



Starbucks patio completely smoke-free

Ban put in place due to odors seeping into building



By Shaina James
assistant news editor

The patio outside Starbucks in the Learning Resource Center is now a non-smoking area.

Faculty and students made many complaints of cigarette smoke entering the building through the air intakes on the exterior walls of the building. Signs of the smoke-free zone are located on the patio and doors leading to the patio.

"Because the patio is down in a bowl, wind is primarily from the west," said Mike Bath, director of Public Safety. "The smoke blew right into the air handlers and entered the building."

The Starbucks patio is currently the only outside smoke-

free zone on campus. However, there have been similar issues outside Jamrich Hall. There were complaints of smoke entering the building on the Hedgecock and LRC side.

"We put in a barrier so people could not smoke right there," Bath said. "Unfortunately we could not do that at the location outside the LRC."

Physical barriers

were put up to keep smokers from standing too close to the vents outside Jamrich.

"In the case of the LRC patio, there is no way to put up physical barriers because of the structure of the building and the location of the vents, so smoking in that area simply has to stop so that second-hand smoke does not get sucked into the building," said Cindy Paavola, director of communications and marketing.

Smoking also is banned 30 feet from main entrances of any on-campus building.

"Part of the issue is when it gets cold, people tend to smoke right outside the door and people then have to walk through the smoke," Bath said.



Kristen Koehler/NW

"No smoking" signs were put up over winter break along with signs explaining why the area is a smoke-free. The ban went into effect this semester.

Backroom owner arrested

By Adelle Whitefoot
news editor

Backroom Obsessions in Marquette is closed temporarily after the owner was arrested Friday, Jan. 27 on felony charges alleging unlawful delivery and manufacturing of controlled substances.

Michael Jestila of Houghton is the owner of both the Marquette and Houghton Backroom stores and is being charged with two felony counts of delivering and manufacturing the drugs Pyrovalerone, also known as "Bath Salts," and JWH/250, also known as "Spice." The maximum criminal penalty is

seven years imprisonment and/or a \$10,000 fine.

In a press release, Marquette County Prosecutor Matthew Wiese advised that the charges against Jestila are merely accusations at this time and that Jestila is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

"They were suppose to stop selling these bath salts, but they didn't," said Cheryl Hill, Marquette County chief assistant prosecutor.

In February 2011, the Marquette County Health Department got a lot of complaints about the damage the bath salts were doing to people, Hill said. The department issued an Emer-

gency Order to Protect Imminent Danger to Health or Lives directed at Jestila and Backroom Obsessions in Marquette, based on their sale of products known as "White Rush" and "Bath Salts." Both are highly dangerous to human beings when consumed.

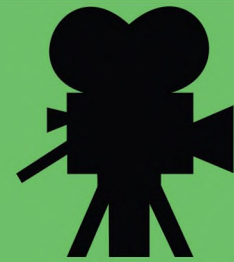
"We suspected that they were still selling these drugs, so undercover cops were sent in," Hill said. "They found that they were still selling the drug. So they had them tested and found that two of them had controlled substances in them."

According to a press release,

See **BACKROOM** • Page 2

Online Video Exclusive

"Let's Chat" with Marquette Mayor and City Manager



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SLFP honored

By Drea Weiner
staff writer

The Student Leadership Fellowship Program has received the John C. Dalton Institute for College Values, Best Practices Award and was a finalist in the 2012 Michigan Campus Compact Community Partnership Award.

The John C. Dalton Institute of College Values, Best Practice is a national award which is given to one recipient each year. Jon Barch, SLFP coordinator, travelled to Florida on Wednesday to receive this award for the SLFP.

"It is a really proud moment for NMU and the Student Leadership Fellowship Program,"

Barch said.

The Michigan Campus Compact Community Partnership Award is for programs demonstrating college student value and concern for social responsibility. SLFP will receive a plaque for being a finalist. This is something SLFP really cares about, Barch said.

"We're still really happy to be a finalist," said Geneva Martin, a junior environmental studies and sustainability major.

SLFP is a two-year community-based program that was established 21 years ago to teach NMU students leadership and community involvement.

"SLFP is one of the cutting-

See **SLFP** • Page 2



Kristen Koehler/NW

Backroom located on Front Street is temporarily closed due to judge's orders. No trespassing signs were posted three times on every window saying that the building has been closed by the Marquette Police Department.

WNMU replaces outdated control room

Old monitors ripped out, replaced with flat screens

By Joe Rubingh
contributing writer

WNMU-TV's production room has been converted to digital equipment and a new portable audio/video unit was purchased with the help from a competitive grant

The transition cost was \$3.8 million.

\$633,000 grant was given from the Rural Utilities Services through the U.S. Agriculture

If an NMU graduate told his employer the equipment that was used to train him, he would be laughed at.

— Eric Smith
general manager of WNMU-TV

technology.

"Everything we used had to be ripped out and replaced," Smith said. "If an NMU graduate told his employer the equipment that was used to train him, he would be laughed at."

According to Smith, many students are intimidated by all the

knobs and switches, but they eventually become comfortable with it.

Studio TV Pro-

duction Department. Money was also contributed from NMU and donors.

WNMU saved some money by having all the equipment installed in-house by Grant Guston, chief engineer at Public Radio 90.

The new equipment includes a Ross Carbonite switcher, which mixes all the video sources and creates digital effects.

A new sound board that offers 5.1 surround sound and Pro Tools software was purchased, as well as new monitors.

"Going from analog to digital, most importantly, gives us the ability to shoot in high definition as well as widescreen," said Eric Smith, the general manager of WNMU.

The portable audio/video unit is a portable control room that is used for graduation commencement and home sports games. One of the key features of this portable equipment is its ability to show replays during breaks in action.

Smith is glad to see NMU up to speed with modern production

technology. "Everything we used had to be ripped out and replaced," Smith said. "If an NMU graduate told his employer the equipment that was used to train him, he would be laughed at." According to Smith, many students are intimidated by all the knobs and switches, but they eventually become comfortable with it. Studio TV Pro-

duction, BC 272 taught by Mike Lakenen, is one of the ways students get involved in using the new equipment. Students also get a chance to use the new equipment through Public Eye News, which is completely ran by students.

Katrina Lamansky is on her second year as a producer of Public Eye News. She picks what news is to be covered on the show, what order it goes in and gives commands from the control room while running the show.

"This new equipment is what you will actually see in the real world," Lamansky said. "They use some of the same equipment at Lambeau Field."

The Communication and Performance Studies and WNMU are trying to work together in order to allow more students to be trained with the state-of-the-art equipment. "Turning the classroom into a production facility, you couldn't ask for anything better," Smith said.



Photo courtesy of Eric Smith

Above, the old control room had old TVs and control boards. It was not up to date and crippled students in the job field because of how outdated it was. Below, senior media production and new technology major David Gleason operates the new Ross Carbonite switcher that was purchased for WNMU-TV and Public Eye News. The new technology is what students will be using in their future jobs.



Justin Key/NW

Learn to fundraise for artwork

By Delaney Lovett
editor in chief

Abigail Satinsky, program director at Threewalls Gallery in Chicago, will speak about creatively raising funds for art grants at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3 at the DeVos Art Museum.

The lecture is called "Making Art, Making a Living: creative ways to sustain an artistic practice," and will give students ideas of how to fundraise for art expenses.

"She's going to talk about her experiences of how to raise money for your own practice as an artist or how arts administrators can help raise money for individual artists," said Melissa Matuscak, director and curator of the DeVos Art Museum.

Oftentimes, Matuscak said, individual artists are unable to apply for grants without belonging to a nonprofit organization.

Satinsky is interested in microgranting, which provides small grants, usually a couple

hundred dollars, that can go to individual artists.

"Making art is expensive sometimes," Matuscak said. "You have to frame things, you have to ship things and sometimes you have to travel."

Matuscak said she thinks anyone who wants to pursue a creative career, artists or otherwise, should attend Satinsky's lecture.

"I think this talk will be an interesting thing for students to think about creative ways that they can make some money as an artist," Matuscak said. "It's not an easy thing to do, and you have to be very dedicated."

Raising money is not Satinsky's only goal, though, Matuscak said. Creative fundraising is also about creating community and giving people a chance to network.

An example of a creative fundraising activity Santinsky was involved in was called Sunday Soup in Chicago. Santinsky and a group of artists and curators encouraged people to purchase a subscription for a bowl of soup every

Sunday in a gallery.

When a certain amount of funds had been raised, they began accepting grant proposals from artists. Soup subscribers would then be able to vote on the proposals and distribute grants.

Satinsky is a member the research group INCUBATE, which focuses on developing new ways to fundraise for the arts.

"Abigail has done a lot of research and has done a lot of practice that involved arts funding," Matuscak said. "It's something that she's really naturally been interested in for a long time."

Some of the publications she has written for are "Proximity Magazine," AREA Chicago, "The Journal of Aesthetics" and Protest and "The Artist-Run Chicago Digest."

The DeVos Art Museum is hosting Satinsky and funding the lecture and her visit."

For more information about this event, call or email Melissa Matuscak at (906) 227-1481 or mmatusca@nmu.edu.

Financial Aid extends hours for FAFSA help for students

By Shaina James
assistant news editor

Northern Michigan University's Financial Aid Office will stay open later Wednesday evenings in February to help high school students and families complete their Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

To ensure a student's financial aid is finalized before fall 2012 tuition is due, FAFSA needs to be completed and filed by March 1.

NMU's Financial Aid Office will hold extended hours from 5 to 7 p.m. on Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. The office is located in 2107 Hedgcock. For more information, email fao@nmu.edu or call (906) 227-2327.

NMU counseling center widens focus

By Hannah Fremanich
staff writer

NMU's counseling services expanded the issues that it addresses, from adjusting to college life to dealing with more severe mental health issues.

The Counseling and Consultation Services office welcomes students from all different backgrounds to come and see and what resources they have to offer.

They assist students with problems ranging from transitioning to college life to other issues, including mental health.

"It is an open door policy, and they can come and talk to us about anything," said Marie Aho said, Counseling and Consultation Services department head and licensed clinical psychologist.

With NMU students facing a variety of problems in their day-to-day lives, CCS provides students with an outlet to get the help they need to succeed in school.

They help identify problems and then work out how best to solve them based on the personal strengths of each individual, Aho said.

"We understand that coming to college is stressful," Aho said.

Common issues CCS helps students with include relationships, roommate problems, stress from classes, adjusting to life away from home, as well as dealing with anxiety, depression and negative coping habits.

They offer both individual counseling ses-

sions as well as group counseling to help combat these problems, Aho said.

"Students should come in whenever they notice that they're feeling upset and normal ways of dealing with stress aren't working," Aho said.

Aho also urges students to come in before the problem becomes too difficult to handle. Learning to cope with the stress of a college workload early in the semester will help decrease stress later on towards finals.

CCS also offers consultation services for students, faculty and parents. They can offer guidance on how best to help others who may need help, but aren't sure where to turn.

Everything discussed with the professionals at CCS remains confidential.

"I think that counseling really improves their (students') self-understanding so they can make better choices for health and well being," Aho said.

Not only does CCS help students with their problems, they also focus on prevention and awareness.

Several mental health workshops will be held in the future to help students address and manage stress and other negative feelings.

CCS also gives presentations to different classes to let the stu-

dents know that this service is available to them free of charge.

"I mention the service during new tenant orientation," said community adviser Emma Clevette.

The CCS office utilizes the talents of its multi-disciplinary staff to offer free, sincere help to students.

Each staff member is a licensed professional with the same credentials that private practitioners have, Aho said.

"It's really good for people to know they have that outlet," Clevette said. "I think it's awesome, and I hope they use it."

Students can sign up for as

many sessions as they need, since there are no session limits.

Students wishing to receive help are encouraged to stop into CCS at 3405 Hedgecock from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Students new to the center, are asked to come in before 3:30 p.m. on any day to fill out paperwork, allowing the counselors to become better acquainted with each individual's needs.

For questions regarding CCS and the services they provide, visit webb.nmu.edu/Centers/CounselingAndConsultation or call the office at (906) 227-2980.



Kristen Koehler/NW

The Counseling and Consultation Services Office is on the second floor of Hedgecock.



Kristen Koehler/NW

The Counseling Center is free for students who need to talk about relationship or roommate problems, or help with time and stress management.

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ASJ checks and balances Northern

By Elizabeth Bailey
staff writer

The system of checks and balances is normally what comes to mind when hearing “judicial branch,” but in the case of NMU’s All Student Judiciary that isn’t the case.

