out there,” Harrington said. “You’ll find computers and networking devices in just about every field now.”

The two main programming languages are Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) and JavaScript. With these



languages, one could manipulate elements in a Web page, such as the layout, colors and fonts of the content.

“It’s helpful when you need to showcase your work or advertise your business,” said Krystina Huuki, a junior art and design major.

Huuki said she would use programming to showcase her photography, and it also looks good on her resume.

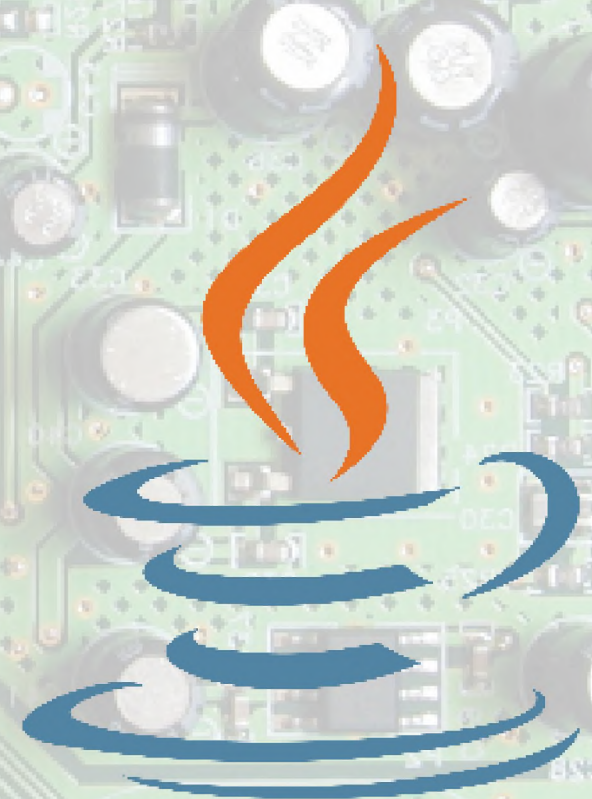
“Computers are in everyday life,” Huuki said. “How many times do you sit in front of the computer or use your phone?”

With many facets of life becoming integrated with networks and the Internet, programming can help

many students find an edge to get a job within their major. Companies like Intel, or even local companies that have their own websites to up-keep might find an employee with programming knowledge useful.

Another thing that Northern does to promote computer programming is to participate in the annual Invitational Programming Competition. Last year Northern’s team, Team MJC, took first place in the competition. There are usually around 24 different teams from five other schools.

For more information, email Jon Phillips, head of the mathematics and computer science department, at jophilli@nmu.edu.



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”

- Trevor Harrington
senior network computing major

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Jeremy Porter returns to hometown

By Amanda Cox
contributing writer

Some may recognize a Tuco as a character in Clint Eastwood's "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly," but for band mates Jeremy Porter, Jason Bowes and Gabe Doman, it was a quickly-chosen name for their newly-formed band.

Jeremy Porter and The Tucos will be playing at 10 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 27 at the Upfront & Company to promote their single, "Night on the Town," which

was released in June 2011.

"I would probably call our music Americana power pop; it's upbeat and alternative," said Porter, lead singer of the Tucos. "Some of it is kind of in the style of power pop bands in the 70s and 80s like Cheap Trick and The Knack. Some of it is a little more country-tinged."

The Detroit band plays mostly original songs, including "Galveston" and "Ain't My House Anymore."

The band records with Mag Wheel Records out of Toronto.

Although Upfront & Company is a larger venue than the bars and rock clubs the band usually plays at, it is the kind of place that Porter always looks forward to playing at.

"I've played there so many times over the years," Porter said. "It's the kind of place I look forward to just because they treat bands really well and everyone who works there is really friendly. I've known some of the guys who have been there since high school, so it's kind of fun in that way."

Jeremy is a former Marquette resident; he attended the local high school and NMU, and in the 80s was part of one of Marquette's first punk bands, The Regulars.

Although Porter moved to the Detroit area in 1988, no matter what band he was a part of, he always made sure to come up and play in Marquette.

"It is one of my favorite places to go, and not only to play with the band," Porter said. "My wife and I vacation up there, and we come up and do the bike race every summer. Marquette is probably my favorite place."

Over the years, Porter has been a part of a number of bands including The Comebacks, Slugbug and The OffRamps.



Photo courtesy of Angela Papalás

Jeremy Porter and The Tucos are performing at the Upfront on Jan. 27.

Porter also put out a solo record in 2010 titled "Party of One."

Later that year, while putting together a song for a Christmas compilation, Porter enlisted the help of a couple of friends. With Bowes on the bass and Doman on the drums, The Tucos were born.

"I enjoyed doing the solo acoustic tour but I was kind of yearning to play with the band again," Porter said. "I was missing the camaraderie and volume."

Bowes had been the bass

player in The OffRamps, and Doman came from a band called The Hotwalls.

"The Christmas song went really well," Porter said. "We started learning some other songs and three or four weeks later we played our first show."

More information about the show can be found at the Upfront & Company's website, www.upfrontandcompany.com.

For more information on The Tucos, visit www.facebook.com/jeremyportermusic or www.jeremyportermusic.com.



Photo courtesy of Angela Papalás

Although he has traveled a lot, Porter always comes back to his hometown.

Snowboarders and skiers hunt ducks

By Alisa M. Fox
features editor

Once a year in January, families, friends and NMU students gather at Marquette Mountain for the annual Rubber Ducky Hunt and a night of guaranteed fun.

This year the hunt will take place at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 29.

"It started as a fun event for a January weekend," said Vern Barber, manager at Marquette Mountain and organizer of the duck hunt. "We took the idea from another ski hill and made it our own. Now it's just a good time for families and groups."

Barber said they also encourage college students to form groups with an undefined member limit and participate in the hunt.

"It's not your average ski day," Barber said. "It's fun for students to come with their friends or their clubs. It's just a fun couple of hours with the chance to win up to \$600."

At 12:30 p.m., the ski lifts will close down and the Mountain staff will sweep the slopes free of any stragglers.

Once they know that everyone is off the slopes, a small crew will begin to distribute the

2,000 rubber ducks around the slopes.

"We just hope it's not snowing this year," Barber said. "It was snowing last year while we were hiding the ducks and it made it pretty difficult."

As soon as the ducks are hidden, the ski lift will run the participants up the hill to a designated starting line.

The participants will then find as many rubber ducks as they can.

"The start of the scramble and the end when they bring all the ducks back and we announce the winners; those are my favorite parts," Barber said.

The group that finds the most rubber ducks gets a prize of \$300 in Mountain Money that can be used for lift tickets and rental at Marquette Mountain.

There's also a "lucky" duck and the person or group that finds that will also win \$300 in Mountain Money.

"We just want to make it fair," Barber said. "We added the lucky duck so that smaller families and groups will think it's worth it."

Cindi Carlson, senior clerk in NMU's Housing and Residence Life office and volunteer ski patrol for Marquette Mountain, said she is looking forward to

her first year participating in the Rubber Ducky Hunt.

Carlson said she wanted to be on a ski patrol since she was a child.

So when the opportunity came up at Marquette Mountain, she grabbed it.

Now, she will be putting her skiing skills to use at the Rubber Ducky Hunt.

"It'll be challenging to find a way to gather the ducks and bring them down the hill without dropping them all," Carlson said.

Carlson said students should come and participate because of the chance at free money. She also said to watch out for the other specialty days at Marquette Mountain.

These specialty days include their "County Weeks" where for one week, people in a specified county will receive lift tickets for \$17.

Marquette Mountain has designated Saturdays as "College Nights."

After 4 p.m. on Saturdays, college students can bring their student identification and receive free rentals and \$15 lift tickets.

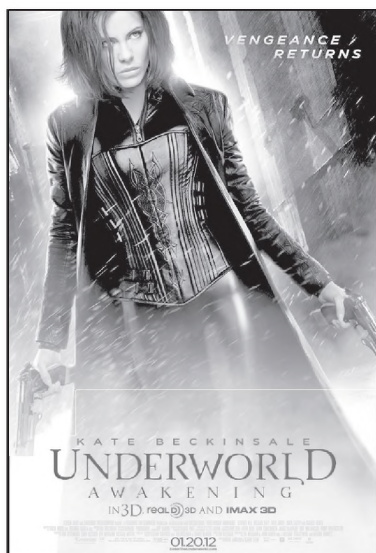
For more information on any of these events, call Marquette Mountain at (906) 225-1155.



Kristen Koehler/NW

The third annual Rubber Ducky Hunt will take place on Sunday, Jan. 29 at Marquette Mountain. The group with the most ducks will be awarded \$300 in Mountain Money. The group with the "lucky" duck will also be awarded \$300 in Mountain Money. The event is open to people of all ages.

Sexy star delights 'Awakening' audience



Film: Underworld: Awakening

Directors: Måns Mårland and Björn Stein

Producers: Tom Rosenberg, Gary Lucchesi, Len Wiseman and Richard Wright

Writer: Len Wiseman and John Hlavin

Starring: Kate Beckinsale

Runtime: 88 minutes



By Justin Marietti
staff writer

The Swedish directorial duo of Måns Mårland and Björn Stein offer yet another installment of the "Underworld" series, entitled "Awakening."

This is the fourth film in the franchise, although the third film was a prequel and did not feature Kate Beckinsale, the heroine of the first two films.

With her absence, the ratings of the third film did not follow suit.

In its opening weekend, "Underworld" grabbed the No. 1 posi-

tion at the box office. I hate to be so obvious, but I get the feeling that moviegoers keep coming back for Beckinsale posing as a sexy vampiress in skin-tight leather and spandex.

The first two movies followed the ongoing war between the vampires and the lycans (werewolves), and the relationship between Selene and her vampire-lycan hybrid love interest, Michael Corvin (Scott Speedman).

In "Awakening," humans have finally become aware of the presence of these other creatures.

When this happens, humans stop killing each other and turn all their aggression and motivation toward exterminating both vam-

pires and lycans.

Both sides are forced into hiding, and Corvin and Selene are torn from each other very early in the film.

The majority of "Awakening" takes place 12 years afterwards, as Selene is released from a cryogenic freezer by an unknown source. She doesn't remember how she got there, and her surroundings are unfamiliar.

Luckily enough, her super-tight black outfit is conveniently tucked away in a cabinet not far from the freezer she was stored in. As usual, Selene doesn't have much time to think about what's going on before there is a hoard of humans sent to kill her.

This sets into motion the heavy dose of action sequences throughout "Awakening."

Where the original two films meshed the action scenes with sections of mythology and history about the war between the vampires and lycans, this film concentrates much more on the action.

I think the new directors are trying to reestablish the franchise by changing its direction a little bit and focusing more on the action.

I definitely enjoyed the first two movies, but they could only stay on that path for so long before the franchise would be completely drained of any and all relevance it may have had.

The new direction is helpful in every way.

The new directors give fans of the series exactly what they want: an R-rated gore fest that revolves around Selene kicking butt and taking names instead of convoluting itself with multiple characters and loose ends.

This new offering gives glimpses of the old films, but stands on its own for the most part.

Corvin plays an almost non-existent role in "Awakening," which mostly concentrates on Selene and her daughter Eve (India Eisley), the newest addition to the "Underworld" family.

When "Awakening" came to a close and the credits rolled, my friend immediately turned and said, "Didn't that seem really, re-

ally short?"