ASJ is considered the judicial branch of Northern’s student government, Associated Students of NMU. The board, which currently has 10 active members, can have no more than 16.

“All judicial responsibility is vested in ASJ,” said Drew Janego, vice president of ASNMU. “They deal with violations of the Student Code, ASNMU election complaints, the constitutionality of the general assembly and anything that ASNMU passes.”

The board’s main responsibility is to hear cases that involve students who violate the rules of NMU’s Student Code.

According to Darren Widder, graduate assistant for student conduct, most of the cases the board hears are minor offenses ranging from noise violations

to sexual harassment; however, consequences are usually nothing more severe than a suspension.

In order to be a member of ASJ, students must have completed 12 credit hours at NMU, maintain at least a 2.0 GPA and be free of any university probation.

Any case with the possibility of expulsion is heard in front of the Student-Faculty Judiciary. ASJ members can become a member of SFJ after completing one semester on the All Student Judiciary board.

“The goal is to have the All Student Judiciary represent the student population as much as possible,” said Mary Brundage, associate dean of students and advisor of ASJ. “As the adviser, I like to see a good blend of background, major, personality and

ways of thinking.”

According to Brundage, the judicial board hears all information presented from both sides, asks questions, and then determines if the student charged violated the Student Code.

“The Student Code is written in an effort to protect the rights



[ASJ] deals with violations of the Student Code.

—Drew Janego
ASNMU vice president

of all members of the NMU community,” Brundage said. “It is important that NMU produce graduates who are not only competent academically, but are also of good moral character and citizenship.”

This year, ASJ proposed to “break away” from ASNMU, due to it being a referendum year.

ASNMU is in the process of re-writing its constitution in order to make the two groups separate.

If approved, ASJ will essentially be its own “student conduct board,” and ASNMU will have its own judicial branch that is not connected to the Dean of Students Office.

“[It] makes no sense to have a conduct board tied to a student government,” Brundage said. “Then it makes the students feel like they’re being judged by their student government.”

Although ASJ and ASNMU are connected by constitution, they have nothing to do with each other, Brundage said.

Most of the time when ASNMU brings something in front of ASJ, they have no idea how to handle it because it’s not something they do on a daily basis, Brundage said.

“Members of ASJ gain personal experience with critical thinking ability, teamwork, ethics, leadership and organizational procedure,” Brundage said. “I cannot think of an employer who wouldn’t value these skills.”

Crocheting workshop offered for beginners

By Kristen Koehler
contributing writer

Experienced crafter Heather Munsche will be teaching students how to crochet a scarf in a Skill Builder! workshop.

The workshop will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 7 in the Back Room of the University Center. Basics of crocheting will be taught by providing an introduction of simple stitches, Munsche said.

“Crocheting is a great stress reliever for students,” Munsche said. “It is a rewarding experience to make something warm and functional you can keep or give away.”

After inheriting several boxes of yarn from her grandmother, Munsche decided to donate them to the workshop free of charge. Students are encouraged to take the yarn and needle with them after the workshop.

Students wishing to participate will be charged \$3 for a needle and need to register by Friday, Feb. 3. For more information, email slfp@nmu.edu or call (906) 227-1771.

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Fair provides job opportunities

By Drea Weiner
staff writer

Career Services will be hosting its largest summer job fair Wednesday, Feb. 8 for Northern students to find job opportunities across the region.

The fair will be from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Great Lakes Rooms in the University Center and is open to all NMU students, alumni and retirees.

It is an opportunity for students to talk to employers and recruiters in person, discover opportunities and practice interview techniques.

"Students should dress better than everyday dress," said Steven LaFond, assistant director of Career Services. "But students don't have to wear a suit and tie."

Employers attending will come from the NMU campus, the Marquette community and regional area.

A list will be offered online to allow students to research the companies who are going to be present, which would increase the likelihood of that student getting hired, LaFond said.

"Bringing recommendation letters and portfolios are a way students can show them right

there what they're capable of," LaFond said.

Some employers will have applications with them, but leaving them with the student's resume can increase the student's chance of getting hired, LaFond said.

"It's always a good idea for students to bring resumes [to a job fair]," LaFond said.

Students should also be prepared to ask the employer questions: What kinds of opportunities are employers offering? When and where does the job take place? How do students apply?

"Talk to everybody," LaFond said. "Stay as long as possible. [Students] may find opportunities that they weren't aware of if they talk to everyone."

Even if students aren't looking for a job for this summer they should still attend the job fair, LaFond said.

By attending, students will gain valuable experience with talking to recruiters and finding opportunities for the following year.

"If you're looking for a summer job or are a graduating senior, I can see the importance of [the job fair]," said Karla Kopp, a senior biology major.

NMU keeps students strong

Organization teaches how to live healthy

By Heidi Robitaille
contributing writer

Northern Michigan University will offer a free health and wellness fair for all NMU students, employees and retirees.

The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 7 in the Great Lakes Rooms in the University Center.

"This is an event that brings together faculty, staff and students on truly common ground: their wellness," Barb Coleman said, Wildcat Wellness Health Fair coordinator. "Four hundred to 500 people from the campus community attend the fair each year."

The 2012 Wildcat Wellness Fair is sponsored by the Health Promotions Society, an organization devoted to health and wellness promotion around campus and the surrounding community.

"The health fair consists of booths set up from NMU departments, organizations and Marquette area health service providers," said Stephanie Stockel, Health Promotion Society President.

"At these booths attendees will have the opportunity to take health related screenings, gath-

er resources and gain valuable health information."

There will be screenings and additional items at the event. Screenings for blood typing, blood pressure, blood sugar, hearing, body fat, waist to hip ratio and oxygen saturation will be available to all those partaking in the health fair.

Non-profit health promoting agencies from the community will present displays and hold health screenings. Interaction with wellness professionals will also be available.

"There will be major emphasis on the EAT/SLEEP/PLAY message that has been appearing around campus lately, [which means] encouraging eating breakfast/getting adequate sleep/being active," Coleman said.

Additional resources on substance abuse, sexual health, sexually transmitted infection prevention.

Along with information on healthy eating, tobacco cessation, personal safety, dating violence, breast health and spiritual health will be accessible for all participants.

"The Health Fair is a great way for Northern Michigan students and faculty to become

more aware of the health related resources on campus and in the greater Marquette area," Stockel said.

Several local businesses have donated prizes for the fair. The event is free and numerous resources are available at fair-goers' disposal to promote health and wellness.

"There is a lively atmosphere with free food, a lot of free stuff and cool prizes," Coleman said. "The Pet Partners therapy dogs are a fair-goer favorite."

Healthy food samples, refreshments, take-home items and a variety of health related topics will be on hand.

While New Year's resolutions abound, the Health Wellness Fair is a way to join in health promotion and care for the wellness of one's body.

Advertising for the fair was not done off campus, but any adult may attend.

One screening that is accessible for participants is the waist to hip ratio. "Waist to hip ratio indicates risk of developing cardiovascular disease, hypertension, diabetes et al.," Coleman said.

To prevent health problems and learn about health risks, join in the Wellness Health Fair.



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Staff Editorial



Andy Harmon/NW

SLFP presents great program for students

NMU's Student Leadership Fellowship Program won the John C. Dalton Institute of College Student Development Best Practice Award and was jointly nominated for the 2012 Michigan Campus Compact Campus-Community Partnership Award with the Marquette community.

Northern students have a great opportunity to take part in an award-winning program like SLFP, and at the same time, become a better leader and help their community. Northern students should take full advantage of this opportunity and think about joining SLFP before graduating NMU.

The Center for Student Enrichment has come up with great programs for students to learn outside the classroom, grow as an individual and have lots of fun. Whether it's student government, a student political organization or even a book club, odds are CSE has a student group that fits your interests.

SLFP is a two-year program through CSE that pairs up an NMU student with a community mentor, from whom they learn leadership skills their first year. In the second year, students implement the leadership skills they've learned and undergo a 100

-hour community service internship.

Students learn a lot about themselves during the experience of SLFP. Students realize their own capabilities when they have the confidence and ability to lead other people.

They learn how to become better leaders of their community and help improve it through community service. The lessons that Northern students receive from SLFP don't end once the two-year program ends.

NMU graduates that have been in SLFP in the past say the program has changed their life, even after graduation. Not only did SLFP give Northern students the skills, practice and confidence to help the Marquette community during college, it gave them the skills, practice and confidence to help their own communities after leaving NMU.

NMU students have a great opportunity on campus through SLFP to learn more about themselves, help other people and become better leaders, both in and out of their communities. Hopefully NMU students seriously consider this award-winning program before graduation.

These programs are catching attention nationally; get involved, and you will too

Funerals should celebrate life



Staff Column

Adelle Whitefoot

Last week my grandpa died and Saturday I attended his funeral. No one is a fan of funerals, but in the past year, I've attended two and decided that when I die, I don't want a funeral.

The thing that I hated most about my grandpa's funeral, other than the obvious, was that not only did the minister not know my grandpa, he kept on asking me and my family to thank "God" for him. What I don't understand is why I would thank "God" when "God" (if he exists) is the one that took him from us.

Everyone attending a funeral is already upset because they lost someone dear to them. So instead of mourning the death of a loved one, why not celebrate their life? I would rather have my friends and family tell their favorite story about me than have some stranger that doesn't know me say something about me.

I know when someone loses a dear friend or family member, they want to be comforted — everyone does. But that doesn't mean they want to be comforted by religion. I know that I didn't on Saturday. There are quite a few religious people in the world, but what about the ones that aren't?

The most comforting thing about the funeral on Saturday wasn't the religious singing, the readings from the Bible or the minister asking me to thank "God." It was the stories that my family told about my grandpa.

My cousin, Donna, wrote a letter

for my great uncle Jesse to read. She talked about how she would always play cards with him and my cousin Jolee and how he would always lose.

Then, after losing, he would always accuse them of cheating. She then went on in her letter to confess that she never cheated, but Jolee did.

This story made me laugh because I knew that if my grandpa lost at cards, whether it was on purpose or not, he would accuse us kids of cheating. That's just who he was.

The other thing that comforted me was when Jesse talked about

I know when someone loses a dear friend or family member, they want to be comforted; everyone does. But that doesn't mean they want to be comforted by religion.

how my grandpa would give this thumbs-down hand gesture all the time to everyone in the family. It's hard to explain what it looked like, but we've all tried to perfect our own

version of it. Jesse demonstrated a pretty good one up at the microphone. It made the ones who knew what it was laugh and nod in agreement with what he said.

Jesse went on to talk about how my grandpa would always leave his cell phone on while golfing, which everyone knows is bad etiquette and it drove me crazy. But hearing that he left it on just in case one of his children or grandchildren needed him was a great feeling.

After this weekend, even though it's a long ways off, I know that's what I want at my funeral. I want my friends and family to laugh, not cry. I want them to be uplifted by all the stories they hear, not depressed by bad songs.

I want people to celebrate my life, what I did and who I was, not dwell on how I died. By doing it this way, I think it will be easier for those who loved me to get on with their lives and to also tell a funny, most likely inappropriate story about me.

Remembering the good things about my grandpa will help me get through this, not religion.

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U.S. college education needs to be tuition-free

For What It's Worth

Aaron Loudenslager



Education is a powerful entity. It has the power to make individuals better off by increasing the amount of money they can earn during a lifetime. Most importantly, education can transform the individual and their mind.

The goal of every American being able to obtain an affordable post-secondary education is in dire danger. In fact, just last year student loan debt in the U.S. reached over \$1 trillion and 25 percent of U.S. government student loans ended up in default.

There is only one comprehensive solution to fixing America's problem of funding higher education: a tuition-free education funded by the U.S. government.

Education transforms the human mind. Without it, the potential of a person may never be reached. I know that this is true for me.

I have taken many classes in political science and economics at Northern. Without these classes, I wouldn't have nearly the amount of knowledge and understanding of these subjects that I do today. Without this knowledge, this column may not even exist.

Every American citizen deserves to have access to higher education. Price should never be a barrier.

Yet, many Americans don't attend a university because of the

debt incurred by student loans. With a government student loan default rate at 25 percent, I understand the fear of possible default.

In the past, companies such as Sallie Mae, who ironically denied me a student loan, issued student loans to higher education students. These loans were fully backed by the U.S. government.

When a student defaulted on a loan, Sallie Mae made even more money. Sallie Mae was paid the entire loan amount by the federal government. Then, the federal government sent the General Revenue Corporation, which was also owned by Sallie Mae, to collect the debt that the student owed the federal government.

The GRC would add a 25 percent collection fee onto the student's loans and would also receive a 28-percent commission on what the student paid back to the government.

This type of practice was ended when Obama passed his Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

This law stopped the federal government's role in backing federal loans through companies such as Sallie Mae. Instead, the federal government now distributes its student loans directly.

It's a good start, but it doesn't go nearly far enough, especially with past actions of the Republican Party.

Just last December, House Republicans proposed to cut \$900 million from the Pell Grant program, which would have forced one million students out of the program.

We need a strong, resilient program that Republicans won't be able to touch in the future, like Social Security today.

In 2005, President George Bush and congressional Republicans tried to partially privatize Social Security, but congressio-

nal Democrats and the American people stood in the way.

Countries like Denmark and Finland spend 7.8 and 5.9 percent of their GDP, respectively, on their educational systems. They spend that amount, but also provide universal tuition-free education through all stages of education.

The U.S. only spends 5.5 percent of its GDP on education. In spending less than Denmark and Finland on education, our country falls behind in other factors, such as the amount of student loan debt.

In Denmark and Finland, there are no 25-percent default rates on student loans. That is because there is no tuition.

In those countries, students don't have to worry about back-breaking student loan debt after college.

In the United States, having high student loan debt is the norm, with the possibility of even defaulting on your student loan.

The U.S. government would only have to invest a few more percentage points of our GDP on post-secondary education to tear down all financial barriers and provide tuition-free education to all its citizens.

No longer would students have to worry about loans being so big that they would default and be forced into bankruptcy.

No longer would outstanding student loan debt surpass that of credit card debt in the United States.

Instead, students could dream about their potential in the future without fear, knowing that nothing could stop them from obtaining an education.

It's time that the U.S. follows the educational model of other nations like Denmark and provides tuition-free higher education to all its citizens.

The U.S. drug war is a huge failure



Guest Column

James Heltunen

The current U.S. drug policy has failed miserably. It was a modest experiment to better society, but human nature could not be changed by government coercion.

Instead of a drug-free society, we have extremely violent cartels, increasing gang activity, a Soviet Union-sized black market and overflowing prison systems.

Unfortunately, the unseen negative consequences of drug prohibition are not felt by politicians. They are felt by the taxpayers, the innocent and the poor.

Certain drugs were illegal in particular counties as far back as the mid-1800s and the laws were left to the local government's discretion. In 1914, the Harrison Tax Act restricted the sale of heroin.

The Marijuana Tax Act of 1937 effectively taxed cannabis out of the market. This is when drug trafficking went underground.

The next large piece of legislation was the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970. This law combined all previous drug laws into one and expanded the enforcement power of the federal government.

The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) was created in 1973 to combat illegal drug trafficking and sales nationally.

As a country, we cannot deny reality any longer. Drug prohibition has multiple negative effects and negligible improvements on society. Americans continue to consume large quantities of illegal drugs.

For example, the DEA's budget in 2010 was \$2.2 billion. The DEA's goal was to seize \$3 billion worth of illegal products or assets.

That same year, Americans purchased around \$60 billion worth of illegal drugs. Easy math tells us that we spend \$2.2 billion for the DEA to reduce the illegal drug market by five percent.

By any standard, this is failing. Basic economic theory of supply and demand (along with ever increasing profits) doesn't give the DEA or local law enforcement a fair chance. The total cost of drug prohibition is roughly \$48.7 billion per year (local law enforcement, court fees, prison funding, etc.).

Drug legalization would create around \$34.3 billion in new

taxes with tax rates around 50 percent of the drugs' retail value. Economically, the War on Drugs does not make sense.

Although the War on Drugs is economically irrational, one's moral beliefs on drugs must be considered. It has been proven that drug abuse has various negative consequences on individuals and communities as a whole.

Drug abuse and addiction can be considered one of mankind's greatest tragedies. But drugs are inanimate objects. They are not good or bad. To fear drugs is illogical.

It is the individual human that chooses to use a substance for whatever reason. The individual that becomes addicted must identify their own root cause and decide if they are ready to start recovery.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau once wrote long ago, "A fool, if he be obeyed, may punish crimes as well as another: but the true statesman is he who knows how to prevent them." We currently sentence users and drug-related criminals to prison.

The conversation ends. The fool prevails.

We need a true statesman who is willing to adopt a constitutional amendment to legalize drugs.

This amendment will enforce current law when it comes to personal responsibility (i.e. driving under the influence) and set reasonable tax rates based off the drugs' retail values to prevent black markets in the future.

All the tax revenue would go to support new government sponsored substance recovery and prevention programs.

One is a prevention program that teaches American youth about drugs, what they are used for and the side effects of usage. Unfortunately, knowledge will not prevent all addictions.

The second program would create and fund substance abuse centers for addicts to voluntarily check-in when they choose to. The centers would be staffed with professionals trained in substance abuse and act as safe havens to foster recovery and help patients find a new lease on life.

The American people must not fear drugs. Man has had the propensity to use and abuse drugs for thousands of years. We must accept drug use as a part of the human experience.

Cigarettes and alcohol are legal drugs and societal movements to limit their use have proven to be effective.

We can take back the responsibility of our actions. How many more mass grave stories in Mexico will it take?

Priorities of Bruins' goalie questioned



Guest Column

Brian Westrick

his team.

A team-first attitude is something that every coach and manager looks for in a player. Individual achievements in sports are great and shouldn't have their importance marginalized, but they should not be overstated because, ultimately, the team is what comes first. At least it should come first.

Thomas showed that his political disagreement with the current administration mattered more to him than being part of his team.

As a former athlete, I can say for certain that regardless of what you read or hear on SportsCenter, the Bruins' dressing room is going to be very uncomfortable for a while. The B's lost their only game since the event, a 5-3 loss

to a struggling Washington Capitals team, while Tim Thomas was on the bench.

The tradition of visiting the White House goes back to 19th century baseball clubs, but the practice really took off in the 1980s during the Reagan administration. The practice has never been about politics; it is merely a team activity.

It seems very doubtful that every member of the some 35 teams that have visited the White House during the Obama administration agreed with the president, who has been in office during one of the most divided political climates in recent memory.

"All it has to do is with me. But it's separate from hockey. That's my personal life and those are my personal views. Those

are my personal beliefs. It has nothing to do with hockey. It has nothing to do with this All-Star Game. It has nothing to do with the Boston Bruins."

I couldn't have said it better myself, Timmy. It is about you, not the team. You made that exceedingly clear by ditching your team over a personal belief.

Between refusing the invitation by the president and a large public statement posted on his Facebook page, Thomas has had all the subtlety and tact of a bull in a china shop. He has brought upon himself all the criticism and all the questioning of his commitment to his team. While investigating this issue, the theme of Thomas's superiors wanting him to attend the White House tends to pop up.

Although everyone involved has pointed out that Thomas had a right to choose not to go to the White House, team president Cam Neely, general manager Peter Chiarelli and head coach Claude Julien wanted him to go.

In addition to his lack of respect he displayed for the rest of his team who went, he also demonstrated a lack of respect for the wishes of those who are above him within the franchise.

The fact must be expressly stated to many of his supporters that no person is saying that Thomas had no concrete right to express himself politically by refusing the invitation.

Just that by doing so, he's being a selfish prima donna who considers himself bigger than his entire team.

Sound Off

What's a good movie you've watched recently?

compiled by Kristen Koehler



Paige Armstrong
junior
criminal justice

"Gridiron Gang" for the first time. I like that it's based on a true story."



Kelly Peters
sophomore
art and design

"The Boys & Girls Guide to Getting Down." It gives tips for life."



Joey Zawada
sophomore
construction management

"The Next Three Days. It's really suspenseful and it leaves you hanging on until the end."



Hailey Sanford
freshman
undeclared

"Dolphin Tale. A really inspiring movie. It makes me want to live in the ocean."

SPIRIT POLICE

Northern Michigan University WinterFest 2012

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Table Times

Monday, February 13

Lower Level LRC, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Monday, February 13

Halverson/Payne Lobby, 5-7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 14

PEIF Lobby adjacent to Rec Sports, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Wednesday, February 15

Jacobetti Main Lobby, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 16

Lower Level LRC, 2-4:30 p.m.



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Closing time for Guantanamo Bay

Prisoners wait for Obama to keep his promise



**Guest
Column**

**Lee
McClelland**

Since Barack Obama's inauguration in 2009, Guantanamo Bay has been playing Semisonic's hit song "Closing Time." Much to the inmates' dismay, it has been more than three years since the president's decree that Guantanamo would be closed.

Listening to "Closing Time" — much like the usual treatment — has been one prolonged act of cruel and unusual punishment. Of course, I'm joking about Semisonic, but everything else is quite true.

Guantanamo was slated to close by 2010, yet it is still holding prisoners who have been denied their Sixth Amendment right to a fair and speedy trial while in American custody.

When Barack Obama signed legislation to close Guantanamo, he said, "the message we are sending around the world is that the United States intends to prosecute the ongoing struggle against

violence and terrorism, and we are going to do so vigilantly; we are going to do so effectively; and we are going to do so in a manner that is consistent with our values and our ideals." What values and ideals does America have?

That is a question that the United Nations has posed in a press release, made available January 23. Navi Pillay, high commander of the U.N., stated "the facility (Guantanamo Bay) continues to exist, and individuals remain arbitrarily detained indefinitely in clear breach of international law."

She goes on to echo her fears about the recent legislation passed in Congress, the National Defense Authorization Act, which has an amendment that allows for the military detention of an individual without the writ of habeas corpus — the right to be told why you are being detained. In this scenario, the government can hold an individual indefinitely.

This hasn't been done since Abraham Lincoln suspended the

writ of habeas corpus in 1861, after the start of the Civil War. There is no justification for the NDAA and its provisions that allow an individual to be denied their constitutional rights. If you find this to be alarming or unjust, you can thank your U.S. Senator Carl Milton Levin (D-Mich)

who was the co-architect of the NDAA, along with Senator John McCain (R-Ariz).

Many of the individuals being held are thought to be innocent. In 2004, Brigadier General Martin Lucenti stated that "of the 550 [detainees] that we have, I would say most of them, the majority of them, will either be released or transferred to their own countries ... Most of these guys weren't fighting. They were running."

Mohammed al-Qahtani, the suspected 20th hijacker, is currently held at Guantanamo. He is also the victim of serious acts of torture in which he was forced to walk around like a dog on a chain, severely beaten and exposed to extreme cold.

Mohammed al-Qahtani was

also cleared for release five years ago, yet he is still being detained at Guantanamo Bay. Recently, he wrote to his lawyers, "I wonder if the U.S. government wants to keep us here forever."

By labeling these men terrorists, we cover them in a shroud of darkness. We find them to be evil, to be sinister individuals who would stop at nothing to kill American freedoms.

We forget that they may be innocent; after all, according to our Constitution, they are innocent until proven guilty, yet we do not give them a trial.

Why do we keep them locked away under the premise that they are "evil-doers," as George W. Bush would say?

Yes, the attacks on America were appalling. It is awful what human beings do to each other.

Islamic extremists are individuals who act outside of the social norm and for perverted ideals that do not unify with their religion on a whole.

While they are setting IED's and strapping on explosive vests, the U.S. government is holding innocent men on the backside of Cuba, where they are subject to torture and denied basic human rights.

The public is told that the terrorists being held want to kill our freedoms. Yet, as long as those men sit in the dank squalor of their cells, wondering if this is where they will die, our American freedoms are imprisoned with them.

It is not the men being held at Guantanamo Bay that are killing our freedoms: it is our own government.

Unless the United States heeds the warning of the United Nations, the world will start to look at us in an even more unflattering light.

We have already ostracized ourselves from many other countries: why chance the approval of our peers in the U.N.?

To do what is right, what the Founding Fathers would have wanted, we need to let these men go. If Barack Obama and Congress don't do something, the detainees will forever hear the echo in their cells, "I know who I want to take me home...so take me home."

After 10 years of injustice, it must be closing time for Guantanamo Bay, along with the return of our basic constitutional freedoms and international human rights.

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as a

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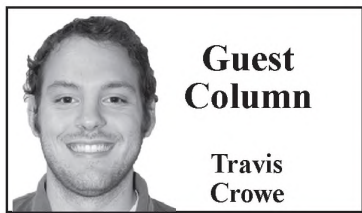
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SOPA defeated: Massive grassroots movement delays U.S. lawmakers from passing controversial law



Guest Column

Travis Crowe

I think at this point, we all know what SOPA and PIPA are, but in case you've been living under a well-ventilated mountain since November, I'll offer a very truncated breakdown.

Essentially, SOPA (Stop Online Piracy Act) and PIPA (Protect IP Act) are the respective U.S. House and Senate twins that would provide increased power and scope to the U.S. government to shut down online resources sharing in what is loosely defined as "copyrighted intellectual property and counterfeit goods."