With a runtime of 88 minutes, I could definitely see how it might feel that way, especially after paying full price for a 3-D movie that wasn't even an hour and a half.

But after considering the extremely open-ended nature of this film's ending, it's very clear they plan on making yet another installment to the "Underworld" series, depending on how well this one did in the box office, of course.

I, for one, would not complain about a fifth film. The makers of "Awakening" knew they would have to up the ante in order to please fans of the original films and also keep the series alive, and I believe they accomplished both. This film did bigger and better things than any of its predecessors.

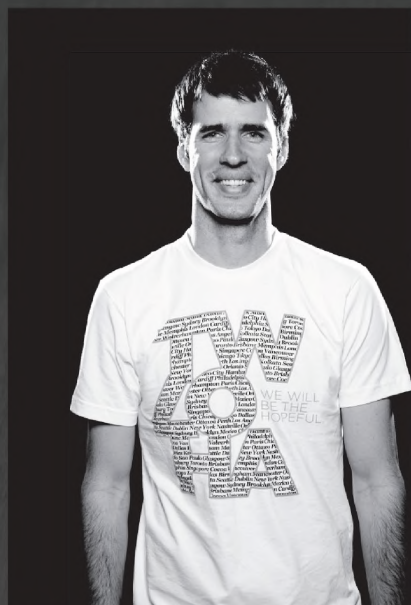


Photos courtesy of www.collider.com

Kate Beckinsale plays Selene, the vampire who gets entangled in the war.

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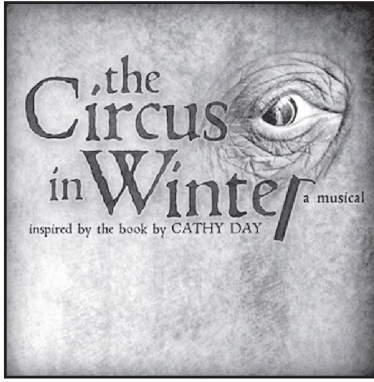
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FOUNDER JAMIE TWORKOWSKI
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Original musical rocks theater festival



Play: The Circus in Winter

Director: Beth Turcotte

Writers: Cathy Day and Ball State University students

Starring: Andy Pickerill, Ethan Litt and Jessie Veters



By Kristin Halsey
contributing writer

When I traveled to the University of Illinois over my break for the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, I was looking forward to seeing some of the amazing talent in the region.

What I was not expecting was to be blown away with an original musical. Ball State University's production of "The Circus in Winter," based on the book by Cathy Day, is one musical I expect to go all the way and become very successful; it might even make it to Broadway.

This musical was created by a group of students who study at the Virginia B. Ball Center for Creative Inquiry. The B. Ball Center

students, with faculty leaders, explore the connections among the arts, humanities, science and technology.

Through the course of a semester, they create and illustrate using their collaborative research and interdisciplinary study to create a product that is then shown to the community. For "The Circus in Winter," they decided to create a musical based off of the novel.

With the skeleton of the musical in place at the end of the semester, they spent the next three years, with the help of the professors at Ball State University and former alum, creating a musical that was a fantastic piece of art to watch.

The story takes place in Lima, Ind., in the spring of 1896 and through the following year. It follows the journey of a simple country-man named Wallace Porter, played by Andy Pickerill, who travels to New York City with his cousin Emory, played by

Ethan Litt, to go see a circus.

At the circus, Porter falls in love with Irene when they first meet. In the course of one song, "If I Could Know You," Irene moves to Lima with Porter to start a family and live a simple life.

Tragedy strikes when Irene suffers an illness when she becomes pregnant and dies shortly after they begin to build a life together.

Porter is left to pick up the pieces of his life when a ring master, Clyde Hollenbach, played by Jessie Veters, brings his circus through Lima. Hollenbach has become too old to run the production so he sells the circus to Porter who is eager to rebuild the circus back to its glory days.

There were moments while watching this musical that I forgot it was a college production. The quality of the acting and singing by the ensemble blew me away and I was captivated by this show from the very first number.

There were two memorable characters outside of Porter.

One was the character of Jennie Dixianna. She is a circus performer and gypsy who is caught in an abusive relationship with the elephant trainer, Jack.

Jennie and Porter start to fall for each other and help each other try to pick up the pieces of their lives. Jennie is still caught in her relationship with Jack and finds herself in a triangle in which her

way out turns tragic. One of my favorite songs in the musical was her song, "Recognition," when you start to see her struggle.

Pearly, played by Lakecia Harris, is a girl who lives with the circus and connects with the elephant, Cesar. She delivers an astounding performance that leaves you connected and especially tugs at your heart strings with her song, "Elephant's Eye."

Harris went on at the convention to become the alternate for the national Irene Ryan Scholarship Competition, a most well-deserved title for this amazing performer.

The music of the show has a lot of folk style to it that you don't hear in a lot of new musicals these days. It also included some scatting and ballad styles. But, with every developing musical there are always improvements to be made. The issue I had with the music was that it tended to be a bit repetitive, but not enough to distract you from the show.

When you first walk into the theater you do not see a curtain waiting for a set to be revealed at the start of the show, you see a set that looks like the skeleton of an abandoned barn with one small, transparent piece of fabric. This first visual is one that caught my attention immediately.

The set was designed by brothers who won the award for the design in the Kennedy Cen-

ter American College Theatre Festival Region III closing ceremony. Awards at KCACTF are presented for accomplishments throughout the region for designs and acting from university theater students.

Overall, the show is great but it has so much potential to be greater. I feel lucky to be one of the first audiences to see this musical. I highly recommend going if you hear about a production of "The Circus in Winter" and are able to see it.

It is, by far, one of the best musicals I have seen lately. I can't wait to see how much they improve and see how far it goes.



Photo courtesy of Ball State University Students at Ball State University created "The Circus in Winter."