This sounds like a great thing. After all, those dirty foreigners have been stealing U.S. IP since the beginning of time and domestic legal forces have been virtually powerless to stop them, right? Not so much. If that were the case, American Internet entrepreneurs would not stand lock-step against these intrusive and outrageous proposals.

The biggest arguments against these measures are the possible scenarios created by the legislation. Sites like YouTube, Flickr,

Etsy, Tumblr and others featuring user-generated content could be completely erased by Hollywood or music industry lobbyists in accordance with the federal government if very weak findings are reported, according to bill language.

In comparison, the 1998 DMCA (Digital Millennium Copyright Act) includes a safe harbor protection that shields sites from shutdown and other legal ramifications if they comply with a takedown request of the specific content.

Unfortunately, SOPA would override this provision and it would be the responsibility of these sites to babysit users in order to ensure that no infringement is taking place. Under SOPA, some of the great digital innovations of our time could be completely eliminated in favor of a Chinese-style "great firewall."

Since the SOPA/PIPA situation had become a common worldwide discussion, many scholars have taken the opportunity to also point out glaring legal and constitutional issues associated with the acts. In particular, professor Laurence H. Tribe, who teaches Constitutional law at Harvard Law School, wrote a lengthy open letter on SOPA that brought to light issues that most hadn't even considered in their opposition.

First, Tribe said, SOPA denies due process to entities in the accusatory process by copyright holders, trampling over prior restraint and disallowing a discussion regarding a site's right to exist.

Specifically, he pointed to the Supreme Court ruling in *Nebraska Press Association v. Stuart* (1976), which states "prior restraints on free speech and publication are the most serious and least tolerable infringement on First Amendment rights."

This is interesting, considering many people hated these poorly written bills before realizing that they were probably unconstitutional.

Regarding definitions of what could cause a site to be shut down, Tribe also pointed out that in Section 103(a) of SOPA, a site is considered part of "dedicated theft to U.S. property" if it is considered to "enable or facilitate" infringement by a third party.

Remember the safe harbor clause in the DMCA? This is the part where that becomes meaningless under SOPA.

Professor Tribe would go on to state that the First Amendment demands special precision in regulations placed on expression. If laws that affect a person's expression are not carefully tailored to the situation at hand, it may have a "chilling" effect on speech.

This could cause people to censor their own speech, even though they are within their constitutional rights to speak freely.

Also, there is the issue of third parties on sites causing the demise of an organization that they have no personal responsibility in the administration of. Facebook alone boasts more than 800 million active users, almost all of whom are not professionally affiliated with Facebook as a company.

Should Facebook be held liable for what each user contributes to a public posting board? Doing so would prove points stated by all SOPA and PIPA detractors, that these bills advocate unchecked censorship of our Internet activities.

Though SOPA and PIPA are all but dead in their original forms, I think it's important to think about what we've learned about political values in the digital age from

the historical fight. Americans don't seem to be very amused at the idea of lobbyists writing bills to favor their industry in order to essentially trash another, especially when free speech is involved.

Chris Dodd, chief lobbyist for the Motion Picture Association of America and former U.S. senator, is facing serious allegations of bribery after an angry rant threatening members of Congress who received campaign donations from the MPAA and voted against these bills.

My biggest disappointment, however, is that we've allowed our representatives to be so out of touch with the world we know and live in, and the many members who waited for overwhelming public opinion one way or another to make up their mind - you folks are just as bad as SOPA sponsor Lamar Smith (here's to looking at you Dr. Dan).

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.

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TO WRITE LOVE ON HER ARMS

rescue is possible

**Monday, Feb. 6
7 p.m.
Great Lakes Rooms in the University Center**

By Delaney Lovett
editor in chief

Jamie Tworkowski, the founder of To Write Love on Her Arms, will speak at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 6 in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center.

TWLOHA is a movement, largely driven by the support of bands, dedicated to helping people struggling with depression, self-injury, addiction and suicide. The TWLOHA team encourages people to talk to their family and friends about problems they're having instead of going through it alone.

Musician Steve McMorran will also perform Monday night, and the event is sponsored by Platform Personalities and the Student Activity Fee. It's free for students and costs \$2 for the general public.

Northern has its own resources if students are struggling with these problems. Counseling and Consultation Services provides a place for students to speak with a professional counselor. There are also several 24-hour hotlines available.

For more information about the event, contact Cara Kamps at ckamps@nmu.edu. More information about Counseling and Consultation Services, located in Hedgcock, can be found at webb.nmu.edu/Centers/CounselingAndConsultation.



love

Q&A with TWLOHA founder Jamie Tworkowski

By Delaney Lovett
editor in chief

While many people have heard of To Write Love on Her Arms, some have not. Will you give a brief explanation of the movement and how it began?

It started in 2006 as an attempt to help a friend that was struggling with drug addiction, depression, self-injury and had attempted suicide. "To Write Love on Her Arms" was the name of a story I wrote about the five days my friends and I got to spend with my friend Renee. And then we started selling T-shirts just as a way to pay for her treatment. We didn't set out for a profit or to start a charity, we were just trying to help her get through treatment. We posted the story on MySpace, ended up making the T-shirts available on MySpace and, thanks to the support of bands, it got out in front of people in a unique way. Basically, over the past six years, we've heard from people around the world struggling with the same problems Renee struggled with. We try to encourage people to call for help, connect them to resources and also encourage them to invest in treatment and recovery.

How has the involvement of bands influenced the movement?

It had so much to do with people finding out about us. Our friends in bands would wear these shirts on stage and their fans would naturally notice and wonder what the words on the shirt meant. But beyond that, we really believe there's a lot of common ground between music and what we're trying to do. We find a lot of inspiration in music. I didn't grow up wanting to run a charity, but I definitely grew up really in love with music.

Just how much has the movement grown since its establishment? Did you ever expect To Write Love on Her Arms to reach the level of popularity that it did?

We didn't even set out to start a charity, so it's certainly been a surprise. In terms of some numbers, we've been able to respond to close to 200,000 messages and emails that have come in from more than 100 countries. We've really heard from people all over the world. Many of those are people who are in crisis, some of them are folks writing in on behalf of loved ones. We've been able to give \$1 million that's gone directly to treatment and recovery, in addition to investing in our own message. Maybe the biggest thing that we're proud of is just that we've been able to try to break the silence and let people know it's OK to talk about the difficult things in life.

What future plans do you have for To Write Love on Her Arms?

Little by little as we've grown, we've been able to add different programs and campaigns. We now have right around 60 student-led chapters on college campuses, we just launched a high school program called Story Tellers, we do two-day mini community conferences called that are led by professional counselors.



To Write Love on Her Arms founder Jamie Tworkowski

Photo courtesy of TWLOHA

Those are all things that didn't exist a couple years ago. One thing that I really love is that we do things in all these different circles at the same time: we do things on the Internet, we do things on college campuses, we do things on the realm of music. My hope is just that we'll continue to be creative in all these different circles.

How has it felt to be able to help people suffering with depression?

It means a lot to be able to feel like I'm allowed to bring my heart to work. Not everyone has that privilege. Not everyone gets to do a job they really love or really feel a sense of purpose in, so I'm certainly thankful for that. I meet people who say that they're still alive because of the work we're doing, so I think that's the greatest compliment or comment you could ever hear. That's really what motivates us and me to keep going.

Do you find it's often difficult for people to get treatment, financially or otherwise?

The financial side of it can definitely be a problem for people who are struggling. There are all different ranges in terms of what it might cost to go to counseling for a season versus going away to inpatient treatment. What we've come to believe is for most people the biggest struggle is not finding treatment or even affording treatment, but I think the biggest struggle is that most people never even take that first step to want to get help. A lot of times people live very much alone and whatever they're going through they feel like they can't talk about it or they can't ask for help because they'll be misunderstood or they'll be judged or mislabeled. What we love to do is encourage people to begin to talk about with friends and family. Certainly if things are really difficult or intense, we point people to counseling as a great place to start; they can point you in the right direction.

Do you have a favorite story you'd be willing to share about someone helped by To Write Love on Her Arms?

I think the people that say they felt like they were at the end where they didn't want to live anymore and they had made up their mind to end their life, maybe they read something on our website, maybe they came to an event and heard a talk someone gave, and something happened. Something that made people not only want to stay alive, but also to get help. Those are the conversations or emails that really have an impact on me.

What are your hopes for Northern Michigan University students who attend?

Our hope is that people will leave encouraged, will be feeling like it's OK to be feeling, it's OK to be honest, it's OK to ask questions, just that people will walk out feeling less alone. Our story is a pretty surprising story because so much of it happened by accident. As much as the issues can be really heavy, it's actually a story that's a lot of fun to tell. There's some heavy stuff but there will be light stuff as well. We think it's OK to laugh.

What do you like about speaking to college students?

Our team is young and hopefully I'm still a little bit young, and in a way it's kind of like talking to peers. I think we just love the college audience because you can kind of talk about anything. People are open-minded and we know these issues exist on college campuses. We know that young people struggle with the stuff we're talking about. We think it's a really appropriate setting and we also just know it's part of the college culture of having events and having speakers and even having entertainment. We love that we can be maybe a sort of different night in the college experience.

Anything else?

Our hope is that people, whatever they're in the middle of that might be difficult, would be encouraged and know it's OK to talk about it, it's OK to talk about it, and it's OK to not be OK.

Alumna loses weight on national TV

By Austin Irwin
staff writer

A contestant trying to win it all by losing the most, one NMU graduate has received the chance of a lifetime to live a healthier tomorrow.

Cassandra Sturos, 25, is one of six contestants (including her grandmother, Nancy) on NBC's "The Biggest Loser."

In this season, all of the contestants are from Michigan.

"Each week has been this epiphany of, 'Oh my gosh you're stronger than you've ever been,'" Sturos said.

Sturos proved she was taking the competition seriously with a second place finish in the debut challenge when one team was sent home before any of the 20 contestants had a chance to enter the "Biggest Loser Campus."

"The Biggest Loser" is a contest won by competing in fitness challenges to promote weight loss and healthy habits.

They are in their 13th season.

Sturos said what makes "The Biggest Loser" different from other shows is each week contestants are fighting to not only stay on the show, but also to achieve their goals of losing

more and more weight.

"I've been doing diets my whole life, practically," Sturos said. "Losing weight is no joke. It's very difficult."

Sturos said weight is something she has always struggled with, especially during college.

She said her nervousness was typically the cause of her timid approach to exercising on a regular basis.

Sturos suggests overcoming one fear at a time for those on campus battling with weight loss.

"I remember I tried fencing and being so scared," Sturos said. "Trying it out and doing it, it was such an accomplishment. Even today, taking that fencing class at NMU

is one of my biggest accomplishments."

Sturos said her determination for losing weight started after becoming interested in living in New York City to fulfill her writing dreams. However, her

weight was causing a lack of confidence to achieve her goal.

"I'm excited for both of them," said Savannah Sturos, sister of Cassandra and granddaughter of Nancy. "It's just an inspiration for my whole entire family. When you set your mind to something, good things can happen."

Savannah said she got a chance to see her sister earlier this season because of a break in the show.

"She already looked really good, like a new per-

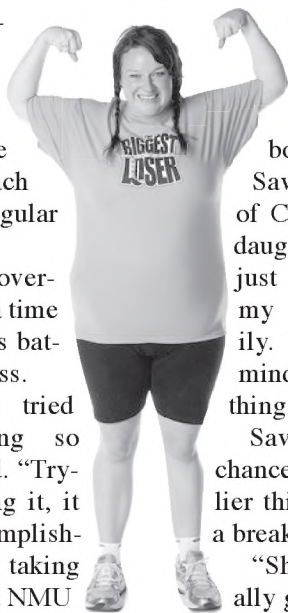


Photo courtesy of www.daemonstv.com
Sturos refills her water to stay strong in the "Biggest Loser" competition.

ries and great personalities.

A series of interviews, videos and finally a trip to Los Angeles to meet with producers determines who will be on the show.

"The Biggest Loser" is hosted by "Days of Our Lives" actress Alison Sweeney, and features Hollywood trainers Bob Harper and Dolvett Quince.

The winning contestant of this season will win \$250,000.

"The Biggest Loser" airs at 8 p.m. on NBC Tuesdays.

Relay For Life kicks off with big goals

By Beatty Nelson
contributing writer

The NMU Relay For Life is fast approaching and members of the committee are getting the campus fired up.

The NMU Relay For Life Committee is holding a kick-off party from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 2 in the Woodland Park Apartments multi-purpose room.

"Our goal last year was to have 800 participants and there were more than 850 in attendance. The more people that come, the more successful we will be in our fight against cancer," said Thao Do, co-chair of organizing Relay for Life.

There will be food, drinks and information at the party. The party isn't only just for those looking

to start a team. It is also for motivating the current teams.

"Hopefully the party will encourage more participation," Do said.

Participation in Relay For Life has increased every year. There are now more than 3.5 million participants annually.

"I joined Relay [For Life] my freshman year when my roommate asked me to be a team captain with her," Do said. "I loved it, and I've continued participating in relay ever since. It's addicting."

The NMU Relay For Life will be starting at 1 p.m. held Friday and Saturday, March 23 to 24 in the Vandament Arena, running for a full 24 hours. Relay features a Survivor Lap to celebrate victories over cancer and a luminaria

ceremony in remembrance of loved ones lost to cancer.

"Our event is one of the few 24-hour college relays. Most colleges that participate in Relay only do 12 to 16 hours," Do said.

Last year, the NMU Relay raised over \$23,000. The money fundraised by Relay participants goes to the American Cancer Society in order to fund research and other necessities that will hopefully lead to finding a cure for cancer. The goal this year is to raise \$27,000.

"College students have more energy and party at relay all night," said co-chair of the NMU relay, Karla Kopp. "It's neat to see the university come together for one cause."

The first Relay For Life was held in Tacoma, Wash. in 1986, and 19 teams raised approximately \$33,000.

Now, Relay for Life has spread all over the United States and even into other countries. Many people have been involved for a long time.

"I started Relay with my dad and his team in the National Guard," Kopp said. "Then I was team captain and started a team at my high school. When I came to NMU, I joined the committee freshman year."

Relay is a fun way to raise



Photo courtesy of Relay for Life
There was another kickoff event last semester which started over 17 teams.

money for cancer research, but it is also very meaningful to a lot of people who have experienced the devastation of cancer first hand, Kopp said.

"I have family members that have been affected by cancer and relay for me is on a much more personal level now," Kopp said.

Looking to the future and remaining optimistic is a big part of the relay spirit.

"We're hoping to see a lot of people at the party and then we hope to see them again at the relay," Kopp said. "College relays are different than community relays, we're much smaller and more focused. The arena is very intimate and everyone is there for the same cause."

Relay For Life takes a lot of work and a large committee for

the annual event to take place.

Team development is a major part of the relay process.

"We work with the team captains and it is our job to answer any questions they might have along with supporting them throughout the whole process of Relay," said Jolie Wycinski, team development co-chair.

Everyone's hard work will continue until March, when the relay will finally take place and everyone comes together.

"Each team makes the experience their own but in the end everyone comes together which makes NMU's relay something original," Wycinski said.

To participate in NMU Relay For Life, email Ally Markstrom at amarkstr@nmu.edu or Jolie Wycinski at jwycinsk@nmu.edu.



Photo courtesy of Relay for Life
Last year, Northern raised more than \$23,000 with 850 participant for RFL.

Black history events promote unity

By Kristen Halsey
contributing writer

February is a full month dedicated to celebrating historical events in black culture; and to help celebrate, the Black Student Union will be holding a week full of different events to help educate the community, faculty and staff.

Taylor Johnson, junior public relations major and secretary of the Black Student Union, said she is excited about the events being held to celebrate.

"I like to think of this as an empowerment ceremony that reinforces our presence in history," Johnson said. "Black history is not just a month in February, it's every day."

The first day of their program will consist of a tribute presented at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15 in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center.

The tribute will feature the national black anthem, poems, speeches and excerpts throughout the evening. It will highlight, not just the well-known icons, but also some of the lesser-known members of the black community that have contributed greatly throughout history.

Aaron Whitaker, graduate student psychology major and president of the Black Student

Union, wants to draw attention to more of the positive aspects of black history rather than focusing on the negative with the events throughout the week.

"It's a tribute program about our ancestors that came before us and acknowledging, celebrating and highlighting their accomplishments," Whitaker said. "There is so much more than the negative struggles, we want to focus on the positive."

Whitaker said the Black Student Union has been doing research on the historical figures and putting a lot of hard work into the event to have a more personal event.

"People are researching instead of having some generic program," Whitaker said. "There are so many great things that black people have done before us, from law making to inventions of hair products and medicine. It's a way to encompass not all, but a lot, of the accomplishments."

During the program, those who attend will have the opportunity to look at pictures of these figures of history around the Great Lakes Rooms. Also, there will be a projector with images of historical figures during some of the performances.

The beginning of what came to be called Black History Month

started as Negro History Week in 1926 by historian Carter G. Woodson.

Woodson's goal was to educate people about the achievements made in black history and focused on the cultural backgrounds and achievements made in the black community.

"I'm hoping to see excerpts from Frederick Douglas and Malcolm X and Joe Frazier," Whitaker said. "Not necessarily people we know but showcase a lot of different people."

Another event in this celebratory week is a "slave auction" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb 16 in Spalding's lobby.

The Black Student Union is helping to promote this event as a new and interesting way to open Northern's students' eyes into some of the darker sides of American history.

"It's something we haven't had like this before and we are hoping to open people's eyes and give them something to enjoy at the same time," Whitaker said.

In history, a slave auction was when slaves were sold to the person who bid the most money for them. African families were often torn apart because bidders went for the strongest, healthiest member.

Slave auctions were advertised

by posters that were left around town. When the ships would arrive the slaves were taken off and placed in pens and made to look more healthy and sometimes they would be branded by hot irons.

Whitaker said members of the Black Student Union are hoping for a great turn out to the events.

"I'm looking forward to all the

events because it's something that I would be interested in going to if I was at any other school and they were doing something like this," Whitaker said.

For more information on the week's events or to become involved with the Black Student Union, email Taylor Johnson at tayljohn@nmu.edu.



Photo courtesy of the Black Student Union
NMU's Black Student Union is hosting events to honor Black History Month. These events include a tribute and an auction to promote awareness.

Audiences go 'Haywire' for spy thriller



Film: Haywire
Director: Steven Soderbergh
Producer: Gregory Jacobs
Writer: Lem Dobbs
Starring: Gina Carano, Michael Fassbender, Ewan McGregor and Channing Tatum
Runtime: 93 minutes

wrestlers-turned-actors (John Cena).

Her dedication to the intense fighting choreography weaves perfectly with her character's persona, going toe-to-toe with action stars like Michael Fassbender, Ewan McGregor and Channing Tatum, and beating them to misery. It's real, plain and simple.

The opening diner scene with a hilarious Tatum pretty much sets the tone for the film; the unexpected brutality of no-mercy espionage, which is relentless throughout the whole 93 minutes.

Mallory is attacked from all corners, at all times and is constantly tested in worse and worse conditions. Dare I say more for a perfectly drawn plot?

Almost. The story has some holes that aren't filled quickly enough for the audience, which is understandable for a spy thriller, but not for this one. This is a very entertaining movie, not a novel by any means.

The character development lacks in every male role in the film, leaving all eyes on Carano.

Left with this simple platter of sub characters, like Michael Douglas and Antonio Bandaras heading the top of this conspiracy food-chain, it ends up being too much to leave for the very end.

What makes up for it is the artistic blend of beauty versus violence in this sexy thriller with no sex.

Carano and Fassbender's elegant tango of distrust and cocktails throughout an evening ending in a bloody brawl in a hotel room is priceless.

Fassbender, for that matter, is the textbook definition of a man's gentleman.

Since "Inglorious Basterds" and "X-Men: First Class," he's getting some serious screen time and keeps illustrating better and better characters. An actor who, in my opinion, should have been the new Bond.

The "Kill Bill" and "Laura Croft" franchises may need to step aside for most ass-kicking female

in Hollywood.

It's no-holds barred for Carano. No corny one-liners or jokes about a woman cracking skulls.

Ewan McGregor's character, Kenneth puts it best, "You shouldn't think of her as a woman. That's your first mistake."

"Haywire" is an exceptional addition to the Steven Soderbergh library, along with films like "Traffic" and "Ocean's Eleven."

He has thrived on being natural and first hand with filmmaking, taking audiences of all types into the story at a claustrophobic level.

In the end, that's really what everyone wants out of a movie.



By Reed Belmonte
staff writer

Thank God there's a beam of sun shining through the fart cloud of movies released in the first month of the 2012 year.

Like many this last Friday, I unfortunately wasted \$8 watching Kate Beckinsale blast more werewolves as I drooled to mindless 3-D in the new "Underworld" film.

To regain my missing brain cells from that garbage, I went back to the theater to indulge in some quality filmmaking and was

presented with nothing less.

From his use of organic digital hand-held photography to his outlandish yet genius choice of actors (like casting pornstar Sasha Grey as a Manhattan call girl in "The Girlfriend Experience"), Steven Soderbergh is arguably the most naturalistic filmmaker working today.

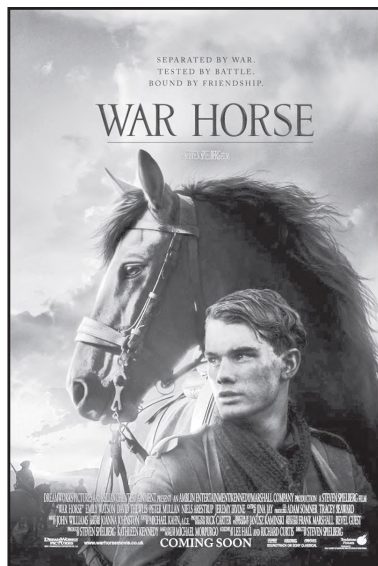
"Haywire" could not be a more perfect example of this. Our protagonist Mallory, an unstoppable contract-killer-turned-rogue after being betrayed by her employer, is not portrayed by some A-list star. In fact, she's not an actress at all, but MMA (mixed martial arts) fighting expert Gina Carano.

Carano's background as a cage fighter allows her to eat this role alive, making a bad name for most



Photos courtesy of www.collider.com
Gina Carano plays a contract-killer-turned-rogue after being betrayed. Carano started out as a mixed martial arts fighting expert before this movie.

Bright scenes give 'Horse' artistic image



Film: War Horse
Director: Steven Spielberg
Producer: Steven Spielberg
Writers: Lee Hall and Richard Curtis
Starring: Jeremy Irvine, Emily Watson and David Thewlis
Runtime: 146 minutes

While the plot flows well, it is a little repetitive. Each new master Joey meets is in the film for only a short period of time. With each master, the audience is just beginning to feel an emotional connection when the horse is taken away. It makes it frustrating to follow at times.

The film was directed by Steven Spielberg. Everyone knows Spielberg has been responsible for some of the most memorable films in the past three decades. His direction in this movie lives up to those standards, but it doesn't surpass it.

The film featured many things I expected from a Disney movie. It had bright young actors. It was, at times, filled with moral lessons. It definitely had the look of a Disney picture. Each scene has perfect resolution, almost too perfect.

The cinematography is great; however, in some cases it would have almost paid for the image to be dirtier. I suffered from slight cases of sensory overload with the brightness and clarity of colors at times.

That being said, I must say the final scene of the movie features this extremely high resolution picture, along with very bold coloration, and it is honestly one of the most beautiful scenes I have ever seen.

There is no dialogue; it's pure, raw emotion. The color is perfect. The lighting and shadows are phenomenal and create breath taking

silhouettes. This scene could single-handedly can be credited with earning the movie many of the accolades given to the film.

The film before this final scene is above average, but with this one remarkable scene it becomes very good.

I enjoyed the acting as a whole. Jeremy Irvine, who played the young boy, Albert, did a very good job portraying a young man's undying love for the animal. His emotions were very real and rarely over the top.

I also enjoyed both the roles of the boy's father and of the landlord who is the early antagonist, played respectively by Peter Mullan and David Thewlis.

Their interactions early in the film were very convincing. They were constantly at odds with each

other and played it out nicely.

I give a lot of credit to the animal trainers that worked on this film. I've never seen animals with as much personality on film as I did in "War Horse."

The film was able to develop rather deep emotional characterization with these animals. It was great to see. The main trainer was Bobby Lovgren, and he did an amazing job.

I really appreciated the responsibility the film took with its portrayal of World War I. It would have been easy for it to have turned into a very childish version of the events. Except for a few small instances, it was an accurate representation.

This film surpassed my expectations. It was artistic. Art is a hard thing to find at the movies these days.



By Jeff Powers
 contributing writer

I must admit that I was skeptical about the film "War Horse" before seeing it. I had reservations about how a kid-friendly Disney project would portray World War I, one of the most gruesome conflicts in history.