Superior Edge

2012 WINTER ORIENTATION DATES

Wednesday, January 25	4-5 p.m.
Friday, February 3	11 a.m.-Noon
Monday, February 6	6-7 p.m.
Thursday, February 16	5-6 p.m.
Friday, February 24	Noon-1 p.m.
Tuesday, March 13	5-6 p.m.

Register for an orientation at www.nmu.edu/skillbuilders, call 906.227.6543, or email edge@nmuedu. All of the orientations will be held in The Back Room, Don H. Bottum University Center. For more information, visit www.nmu.edu/superiorede.

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NMU sweeps season series of rival Tech

'Cats take second half of series in Houghton with a 5-2 victory over Huskies

By Delaney Lovett
editor in chief

For the first time since the 2005-06 season, the Wildcats earned the second half of a season sweep against U.P. rival Michigan Tech with a 5-2 win on Saturday in Houghton, Mich.

"I think they're a much improved team and their coaching staff has done a great job," said head coach Walt Kyle. "It was rewarding to be able to do that up there."

NMU, now 6-7-5-2 in the CCHA and 11-8-5 overall, came out to a 2-0 lead in the first 4:42 of play, with goals from senior left wing Justin Florek and junior defenseman Kyle Follmer.

"There was a great crowd up there and a great atmosphere," Kyle said. "I think it was really important we get out ahead, which we did, and it quieted the building a little bit."

Kyle said although it always helps to score early, the 'Cats need to do a better job of hanging onto those leads and remembering there is a full 60 minutes to play.

The Huskies (8-7-1 WCHA, 11-12-1 overall) scored their only

two goals consecutively on power plays in the second period, tying the game 2-2.

"They didn't get a goal five-on-five, and I thought that was reflective of the play," Kyle said. "They got two power-play goals on us, but I think our penalty killing has been pretty good."

Northern took the wind out of Tech's sails with three unanswered goals to defeat the Huskies for the second time this year.

Florek earned his second of the night on a Wildcat power play, with assists from senior right wing Tyler Gron and Follmer.

Third-period goals by junior center Matt Thurber and an empty netter from Gron polished off the victory.

"Five-on-five, we were carrying the momentum and carrying the play," Kyle said. "We played pretty well against Tech, and hopefully we're just kind of building toward playing at the top of our game."

Sophomore goaltender Jared Coreau earned the win for Northern, stopping 28 of 30 MTU shots.

"We were working in all areas," Coreau said. "We were like a big puzzle; each one of us was a piece and all fit perfect."



Justin Key/NW

Senior forward Tyler Gron protects the puck in a matchup early this season against St. Cloud State. Gron is second overall the CCHA in points (27). Gron has 11 goals and 16 assists in 22 games. This weekend, the 'Cats faceoff against Miami University at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27 and at 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28 in Oxford, Ohio.

Coreau is ranked third in the CCHA for overall goals against, and fourth for conference goals against. His record for the season is 7-3-2.

"This year opposed to last year I feel a lot more confident," Coreau said. "I feel like I can stop everything, and I think you just have to have that mindset."

Kyle said Coreau has spent more time between the pipes lately than in the first stretch of the season, when senior goaltender Reid Ellingson often started.

"Jared's numbers have been really good," Kyle said. "We're going to go with whichever one of the guys we feel gives us the greatest opportunity to win."

Both Coreau and Ellingson will play and contribute, Kyle said. The team and coaching staff feel confident with either goaltender in net, he said.

With only four power-play goals in the last eight games, it's

an area the 'Cats are looking to improve.

"I don't think our power play is near where it needs to be for us to have success," Kyle said. "We continue to work at it, but you find with special teams, there's ebbs and flows as the season goes."

We were working in all areas. We were like a big puzzle; each one of us was a piece and all fit perfect.

— Jared Coreau
goaltender

Coreau said if Northern can become more efficient and take advantage of its power play opportunities, it will earn the team more wins.

"We're a special teams team," Coreau said. "Our power play started out really strong, but right now we're not pulling our weight as well as we should."

The Wildcats travel to Oxford, Ohio this weekend to take

battle No. 17 Miami University in CCHA play. Northern earned a sweep of the RedHawks when they last met at the Berry Events Center.

"They were really good when they were here, and we caught some breaks and had opportunistic scoring," Kyle said. "If we're going to have any success there we're going to have to ... be at the top of our game, and I think our guys are aware of that."

Coreau said, over winter break, players and teams change gears and improve themselves. He said he expects to play an up-graded opponent.

"You're not going to play the same Miami team," Coreau said. "We know they're a good team. They've got a lot of skilled players, and we just have to weather the storm."

The 'Cats face Miami (10-8-2-1 CCHA, 14-10-2 overall) at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27 and at 7 p.m. Saturday Jan. 28.

"[Miami] has proven it's one of the top teams in the country," Kyle said.

Player Statistics 2011-2012

Player	GP	G	A	PTS
Tyler Gron	22	11	16	27
Justin Florek	24	13	8	21
Matt Thurber	24	8	11	19
Kyle Follmer	23	3	15	18
Stephan Vigier	24	9	7	16
Reed Seckel	23	5	8	13
Scott Macaulay	23	2	9	11
Andrew Cherniwchan	17	5	4	9
Dylan Walchuk	19	2	6	8
Kory Kaunisto	24	2	6	8
Mitch Jones	21	3	4	7
Wade Epp	23	1	6	7
Erik Higby	20	2	4	6
Jake Baker	24	1	4	5
CJ Ludwig	23	0	3	3
Brian Nugent	20	2	0	2
Ryan Kesti	22	1	1	2
Austin Handley	13	0	2	2
DJ Vandercook	8	0	1	1
Jake Johnson	14	0	1	1
Ryan Daugherty	17	0	1	1