I also thought maybe the movie would be a sappy tear-jerker playing on the audience's love of animals.

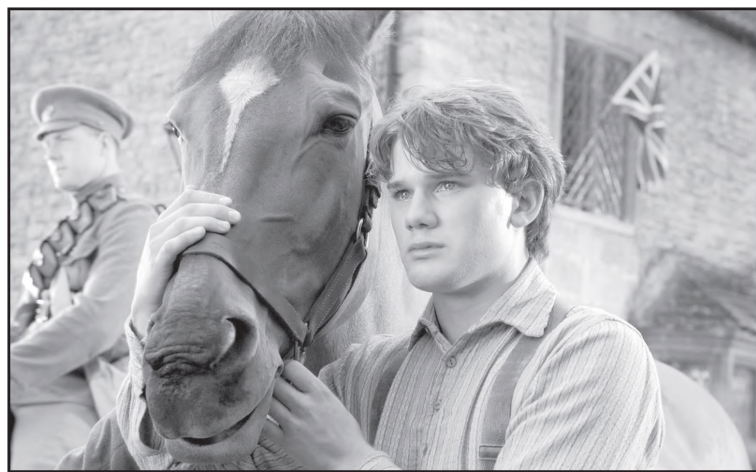
In what was a pleasant surprise, the movie was not overly-sappy or immature and did not sugar-coat the conflict in which it was

set. This film managed to be both thoroughly heart-warming and brutally heart-wrenching all at the same time.

The film's plot centers on a young thoroughbred and his relationship with the young poor boy who raised him. At least that's the most important part of the twisting plot.

The horse, named Joey, is sold to an Army officer at the outset of the war and from that point on travels through the conflict in the service of nearly every Army involved.

During this journey, Joey becomes the steed of many different masters; including the British officer, two young German soldiers, a young French girl and a merciless French officer.



Photos courtesy of www.collider.com

Joey, the horse, makes an incredible journey at the hands of multiple owners.

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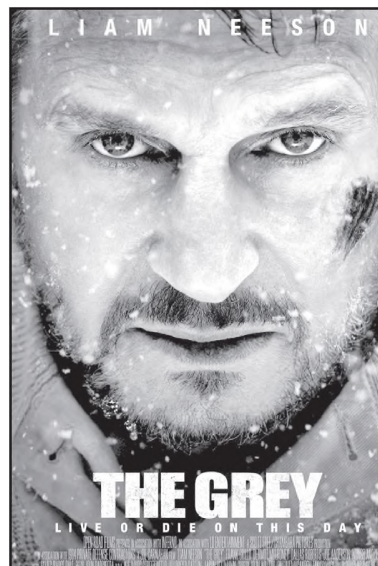
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'Grey' filled with heart-pounding success



Film: The Grey
Director: Joe Carnahan
Producer: Joe Carnahan
Writers: Joe Carnahan and Ian Mackenzie Jeffers
Starring: Liam Neeson, Dermot Mulroney and Frank Grillo
Runtime: 117 minutes

vironment than any of the other survivors. His job at the oil company was to hunt and kill predators that could possibly harm the other workers.

As the men gather themselves and everything they can carry, they realize that surviving through a plane crash was merely the beginning of their journey.

There is a campfire scene in "The Grey" that playfully mentions one of its survival film predecessors, "Alive," which is referred to as that movie with the guy from "Training Day" (Ethan Hawke). I was actually rather surprised with the amount of comic relief in this otherwise bleak and hopeless movie.

Of course, most of the comedy is directed at the nearly impossible feat these men are faced with, but it is still able to generate a laugh or two.

As the final scene drew to a close, there were a lot of unsatisfied customers around me. One woman behind me said, "It's not going to end like that. Are you kidding me?" I couldn't help but smile, because this is a trend I have been noticing more and more with genuinely good movies. It doesn't have the gift-wrapped Hollywood happy-ending, so it's no good.

To be honest, that's part of what I loved about this movie. It sends us to the edge of our seats and gets our hearts pounding, but makes us use our heads as well. The ending

was flawless when one considers the evolution of Ottway's mental state from beginning to end.

There is a very brief scene at the end of the credits that will offer no more resolution to the naysaying critics of this film than the actual ending gave. Personally, I saw all the resolution I needed the minute that plane began to go down and Ottway prepared himself to head, "Once more into the fray. Into the last good fight I'll ever know. Live and die on this day. Live and die on this day."

Although the only bold colors in "The Grey" came from blood and guts being scattered across the snow, the guiding force behind the movie was Ottway and his story, which was full of color and mystery. This is not only a survival story, but also the survival of a man's will, even in the face of

death.

January is typically a month known for mediocre studio projects. That's just one more reason why people will be shocked by the impact of this film. Before seeing it, I read something that referred to this film as "Jaws' in the woods."

But there is so much more to "The Grey" than a simple, gore-infused horror film involving scary animals. "The Grey" will absolutely terrify people, because even if the plane crash and the wolves don't kill these guys, the elements might.

Director Joe Carnahan has certainly created his best work to date in "The Grey," and Neeson's phenomenal, straight-from-the-heart acting was possibly his best and most personal on-screen performance yet. I recommend that you do not let this movie pass you by.



By Justin Marietti
 staff writer

As the lengthy list of upcoming movie previews drew to a close, the theater was packed pretty tightly for the first showing of "The Grey."

Generally, I get annoyed rather easily by a packed house, because it usually means there is a high probability of cell phones ringing and dramatic he-said-she-said conversations in the background throughout the entire movie.

However, as soon as the bitter and empty void in which this story takes place filled the screen during

the opening scene, the room quieted a little and when Liam Neeson's opening monologue began, there wasn't a sound in that theater other than his voice.

From that moment on, "The Grey" took complete hold over the audience. The heart of the story begins when a plane carrying a group of oil company employees crashes right into the heart of the Alaskan wilderness, leaving only a handful of survivors.

Neeson's character, John Ottway, is the first to regain consciousness after the crash. He immediately begins trying to regain his composure and figure out if others survived the crash as well.

Ottway doesn't really declare himself the leader, but he clearly has a better knowledge of this en-



Photos courtesy of www.collider.com

Neeson's role in "The Grey" brings out an emotional and action-filled film.



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Justin Key/NW

Junior forward Matt Thurber looks to score during a 2-1 victory against the University of Miami. The Wildcats are 7-8-5-2 in the CCHA and 12-9-5 overall. NMU is home this weekend at 7:30 p.m. on both Friday, Feb. 3 and Saturday, Feb. 4. Northern will welcome in Ferris State University who is currently ranked first in the CCHA and sixth overall in Division I hockey.

'Cats settle for split after lopsided loss

Northern squeaks out 2-1 win Friday, then shut out 6-0 Saturday

By Delaney Lovett
editor in chief

In an unbalanced battle on the ice, the Wildcats came away from their series against Miami (11-9-2-1 CCHA, 15-11-2 overall) in Oxford, Ohio with a 2-1 win on Friday, Jan. 28 and a shutout loss of 6-0 the following night.

The 'Cats (7-8-5-2 CCHA, 12-9-5 overall) were outshot both Friday and Saturday night by the RedHawks, 41-13, and 40-16, respectively.

"To be honest, I don't think we had our best two games," said senior right wing Tyler Gron. "We were lucky enough to sneak out a win there Friday, but they just played a little harder than we did and they wanted it more than we did."

The two NMU goals on Friday came from senior left wing Justin Florek and Gron, both in the

first period. Assisting Florek's goal were sophomore right wing Erik Higby and sophomore defenseman Wade Epp. Gron's goal was set up by junior center Matt Thurber and junior defenseman Kyle Follmer.

"I think we were fortunate Friday," head coach Walt Kyle said. "We had some opportunistic scoring, and we had great goaltending, and that was the reason we won the game."

Sophomore goaltender Jared Coreau stood tall in the net Friday, letting just one of 41 Miami shots past him in the third period.

On Saturday, Northern was able to hold a much-improved Miami team to one goal in each of the first two periods.

"I thought we played better through about a period and a half on Saturday," Kyle said. "They had the lead, but it was a much more even game."

Gron said the RedHawks played with much more intensity on Saturday night, and it was difficult to slow down their momentum.

"They were hitting, we weren't getting the puck deep and we couldn't get it out of our zone for a while," Gron said. "We have to be used to playing teams like that if we want to win in the future."

Kyle said the Miami goal that really hurt the Wildcats on Saturday was at the beginning of the third period.

"We took a penalty late in the second after the time expired," Kyle said. "We had to go out and kill that in the third, and that goal kind of put the dagger in our heart."

Miami scored another four goals in the third period, shutting out the Wildcats. Senior goaltender Reid Ellingson saw his first

action since the Michigan State series when he replaced Coreau after the fourth RedHawk goal.

"I thought throughout the game and especially in the first and second period of Saturday night's game, we had chances to score," Follmer said. "We did generate some offense, but obviously not as much as we needed to."

When Northern last faced the RedHawks in December, it was a sweep for the Wildcats at home. Miami has improved significantly since their last series, Kyle said.

"A couple of their really good young players hadn't yet had enough games," Kyle said. "They have a much different team and, having said that, I didn't think we played as efficiently as we needed to."

With the Miami series concluding a five-game road trip, the 'Cats return to the Berry Events

Center this weekend to take on Ferris State University (11-6-3-1 CCHA, 17-8-3 overall).

The No. 6 Bulldogs are ranked just behind Northern in CCHA penalty minutes, so Gron said there is a chance that it will turn into a special teams game.

"We're just going to have to play smart and keep our sticks off of guys," Follmer said. "We want to play our game in control of tempo and have them get into penalty trouble."

Kyle said being able to feed off the energy of Wildcat fans has changed a number of games for NMU and urged students to attend the games at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 3 and Saturday, Feb. 4.

"We're certainly going to have to play better than we just did," Kyle said. "Our guys understand the significance of the series, and I'm sure we'll be ready to play."



Justin Key/NW

Junior defenseman Kyle Follmer celebrates a goal at home against Miami University. Follmer has three goals and 16 assists in 25 games this season.

2011-2012 CCHA Conference Standings

		CONFERENCE						OVERALL						
		GP	W	L	T	SW	Pts.	GF	GA	W	L	T	GF	GA
1	Ferris State	20	11	6	3	1	37	54	63	17	8	3	78	63
2	Miami	22	11	9	2	1	36	58	63	15	11	2	80	63
	Western Michigan	20	10	7	3	3	36	54	65	13	10	5	77	65
	Ohio State	22	10	7	5	1	36	62	63	14	8	5	77	63
5	Lake Superior	22	9	9	4	4	35	56	75	14	11	5	77	75
6	Notre Dame	20	10	7	3	0	33	55	77	15	10	3	83	77
7	Michigan	20	9	7	4	1	32	60	66	15	9	4	95	66
8	Michigan State	20	8	9	3	2	29	56	74	13	11	4	85	74
9	Northern Michigan	20	7	8	5	2	28	50	69	12	9	5	72	69
10	Alaska	22	6	12	4	2	24	51	69	9	13	4	64	69
11	Bowling Green	20	3	13	4	3	16	28	77	8	15	5	48	77

'Cats need to bust streak to save playoffs

By Jon Young
assistant sports editor

It was a tough weekend on the road for the NMU women's basketball team (4-8 GLIAC, 8-11 overall) as they dropped two conference matches, running their losing streak to four games. Last Saturday, NMU lost to Northwood, 63-55.

The 'Cats got down by as much as 16 points in the first half. Head coach Troy Mattson said NMU's slow start shadowed an otherwise strong performance.

"When you're on the road, a team's going to hit you with a lot of energy, and again I don't think we were quite ready for it. We got ourselves in a big hole," Mattson said. "The last 30 minutes of the game I thought we completely outplayed them."

Senior guard Hillary Bowling said Northwood's strong start hurt NMU and that the team needs to work on putting together a complete game.

"They shot (nearly) 50 percent in the first half and once they have a lead on you like that it's hard to get back into it," Bowling said. "We really just need to come out and play a full 40 right now. We're getting behind in the be-

ginning of the game so we really just have to pull a full 40 minutes together."

Northern, in the midst of a four-game skid, hasn't had a loss by more than eight points.

While Mattson isn't happy with the losing he said it's good to see Northern playing teams tough.

"We're not playing bad basketball; do we have to play better? Yeah, we're going to need to play a little better to win games," Mattson said. "But we're not playing bad right now and that's the encouraging part."

Senior guard Chelsea Lyons led the 'Cats with 21 points and four assists.