Goalies	GP	AVG.	W	L	T
Reid Ellingson	14	2.68	4	5	3
Jared Coreau	12	2.07	7	3	2

2011-2012 CCHA Conference Standings

	CONFERENCE							OVERALL					
	GP	W	L	T	SW	Pts.	GF	GA	W	L	T	GF	GA
1 Ohio State	20	10	6	4	1	35	58	51	14	7	4	73	58
2 Miami	20	10	8	2	1	33	51	44	14	10	2	73	61
Western Michigan	18	9	6	3	3	33	49	42	12	9	5	72	62
4 Michigan	20	9	7	4	1	32	60	47	15	9	4	95	66
5 Ferris State	18	9	6	3	1	31	48	45	15	8	3	72	59
6 Notre Dame	18	9	6	3	0	30	48	42	14	9	3	76	69
Lake Superior	20	8	9	3	3	30	51	54	13	11	4	72	71
8 Michigan State	18	8	7	3	2	29	52	46	13	9	4	81	68
9 Northern Michigan	18	6	7	5	2	25	48	50	11	8	5	70	62
10 Alaska	20	5	11	4	2	21	43	54	8	12	4	56	62
11 Bowling Green	18	3	12	4	3	13	25	58	7	14	5	45	72



Justin Key/NW

NMU braces for key free throws at the end of the game (left). Junior forward Joseph Simon (right) drives the net in a 62-57 win against GVSU. The 'Cats are 4-6 in the GLIAC and 8-9 overall.

'Cats earn split with victory against GVSU

By Jon Young
assistant sports editor

It was a weekend of ups and downs for the NMU men's basketball team (4-6 GLIAC, 8-9 overall). Up 12 going into the second half of Saturday's game against Ferris State, it appeared the 'Cats were on their way to completing a sweep.

The Bulldogs erupted in the second half outscoring Northern 44-18 and holding the 'Cats to 20 percent shooting. Senior center Jared Benson said the team has to figure out how to slow the opponents momentum.

"I don't know what didn't click in the second half," Benson said. "When things aren't coming together we have to find a way to rally. This is our home court and we have to find a way to protect it when we play here."

The 'Cats jumped out to a quick start and lead by as much

as 17 in the first half. Points were at a premium for Northern in the second half and head coach Doug Lewis said the defense needed to be better.

"If you don't make shots you have to play defense and you have to rebound and that's the biggest difference in the game," Lewis said. "We didn't do the little things in the second half, and it's frustrating and disappointing."

Benson paced the 'Cats with 18 points on 7-9 shooting and he also came up five blocks. Freshman guard Haki Stampley chipped in another 16 points. Senior guard DeAndre Taylor led the team with nine boards.

The first game of the weekend turned out on a more positive note

for the 'Cats as they beat the Grand Valley State University Lakers, 62-57, last Thursday. It's NMU's first win against the Lakers since Lewis took over as coach.

"It's a big win; Grand Valley is the measuring stick of the conference," Lewis said. "I have a young team and we needed an important win like this to get our confidence going and were trying to get into the conference tournament."

Sophomore forward Matt Craggs said the team knew what to expect out of the zone.

"They were in the one-three-one and we practiced that all week because we knew they were going to go to it," Craggs said. "Coaches told us to move the ball and penetrate and that's what we did."

The Lakers made a run in the second half and got up by as much as five points, before NMU responded.

Benson returned and scored all 10 of his points in the second half to spark the Wildcat comeback.

Northern took the lead back at the 10:24 minute mark and never lost it from there.

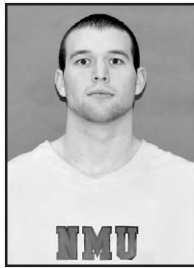
"Every team has their runs," Lewis said. "They had their run and we kept our composure and got back in the game."

The Lakers pulled the score within two, 59-57, with 34 seconds left, but Stampley got fouled with 19 seconds left and made a pair of free throws and secured a steal to seal the Wildcat victory. Lewis said it was important that Stampley didn't let his slow start affect his confidence.

"He didn't put his head down he continued to play and fortunately he made a big shot and made some free throws down the stretch," Lewis said.

Craggs lead the 'Cats with 14 points and seven rebounds. Stampley chipped in another 11 points while Benson added 10.

The 'Cats are back on the road next weekend. At 8:00 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26. NMU takes on Hillsdale. Then at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28. The 'Cats travel to Midland, Mich. to take on Northwood.



BENSON

GLIAC North Standings

Ranking	GLIAC	Overall
1. Ferris State	7-3	10-7
2. Michigan Tech	7-3	9-8
3. Northwood	6-4	10-6
4. Grand Valley St.	6-5	10-7
5. Saginaw Valley	5-5	9-8
6. Northern Michigan	4-6	8-9
7. Lake Superior St.	3-7	8-9

Nordic skiing looks to continue dominance

By Laura Conway
staff writer

The NMU Nordic skiing team had a successful weekend at the Mayor's Challenge on Jan. 21-22 in Minneapolis.

The event had almost 200 racers per event consisting of junior athletes, collegiate athletes and professional ski team members, all competing against each other.

On Saturday, the Wildcats raced the Classic race; the men's 10K had 194 racers and the women's 5K had 172 racers.

Finishing high in the rankings were freshman Kjell-Christian Markset (23:04.1), sophomore Erik Soderman (23:22.9), junior Chris Bowler (23:43.0).

Also placing was junior Monica Markvardsen (17:59.6), sophomore Molly Burger (18:48.6),

junior Libby Ellis (18:48.7), and junior Rosie Frankowski (18:49.1).

This race was important because it was a USSA National Team qualifying race as well as an NCAA qualifier; another name for this kind of race is a Super Tour race.

Bowler said it's good to have that kind of competition to race against, both above and below your level.

"It was a really great experience to race against top guys up there at the next level; it's showing how you get things done," Bowler said. "Erik got to ski most of the race with Brian Gregg, a top ranked professional, and he got a lot of good experience from that."

Taking the top collegiate spot both days was Markvardsen. She

said she was very happy with her performance over the weekend.

"This race was pretty good race for me; we did three laps on a man-made course," Markvardsen said. "The race winner passed me on the third lap, but I skied with her a majority of the race. It was exciting."

Sunday's race was the freestyle event; 203 men raced on a 15K track and 128 women skied on a 10K track.

The top placers were Soderman (34:04.9), Markset (35:02.1), Bowler (35:55.0), Markvardsen (23:42.7), and sophomore Burger (24:19.9).

Due to low snowfall all over the Midwest, a lot of the races have been on man-made courses. Burger said she was really happy with the course they had to ski on last weekend.

"I was super impressed with the course condition considering Minnesota had almost no snow fall," Burger said. "They were fun, fast and good terrain. I couldn't have asked for nicer skiing considering the conditions."

Those conditions helped Burger place second on the collegiate freestyle course on Sunday. She said she wasn't expecting to have done so well but was excited when she found out.

"I tried to ski my own race, beat my own time and keep myself in a good state of mind," Burger said. "I was excited to be back competing, not nervous."

Burger suffered from Lyme disease for four months and couldn't train at all last season until November. Burger said it was hard to come back to training being so out of shape; she even

questioned why she was still doing it.

"By the end of the season I remembered why I love skiing so much and continued to push myself," Berger said. "This year it's all coming together for me, finally, and it's been so much fun."

Bowler said one of the main reasons the athletes have been doing so well is because of their coaching and support staff.

"Sten and the assistants always get up so early to make sure we have great skis for the competition," Bowler said. "We are so appreciative of our support system at NMU; they help us out so much."

The Nordic men's and women's teams will travel to St. Paul, Minn. to compete in the Central Grand Prix on Saturday, Jan. 28 and Sunday, Jan. 29.

NMU looks to rebound against GLIAC foes

By Jon Young
assistant sports editor

It was a tough weekend at home for the NMU women's basketball team (4-6 GLIAC, 8-9 overall) as they lost a pair of close conference games to the Grand Valley State University Lakers

and the Ferris State University Bulldogs.

On Saturday, the 'Cats played the GLIAC North's first place Bulldogs and took them to the wire, but were unable to come out with the win, falling, 78-71.

Head coach Troy Mattson said being out-rebounded was the dif-

ference in the game.

"The rebounding issue has really been a struggle," Mattson said. "We're just getting beat up on the boards by some really good teams and its affecting the game."

NMU went into halftime leading 33-24, and freshman guard Alyssa Colla said the team is working on putting together a complete game heading into the seasons final stretch.

"We talked about playing a full 40 minutes at halftime because we played a great half," Colla said. "Unfortunately, a few things did not go our way in the second half and we couldn't pull it off."

The Bulldogs struggled with NMU's two-three zone in the first half but made adjustments in the second half and shot 60.9 percent from the field.

"They put a few sets in that we hadn't seen and they executed them and we didn't execute properly on the defensive end," Mattson said. "They knew they were in trouble and they had to hit us back and they hit us good."

The 'Cats got down by as much as 17 in the second half before they made a huge run at the

end. Senior point guard Chelsea Lyons dropped in a season high 30 points. Colla also added 17 points.

"Chelsea just continues to dominate; out there she's just having a heck of a stretch here for us," Mattson said. "Hopefully we play well enough coming down the stretch here to get ourselves in the conference tournament because we have the chance to be a really good team and were getting there."

On Thursday, the 'Cats hosted the Lakers and this time it was Grand Valley escaping with the win, 51-48. Much like the game against Ferris, NMU went into the half with a lead and also lost the rebound battle, 34-23.

Lemon said the team has to work on finishing games and cleaning up the glass.

"We are working on playing a full 40 minutes without mistakes," Lemon said. "Also, we are trying to improve our rebounding so other teams don't get second chances to score."

NMU lead for most of the second half until a three-pointer with 1:05 left in the game gave Grand Valley a 49-48 lead.

After a couple of free throws, GVSU took a 51-48 lead and a last-second half court heave by Colla fell short. Like the game against Ferris, Mattson said it came down to rebounds. GVSU collected 12 offensive boards, compared to four for NMU.

"Grand Valley out-competed us on offensive rebounds and it hurt us," Mattson said. "I thought the zone was looking really good. We had them checked at bay for most of the night and then we would just breakdown when the shot went up."

Lyons led the 'Cats with 20 points, 13 of which she earned at the charity stripe. Lemon chipped in 11 points and senior guard Hillary Bowling added another eight.

The 'Cats travel downstate at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26 taking on Hillsdale. Then at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28 they face off with Northwood.

Mattson said this road trip is crucial going toward playoffs.

"We have to go on the road and win, we've played well on the road so were not afraid of it," Mattson said. "We need to go down and get ourselves back on the winning track."



Justin Key/NW

Freshman guard Alexa Colla drives to the basket for two of her five points against Grand Valley in a 51-48 loss. She is third on the team in scoring.

USOEC excited for Thunderdome Challenge

By Laura Conway
staff writer

With the 2012 Olympic Trials around the corner in March, the USOEC men's and women's weightlifting team has been preparing rigorously.

The team will hold the Thunderdome Challenge in the Superior Dome next week. Senior Allie Henry said she is looking forward to it because it's the only competition here in Marquette.

"Some people need this competition to qualify for nationals, but most of us are competing for fun because we are already qualified," Henry said.

Normally coaches play a huge role in weightlifting competitions, like tracking who is lifting what and timing warm ups. Henry said it is going to be different having to track all of that by herself.

"It's definitely going to be a

learning experience," Henry said.