Freshman center Courtney Lemon was the only other Wildcat in double figures, dropping in 13 points.

NMU's first game of the weekend was against the Hillsdale College Chargers. NMU had a hard time converting shots against the 3-2 zone and dropped the game

,68-62.

"They played in a zone for 40 minutes and you can stay in a



We missed a lot of open jump-shots that we normally make and it affected the outcome of the game.

—Troy Mattson
head coach

zone as long as the other team's missing and we just couldn't shoot the ball very good," Mattson said.

The zone kept NMU out of the paint for the most part and held the Wildcats to 31.3 percent shooting and a season high 34 3-point attempts.

Mattson said the team had good looks but wasn't able to convert.

"We missed a lot of open jump-shots that we normally make and it affected the outcome of the game," Mattson said. "We made plays throughout the game but when the ball doesn't go in the basket it doesn't matter what else you're doing, it makes it look bad and we just couldn't get the

ball to go down."

The 'Cats stuck relatively close with the Chargers all game even taking a second half lead.

NMU got a big boost from their effort on the glass, collecting 20 offensive rebounds and 46 overall.

Bowling said it was good to see the team win the battle of the boards.

"It's definitely encouraging, we knew they were small going into it so we knew we had to be aggressive rebounding" Bowling said. "We just need to carry that over from game to game."

Lyons and freshman guard Alyssa Colla paced the 'Cats with 17 points a piece.

Sophomore forward Annie Rubendunst also chipped in 10 points and Lyons snagged nine rebounds to lead the team.

The 'Cats return home this week looking to snap their losing streak during a three game home-stand.

Mattson said the games against Wayne State and Findlay this weekend are crucial.

"I think a lot of what happens throughout the rest of the season is going to be dictated this weekend," Mattson said.

At 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 2 NMU hosts the Wayne State University Warriors. Then at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 4 the 'Cats take on the University of Findlay Oilers. Both games are at the Berry Events Center.

"Wayne State and Findlay are right in front of us in the conference and if we can beat them we're going to own the tie breaker situation, so these are very important games," Mattson said.

GLIAC North Standings

Ranking	GLIAC	Overall
1. Ferris State	10-1	13-4
2. Michigan Tech	8-4	13-5
3. Grand Valley St.	6-6	9-10
4. Northern Michigan	4-8	8-11
5. Northwood	3-9	8-11
6. Lake Superior St.	3-9	7-12
7. Saginaw Valley	2-10	4-15

Senior Lyons paces 'Cats in multiple sports

By David Pleyel
staff writer

It's no secret that NMU has many talented athletes who devote much of their time and effort to a sports. It's also no secret that a main reason athletes play to begin with is to see who the better man, woman or team is.

But there are some athletes who define their performances in sports to be more than just about winning or losing.

To some, it's all about that indescribable passion, drive and love for the sport that makes them want to go a little further and push a little harder to achieve nothing short of success.

Senior point guard Chelsea Lyons is one athlete who appears to have a never ending supply of all three qualities. Lyons said her love for basketball runs deep and that there's no greater feeling in the world than being on the court.

"I'm always so happy to play

basketball," Lyons said. "Every time I step out onto that court, I just get a sense of relaxation and the eagerness to always learn new things. But most of all, I live for the competition basketball brings. It's what really gives me a true love and respect for the game."

Playing basketball and soccer since the third grade, Lyons said her primary sport and true love growing up was soccer, but basketball was never too far behind. Lyons eventually began to play both sports with ambition and vigor.

In high school, Lyons lettered four times, an All-conference selection in basketball for four years, and All-state as a senior. She was also All-conference in track and All-state in soccer. She said no matter what anyone told her what she can or cannot do, she would go out of her way to prove them wrong.

"One of the biggest reasons for my self-drive is the fact that I would have people tell me either I couldn't do something or that my chances were very slim," Lyons said. "For me, that was more reasons to prove people wrong and show them I could do it, no matter what the situation was."

After high school, Lyons attended and played both basketball and soccer for the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay for three years. She said while it was a great learning experience, she wasn't getting any court time and it was a hard thing to deal with.



Justin Key/NW

Senior forward Chelsea Lyons played in one season for NMU soccer and started all 18 games. Lyons had seven goals and seven assists for 14 points.

"I was really focused into soccer more than basketball at that point," Lyons said. "I always had a positive attitude and gave it my all, but not having any court time really did get to me. I knew I had the talent and could be an asset to the team, but when you're always one step behind the senior athletes, it's tough."

During her junior year, Lyons considered leaving basketball and was going to focus mainly on soccer.

She realized she would miss the sport too much and looked at what her options were. It was then she decided that transferring was the best option.

"I was looking at a few schools when I decided to transfer," Lyons said. "But a lot of them only wanted me to play one sport be-

cause they were worried that I couldn't maintain my GPA along with performing both soccer and basketball. After looking at several schools, I talked to Troy Mattson at NMU and he said they would find a way so that I could play both."

Since then, Lyons has enjoyed her time here at NMU and plans on graduating this semester. She said she'll miss playing for NMU and has hopes to play basketball after college.

"I've really enjoyed my time here at NMU and had the chance to work with some great coaches and teammates," Lyons said. "After I graduate, I'd love to play basketball in the U.S. or overseas. If for some reason basketball isn't in my future, then I plan on going in the Marine Corps."



Justin Key/NW

Senior guard Chelsea Lyons has played two seasons with NMU basketball. Lyons scored a career high 30 points on Saturday, Jan. 21 against Ferris.

Wildcats suffer biggest loss of season

By Jon Young
assistant sports editor

The road was unforgiving for the NMU men's basketball team this weekend as they were swept in losses to the Hillsdale College Chargers and the Northwood University Timberwolves.

On Saturday, the 'Cats (4-8 GLIAC, 8-11 overall) lost to Northwood 64-58. Head coach Doug Lewis said the team needs to work on limiting mental mistakes and rebound the ball better to get close wins.

"You have to play defense and you have to rebound," Lewis said. "You can't give up 13 or 14 offensive rebounds and expect to win a game on the road and that was pretty huge."

NMU lost the battle of the boards 38-31 and shot 11-17 from the free throw line. Senior center Jared Benson said the combination hurt the team.

"It was the rebounding that really got us, we gave them way to many offensive rebounds," Benson said. "Our free throw shooting needs to come around, it started off really well but now, suddenly, it's not there and that hurts you at the end of games."

Lewis said the team is playing hard but with youth comes inexperience and that has caused some of the problems late in the game. Freshman guard Haki Stampley

picked up two quick fouls with around 10 minutes left and the Timberwolves pulled away.

"We're still having mental lapses, at this level you can't have mental lapses. Late in the game against Northwood we were down one, Haki gets a foul, then knocks the ball out of the guys hand and gets a tech and now they shoot two free-throws and then they knock down a three."

Stampley led NMU with 20 points and senior guard DeAndre Taylor scored 10 points. Sophomore forward Matt Craggs also netted 10 to go along with his six rebounds.

Last Thursday the 'Cats lost their most lopsided game of the year to the No. 20 ranked Hillsdale Chargers 89-41. Lewis said the slow start prompted him to give his bench players heavy minutes.

"We just didn't have anything in the tank. We weren't mental focused," Lewis said. "The 48 points is kind of deceiving because



the second half I didn't play the majority of my starters. I was kind of mad at my team."

The starter that did log big minutes was junior forward TJ Cameron, who played 37 of the possible 40 minutes and led the team in scoring with 11 points. Lewis said the junior college transfer has the kind of energy he is looking for.

"He's a winner and what we're trying to do here is bring players here with a winning mentality," Lewis said. "You have to play every play like it's your last play and TJ's been a great example of that."

The Wildcats play five of their last seven games at home and are two wins away from being tied for the fourth and final spot in the GLIAC tournament. Benson said defense is going to be key during the final stretch.

"We have to get everybody on the same page because right now the help-side isn't there and we have to get everybody to read the floor and be able to see their man and

the ball at the same time," Benson said.

NMU returns home this week to begin a three game home-stand. At 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2 they host the Wayne State University Lakers. At 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, NMU tips off with the Findlay

University Oilers.

"If we're going to make the conference tournament we must take care of business at home. The conference tournament fourth spot is up for grabs so we just have to keep fighting every single game," Lewis said.

Wildcat Basketball Scouting Report

Wayne State



Findlay



Records: 12-7 overall 15-4 overall
9-4 GLIAC 9-3 GLIAC

Last Matchup: NMU lost 77-69 NMU lost 86-65

NMU's All-Time Record Against: 33-32 3-13

GLIAC North Standings

Ranking	GLIAC	Overall
1. Ferris State	8-3	11-7
2. Michigan Tech	8-4	10-9
3. Northwood	7-5	11-7
4. Grand Valley	6-6	10-9
5. Saginaw Valley	6-6	10-9
6. Lake Superior St.	5-7	10-9
8. Northern Michigan	4-8	8-11

USOEC freestyle focused on Olympic Trials

By Karly Ratzenberger
staff writer

At NMU, the United States Olympic Education Center or USOEC is home to many Olympic sports. One that is less well known is the women's freestyle wrestling team.

Freestyle wrestling made its debut at NMU eight years ago when it was added to the list of sports in the 2004 Olympic games.

Head coach Shannyn Gillespie said this season is interesting due to the fact that the Olympic trials begin in March for the summer games.

"We are doing well because it is a long season," Gillespie said. "We started training in August and we have had two or three competitions since then. We just came off of a training camp so we're where we need to be right now in the season."

Gillespie started his NMU coaching career around the same time as the program started.

He was not looking for a job when he came across the USOEC, but he realized that it could be a great opportunity.

"During my search for funding for the non-profit organization I worked for, I ran across an article talking about the training

center up here and the opportunity to coach women," Gillespie said. "I thought it would be a unique opportunity. It wasn't because I thought one gender would be better than the other. I just saw it as an opportunity to help the USA train champions."

Gillespie said there are four slots for women on the Olympic team, but to be on the team, they must first make it through the trial rounds.

A few members of the team competed in the USOEC Senior Nationals on Monday, Jan. 16.

In this competition, the top seven finalists qualified for the Olympic Trials.

Freshman Erin Goldston took seventh place (3-2), Schuyler Brown finished in sixth place (4-3) and sophomore Melissa Apodaca took second place (5-1) in Nationals.

All will be competing in the Olympic trials on April 2.

Gillespie said the team has had a lot of turnover in the last eight years, but this year there are a some wrestlers who are veterans.

"This year we have a few athletes who have been here for two or three years, and it is nice to have people who have been here before to lead the team," Gillespie said. "It's refreshing to have people who have been here

so long."

Apodaca said the team is very young this year, but she is excited for the amount of potential they carry for future events.

"There are a lot of freshmen this year and I know they will do well in the future," Apodaca said. "They are great training partners, so I can't wait until they reach their potential. I am also excited for the new wrestlers to be coming up and reaching their potential as well."

Gillespie said the team has around 10 practices a week, and often participates in competitions and training camps.

The team participates in a competition around once a month, but Gillespie said it depends on what the athletes want to do and

when they want to compete.

"Our season doesn't really end or begin; it is a 12 month season," Gillespie said. "We are constantly trying to prepare our athletes for the trial process in the spring, and ultimately the olympics."

Several members of the team competed in the Guelph Open at the University of Guelph on Saturday, Jan. 21. Out of the six athletes that competed, three of them placed.

Goldson (2-2) and sophomore Lilia Gudzyuk (0-4) both came in fifth place and freshman Allene Somera took sixth place (1-3).

Apodaca said the team does a lot of training together and they often take trips to train in different countries.

Other countries send their

USOEC Freestyle Wrestling Upcoming Schedule

Date	Event	Location
Feb. 2-4	Schultz Memorial International	OTC
Feb. 17-19	Klippan Lady Open	Klippan, Swe.
Feb. 19-Mar.3	National Team Training Camp #5	OTC
Feb. 24-26	Pan-Am Championships	Colo. Springs
TBA	Folkstyle Nationals/Folkstyle Duels	TBD
Mar. 11-21	National Team Training Camp #6	TBD
Mar. 23-25	Pan-Am Championships	Orlando, Fla.
Mar. 28-Apr.4	Olympic Development Camp	OTC

USOEC prepares for Olympics with Kiki Cup

By Karly Ratzenberger
staff writer

The Kiki Cup Greco-Roman Duals were held on Saturday, Jan. 28 at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

February 2-4, they will wrestle at the Dave Schultz International Tournament.

Seven athletes from the USOEC were chosen to be members of team USA: seniors Paul Tellgren and Zach Nielsen, juniors Mark Stenberg and Josh Erickson, Max Nowry and Kendrick Sanders.