Head coach Vance Newgard said though coaches are usually always there, it doesn't hurt to prepare for a situation where they may not be there.

"Normally we load the bar, tell them when and what to lift, and keep track of their attempts for them," Newgard said. "It's good to give them the chance to keep track of everything themselves in case we aren't there to do it for them."

While the Thunderdome Challenge isn't the competition he wants his athletes to peak at, Newgard said it is a good opportunity for some last minute adjustments

before bigger competition.

"It'll basically be a tune-up for the athletes," Newgard said. "It will allow both myself and the individual athlete see where their training is and where they need to be for the next couple weeks before Nationals and Trials."

The first major competition of the year was the Twin City Open in October where, out of the 15 USOEC athletes that competed, nine of them placed first in their respective classes.

Taking first place for the men's team was freshman Ryan Borges, junior Andrew Vrabel, junior Mathew Fraser, junior Marc Spurlock, junior Dan Gorelik, and junior Chris Lenahen. On the women's side, finishing first Vanessa McCoy, senior Allie Henry, and sophomore Jerilyn Smith.

The athletes are now training for Junior Nationals from Jan. 27 through 29 and the National

Weightlifting Championships that will be held alongside the Women's Olympic Trials from March 2 through 4. The United States was unable to qualify a men's weightlifting team for the Olympics so when a female athlete lifts at Trials, those lifts will count towards their National lifts totals.

Newgard was just named to the head coaching position for the USOEC after former coach Andy Tysz accepted a coaching education job at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. Vrabel said the transition has been easy for most of the athletes.

"Andy is still helping out through the semester so people who were on his programs won't have to switch mid-season," Henry said. "The staff change hasn't affected the athletes at all."

Both coaches believe in the same basic coaching philosophies so when all the athlete lifting pro-

grams are written by Newgard it won't be a shock to the system. Newgard said there is only one big difference between the two coaches.

"My school of thought keeps athletes lifting higher volumes for longer periods of times," Newgard said. "I think it keeps your strength up longer during the training period."

Since he has been at the USOEC for five years, Newgard doesn't feel much different either.

"It's been a fairly natural transition for me because of my history here," Newgard said. "I just have a little more responsibility and a different title, and I am looking forward to it."

The USOEC Thunderdome Challenge will be held at 4 p.m. on Friday Feb. 3 in the Superior Dome. Newgard said the athletes would love to see fellow students there to cheer them on.



NEWGARD

Track and field holds own against DI schools

The No. 21-ranked Northern Michigan indoor track and field team finished fourth at the University of Wisconsin Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 21. NMU had 95.5 team points, competing against four NCAA Division I teams.

The Wildcats won three events throughout the day. Sophomore Jamie Roberts won the pole vault with a school record-setting jump of 12-3.5 feet. Senior Catherine Angeli took the 200-meter dash

and the distance medley relay squad finished first.

Angeli was also fourth in the 400-dash and teammates sophomore Sydney Schultz placed fifth and junior Colby West who was sixth also had high finishes in the event.

Freshman Sherice Hewett finished second in the triple jump, third in the 60-meter hurdles and fourth in the 200. Senior Bailey Franklin was third in triple and fourth in the 60-meter hurdles. Ju-

nior Brooke Granquist took seventh in the triple jump and 10th in the 60 meter hurdles.

Sophomore Delaney Lovett was sixth in the triple jump. Sophomore Katie Searles finished ninth in the 60-meter hurdles and 10th in long jump. Freshman Katelyn Macaulay tied for eighth in the high jump.

Sophomore Samara White was fifth in the long jump and ninth in the 200. Freshman Angelena Howard finished fifth in the 200.

Senior Melissa Christensen was seventh in the long jump, tied for fourth in the high jump and was fifth in the 60-meter hurdles. The 4 x 400 relay team was third.

The distance runners saw their first action of the season. Sophomore Chelsea Farquhar was eighth in the 3,000 meter with teammates junior Rita Woi-tas placing ninth, freshman Olivia Howard 10th and freshman Emily Allen finishing 11th.

Freshman Mandy Dye and ju-

nior Nora Kiilunen finished ninth and 10th in the mile run. Senior Rachael Williams, freshman Larissa Halonen and sophomore Katie Granquist finished in spots eight through 10 in the 800-meter run. Sophomore Kristina Mattson was ninth in the 600-meter run.

Northern has the week off before traveling to UW-Stevens Point for the Pointer Invitational on Saturday, Feb. 4.

— NMU Sports Information

'Cats prepare for GLIAC Championship

By Karly Ratzenberger
staff writer

The season is winding down for the Wildcat swim team as they finish up regular season competition and head into the GLIAC Championships, which will take place Feb. 8 through 11.

Head coach Heidi Voigt said she will be taking 21 athletes to the GLIAC Championships.

The 'Cats ended the regular season with two wins, two losses, one third-place finish and two second-place finishes. The team is currently ranked eighth out of nine in the GLIAC with a score of 179.

Senior Stephanie Rogaczewski said the overall season was not perfect, but the losses were countered by good performances at other meets.

"Our regular season was decent," Rogaczewski said. "We had a tough loss to Hillsdale, but we did really well at the Calvin Invite and in our two-day duel against Oshkosh," Rogaczewski said. "I think those two meets were big morale boosters for us at those particular points of the season."

Voigt said the team made a lot of headway this season and improved with every competition.

"Seems like every meet we have someone getting best times,"

Voigt said. "Their technique has really improved as well."

A few of the Wildcats ended the regular season ranking in the top 10 of the GLIAC's 2011-12 list of best swimming and diving times.

Junior Gabby Alzaga is ranked sixth in the 100 back (58.41) and fourth in the 200 back (2:06.34). In the 100 breast, junior Olga Budiansky is ranked sixth (1:06.44).

In the 200 breast, Budiansky is ranked fifth (2:22.30), and freshman Deborah Lawrence is ranked fourth (2:21.92). Lawrence is also ranked second in the 200 individual medley (2:08.18).

In the 200 IM, freshman Emily Brennan is ranked seventh (2:11.44). In the 400 IM, Brennan and freshman Madisen Sechena and Jordan Iverson are ranked first (4:32.48), fourth (4:37.79) and 10 (4:41.97) respectively.

Rogaczewski said the team's strongest asset this season is its depth and the amount of talented athletes on the team helped the 'Cats pull through is tough meets.

"We have a lot of new swimmers and divers which are helping to fill out our roster a bit," she said.

Rogaczewski said the team has been doing different exercises and drills to prepare for the championships. The Wildcats have been working out not only their bodies,

but their minds as well.

"We have been doing less yardage day-by-day to give ourselves more rest," Rogaczewski said. "We have added mental training and a few extra yoga sessions to try and put ourselves into the right mindset."

Rogaczewski said the new training ritual and mental preparation are very important if the team wants to reach their goals set for the championships.

"Our goal is to try our best to get as many top eight finishers as we can to help break into the top four overall teams," she said.

Rogaczewski said the team has a few specific components it needs to perfect before championships.

"We need to work on getting all of our relay exchanges and turns perfected in the next few weeks," she said. "Our relays have the potential to do some major damage at GLIACs, so every little bit will help."

Rogaczewski said last year at the GLIAC Championship, the 'Cats tied with Lewis University for seventh place.

"I personally hope to see some of our girls make National cuts," Rogaczewski said.

Voigt said she has high hopes for the team this year in the championships and thinks the Wildcat's capacity for working together will



Justin Key/NW

Freshman Sophia Garris completes a dive earlier this season. In the NMU intrasquad meet, Garris took first in both the one and three meter dives.

help them accomplish their goals.

"Our IM and breast stroke events should be our highest scoring events," Voigt said. "I also think our ability to support each

other and be a team is our strongest asset. Our goal for this meet is to double our points from the 245 we earned last year and get multiple athletes to NAAs."

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MISSING: Ipod touch. Lost between Hedgcock and Jamrich on January 16th. Was equipped with a red case. Please return to Public Safety or email kmccommo@nmu.edu.

Shout Outs

B – Rocky Horror on Saturday. Blackrocks before? – S

Natasha Nelson – Love You and Miss you and good luck with becoming a Registered Nurse. – **Dad**

CH109 – Thanks for the MS-DS’s ... they rock my socks. – **Mike**

Mom, Dad and Bros – Miss you guys. Can’t wait to see you all. Love you! – **Shaina**

Gaga – Thank you for always supporting me I love and miss you! – **Shaina**

Kappa President – You’re doing a fantastic job! I’m proud of you and Kappas are going to take over! Love in Kappa. – **Your Big**

The crazy girl!! – I love you and your craziness. Shout out to

the crabs with their mitten hands too!! – **Kasey**

Ron Paul – Hey, Ron. Even though we support you because of your disdain for the current system deep down we all know your actually insane. Still love you though buddy! – **Ron Paul Supporter**

The BOX – May your finances always be in order. =| – **Detroit**

Johnny Cage – Hey, you! Get over here! – **Scorpion**

Daniel S – I’m running out of ways to get your attention. I don’t even know if you read the paper. Please talk to me? – **Anonymous**

Brian – Wow, wait just a minute! You can talk? When did dogs learn to talk? – **Peter**

Circle – I must say, you look great today! You’re so well-rounded. – **Square**

Scotty – You are such a towel. – **Red Herring**

Aaron Rodgers – Don’t worry MVP. You will win a second championship next year. – **Blue**

Sleepy – You are just getting on my last nerves today! Why don’t you just take another nap? – **Grumpy**

Mom, Geri, Ashley and Ben – I miss you all so much! Only one more semester! – **Aaron**

Parties – Stop shooting at each other over girls and drugs. This isn’t the hood. You live in the U.P., eh? Get real. – **Concerned Citizen**

Sara – You’re right. She really just isn’t funny anymore. – **Kristy**

Mark – Good luck!!!! I’ll miss you. – **Moriah**

Ash-hole – Shout out to muh home girl! – **Samhole**

Savannah Sturos – You are a beautiful, and wonderful daughter who has a heart of gold and an amazing spirit! I am so proud of the person you are and I Love You! – **Mom**

Kappa Girls – This semester is going to be awesome! – **#76**

Rambo – You make me smile :) – **Your Kappa Girl**

Adelle – One eyed, pegged legged African bat. You know what I mean. Good times! Miss you. – **Jessi**

Inspirations
She’s a sweetheart
Slightly less spastic
Stunting Ashley
“Incense”

WILD NORTANTICS — Dana Perry



MISSED CONNECTIONS — Kiah Watson



PEZ — Amanda Buck



ACADIA ACADEMIA — Andy Harmon



SNOW WAY, IT'S A SNOW DAY

compiled by Delaney Lovett

Many Northern Michigan University students woke up to an emergency text on their phones, notifying them classes were canceled for the day due to inclement weather. Some students went back to sleep, and others braved the cold to have some fun.



Taylor Syring/NW

Hunter Walp and Sam Diletto, bundled up in winter gear, spend time outside celebrating their first snow day of the year. The several inches of fresh powder that fell on Monday provided for several snowball fights.



Taylor Syring/NW

Freshman Sarah Matles crouches on a mound of snow outside Hunt Hall.



Taylor Syring/NW

Freshman Kayleigh Salazar admires the snowman she and her friends constructed outside the window. They named the frosty sculpture Buford.



Taylor Syring/NW

Students of Northern Michigan University spent Monday, Jan. 23 not in classes, but playing in the snow. Since classes were canceled due to inclement weather, snowmen, igloos and sculptures were formed across campus.

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