Four teams attended this competition from the United States as well as a team from Italy, India and Spain.

Nielsen said the dual was great preparation for the international tournament later on this week.

"The Kiki Cup was a big help toward me making weight; I won't have to cut much at all now," Nielsen said. "This dual is great because there isn't a lot of pressure, just good competition between friendly countries."

Nielsen said athletes have to get used to the higher elevation in Colorado Springs; if they don't get used to it in time they could perform poorly. Wrestling in the Kiki Cup helped him get used to

training at the different elevations a lot faster.

"I'm acclimated to the elevation now, so I will perform better for the Dave Schultz and I'm excited to see how I do," Nielsen said.

In the match against India, the United States had six victories from USOEC athletes. Most matches were won in two periods; at 84 kg Stenberg beat Manoj Kumar, at 66 kg Castellano beat Sandeep Yadav and Sanders also won his match against Rajinder Chikara at 74 kg.

Nowry went the full three periods with Joginder Singh but ended up winning 1-2, 6-0, 2-0. Erickson won both matches he had against India; one against Pal Risi 3-0, 7-0, and one against Dharmender Dalal 3-2, 1-0.

Against Spain the USOEC athletes had four victories; one each from Castellano, Sanders, Nielsen and Erickson. After the first period of his match against Andres Bernardino ended 4-3, Erickson was able to pin his opponent in the last 40 seconds of



The Kiki Cup was a big help toward me making weight; I won't have to cut much at all now.

—Zach Nielsen
Greco-Roman wrestling

period two, ending the match.

Even though he bumped up a weightclass to compete in more matches, Nielsen said he per-

formed well.

"My second match especially felt good," Nielsen said. "I hit a nice headlock then outlasted him for the win."

The last dual for the evening was against the team from Italy. Tellgren won in three periods against Fedrico Manea, 1-0, 0-7 and 1-0. Also going all three periods was Erickson, who wrestled and won a close match against Daniele Ficara, 0-1, 1-0 and 1-0.

The USOEC Greco-Roman team will be staying in Colorado Springs through the end of the

week to participate in the Dave Schultz Memorial international tournament.

Schultz was an American wrestler whose life was taken prematurely in 1996. This tournament is hosted in his honor of his love of the sport and the international companionship he made through it.

Weigh-ins for the Greco-Roman athletes will be Friday, Feb. 3 and wrestling begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 4 at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

'Cats recruit 26 new players for 2012

Northern Michigan's head football coach Chris Ostrowsky announced his first recruiting class Wednesday, Feb. 1 as 26 future NMU student-athletes signed national letters of intent on the first day of the signing period.

"I'm thrilled with what's gone on here during the last eight weeks and I'm lucky to have great assistants that helped create a template and follow it," Ostrowsky said. "We went out and aggressively pursued the top players in our target four states;

we wanted symmetry with the class and got 13 players on offense and 13 on defense."

The class consists of players from Michigan (20), Wisconsin (3), Illinois (2) and New Jersey (1). The lone Upper Peninsula recruit is Austin Young from Escanaba.

"We want to be cautiously optimistic and we found the football players that we wanted," Ostrowsky said.

Ostrowsky was named the 21st head coach of the NMU football program on Wednesday,

Nov. 30 after serving as the offensive coordinator for two seasons.

"We play in a great league and for us to be successful next year, we need to become a football team," Ostrowsky added. "We will start winning when that happens."

NMU finished 4-7 overall and 3-7 in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference for sixth-place in the North Division. The 2011 team had 23 seniors move on from football.

—NMU Sports Information

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'Cats finish regular season with No.11 BGSU

By Laura Conway
staff writer

The Wildcat club hockey team is coming off two undefeated weekends of hockey in a row that have them tied for first in the WCCHA with St. Cloud State University.

NMU played Michigan Tech on Friday, Jan. 20 and the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh on Jan. 21 and 22. The 'Cats swept the weekend starting with a 7-3 win over Michigan Tech.

The team continued its suc-

cess by shutting down Oshkosh in both games, winning 9-1, on Saturday and 12-0 on Sunday.

January 28 and 29, the team traveled to play a series against the University of Minnesota-Duluth. Again, the team came back with victories of 3-1 and 2-1 for a weekend sweep.

Assistant coach Nino Fogaroli said Saturday's game started off slow but the team was able to pick it up about halfway through the game.

"It took us the first period and half of the second to get warmed

up and going," Fogaroli said. "When we came into the third our guys stepped up, took control, and started putting some in the net."

Fogaroli said that there were a lot of penalties not called due to a lack of officials, but was proud of the team for keeping their emotions under control.

"Duluth started getting cheap and the referees weren't calling it," Fogaroli said. "We didn't let it sidetrack us from what we needed to do."

Senior left wing Robby Bissett scored twice and senior right winger Dave O'Donnell scored once on Saturday.

Freshman goaltender Jeffery Ryan only let in one goal on 25 attempted shots.

Bissett said he was able to push himself and give the team some cushion when they needed it.

"We weren't getting much production as an offense," Bissett said. "I got a nice pass for the first goal from Brad and then I got the game-winner for my second goal."

Senior center Brad Gicopoulos and junior defenseman Evan Weber each scored once in Sunday's game, the latter sinking the game winning puck.

O'Donnell said even though the 'Cats have won six in a row, they need every person to contribute if they want to win the

#	Player	GP	G	A	PTS
25	Kellen Michalak	32	35	10	45
21	Brad Gicopoulos	31	17	27	44
19	Robby Bissett	34	19	20	39
8	Mike Baudino	32	12	10	22
11	Mark Novak	29	7	15	22
28	Chris Adam	34	11	10	21
34	Evan Weber	34	5	14	19
26	David O'Donnell	24	9	6	15
3	Shane Feehery	27	5	10	15
18	Dillon Montalvo	34	7	6	13



Ashley Wiggins/NW

Senior right wing Dave O'Donnell crosses over in the neutral zone against Wisconsin-Oshkosh. O'Donnell had four goals and one assist in the series.

conference championship in two weeks.

"Our line has really been clicking this whole semester," O'Donnell said. "We need to continue our production to help the team."

This weekend, the team is preparing to play Bowling Green State University. Fogaroli said he is looking forward to the test of playing such a good team.

"We are going to continue to emphasize refinement and developing the boys' skill," Fogaroli said. "They have a solid club, but if we show up rested, healed, and ready to work hard, we should

come out with a win."

Bissett said even though they had a hard time with Bowling Green last year he knows they will do well this year.

"Bowling Green will be a good test," Bissett said. "We are a young team, but our best really does come out against teams we have adversity against."

The 'Cats will take on BGSU at 9 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 4 and at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 5 at Lakeview Arena.

At 10 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 6 NMU will play Michigan Tech in Houghton for the last meeting with their U.P. rival.

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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@mmu.edu.

Shout Outs

Boo — Keep up the great work, we couldn’t beeee more proud! Love you more than bunnies. — **Mom**

Nate Bachert — Classic Mac-Gruber. — **Jon Young**

Jake — I love you. Good luck on job interviews! — **Me**

Matt Schmelling — I run the show in NBA 2k12 you should probably quit now, or sell the game. — **Jon Young**

My Kappa Ladies — I just want to say that I’m so proud to be a part of such an amazing sorority with great women like yourselves. Let’s keep up the great work!. — **Me**

ANE — Thanks for feeding me even when we weren’t at work. I was hungry. — **NE**

the world — Go see the drone wolves at the blue lounge, Friday at 11 p.m. — **drone wolves**

Katrina and Chazz — You should fill the candy bucket more often. It helps us be productive and stuff. — **PEN**

Printer — We love you. Please hang around for another semester before you graduate to printer heaven. — **NW staff**

Shananigans — Love you soo much ... you are the best sister, remember don’t EVER do anything

I wouldn’t do! — **Your favorite little sister**

Rock — Well, once again it looks like I win. — **Paper**

Clinic Speechies — We did it! We made it through our first day of clinic and did great! Woooooohooo! — **Fellow Clinic Speechie**

Alpha sigma phi — A league of gentlemen aspiring to be greater! — **230**

Rhino — Wolves are nocturnal, not dayturnal. Get over it. — **Unicorn**

Students — Happy February everyone!!! We hope the semester has started out well for everyone!! — **Kappa Beta Gamma**

Wine — I need you so badly. Please save me from this insanity. — **W[h]ine[y] girl**

Jaimie — You’re a great roommate. Thank you. Love you. — **Shaina**

Free Time — I miss you; please come back. I won’t take granted this time. — **Sam**

My Alpha Gam Sister — I love love love LOVE all of you! You’re beautiful and don’t ever think any different :) — **Carolyn**

H — Hey best sister! Sorry your birthday shout out didn’t make it to the paper :(— **S**

Chris Kovala — Congrats on your selection as a Presidential Management Fellow Program finalist. I’m so proud of you! — **Jess**

Jess — I want to grow old with you. — **Shaina**

Mama and Daddy — I miss you and Colby. I can’t wait to see you in a couple weeks. — **Delaney**

Calvin — You’re a cool dog, but you gotta stop busting out and running away. It’s getting old. — **Mom**

Ashley Tull — We need to do lunch. Seriously...we need to stop saying it and actually go eat Border Grill. — **Your old boss**

Mello Yello — You try, but you’re no Mountain Dew. You won’t be invited to the party next time. — **Consumer**

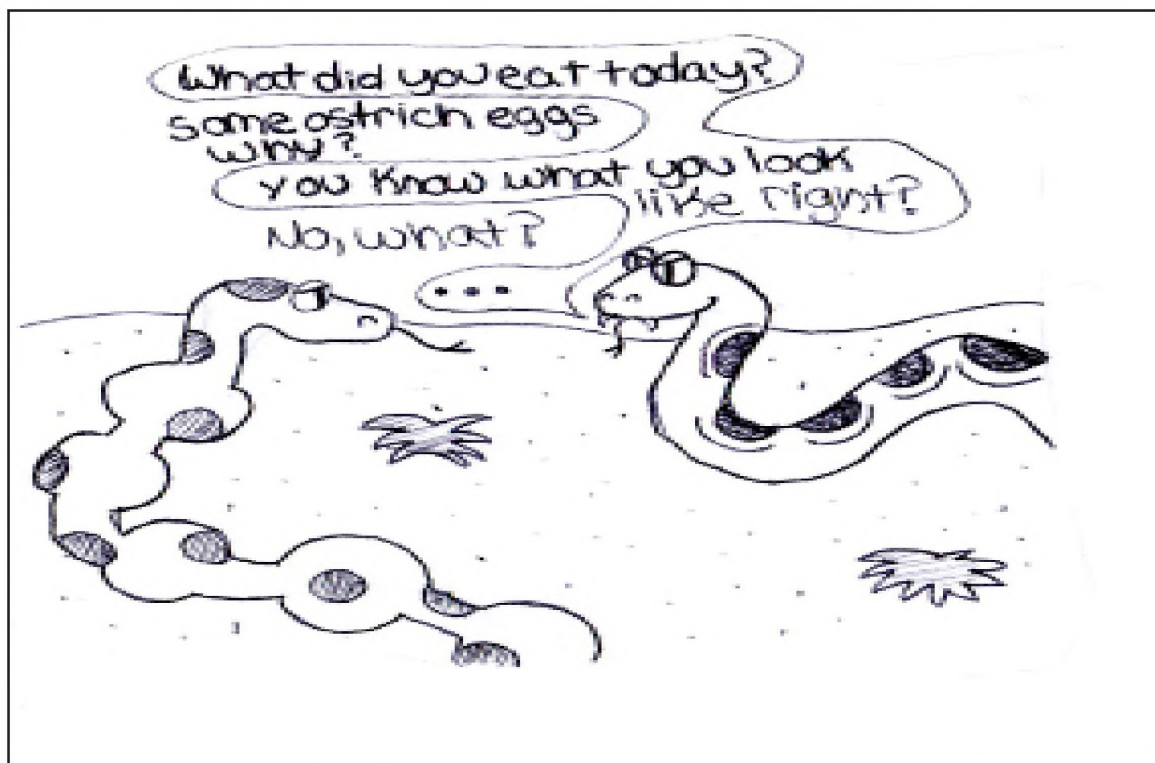
My Bridesmaids — I know this pain. Why do lock yourself up in these chains? No one can change your life except for you. Don’t ever let anyone step all over you! — **Love your Bridemaid**

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- “Grape juice”
- Deadline drunk
- Annoying Bop Its
- Dirty gutters

WILD NORTHANTICS — Dana Perry



PEZ — Amanda Buck



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