



## University workers picket outside UC

*UAW members ask for higher pay, affordable health care*

By Adelle Whitefoot  
news editor

Members and supporters of Northern Michigan University's UAW Local 1950 picketed in the cold weather Tuesday afternoon outside the University Center.

UAW Technical and Office Professionals' (TOPS) contract expired on June 30, 2011 and the UAW team has been unable to bargain for a new contract that provides for living wages and affordable health care, a UAW statement said.

The informational picket on

Tuesday was intended to get the word out about the union's problem in coming to equitable contracts agreeable by both the union and administration, said Grace Albert, UAW bargaining team member.

"We hope to get an equitable contract when we meet with administration again to show that our union is strong and we're working together towards this," Albert said. "I'm really encouraged (by the participation). I think it's good."

"We've got the union behind us, and I think other union groups

on campus are starting to show their support too."

Along with the informational picket, TOPS on campus are planning on wearing black shirts every Tuesday until they have ratified their contract. TOPS is encouraging the university community to show their support by also wearing black shirts on Tuesdays, Albert said.

"(Black Shirt Tuesday) is an-



other thing to call attention to our issue of needing living wages and affordable health care," Albert said.

According to a UAW statement, to aid in balancing an operating budget, which reflected a \$6 million state appropriations cut, NMU administrators looked at the high cost of health insurance and decided to move to Blue Cross Blue Shield Commu-

nity Blue 2 plan to save about a third of that amount. The UAW bargaining team is planning on getting together again to see what they can work out, Albert said.

"We've requested some financial information from the university," Albert said. "They're saying they don't have any money to give us a raise, so that's where we're at."

UAW represents the lowest paid full-time employees on campus, with starting salaries of about \$9 per hour and over \$1.15

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## Petition drafted to legalize marijuana

**ONLINE DOCUMENT**

By Shaina James  
assistant news editor

A petition that could potentially end the prohibition of marijuana for Michigan citizens is being distributed all across the state.

A group of volunteers are trying to get a minimum of 300,000 people to sign the petition before July 9.

This will allow people to vote on the November presidency ballot for a constitutional amendment to end marijuana prohibition.

"We need over 300,000 signatures by July 9 to get it on the ballot," said attorney and mari-

juana activist Matthew Abel. "So if people want it on the ballot, they should sign the petition."

The amendment would allow adults 21 and older to use marijuana. The amendment would not apply to or change marijuana regulations while driving or operating heavy machinery.

"Marijuana is useful as a food product and energy source," Abel said. "It has a lot of benefits. It is not to just party with anymore."

According to Abel, there are many financial benefits as well that will come from the end of marijuana prohibition.

It will provide many jobs in

See *WEED* • Page 3

## WiMAX expands to Houghton

By Drea Weiner  
staff writer

Northern Michigan University in cooperation with BBTelsys, a Grand Rapids based company, has introduced WiMAX to the Houghton community.

BBTelsys and NMU have a three-year contract to develop the Houghton WiMAX so NMU students with WiMAX capable laptops will be able to use it without a fee.

BBTelsys paid for the expansion. They hired NMU because NMU has the equipment to install WiMAX, said Dave Maki, chief technology officer.

"This is good for NMU because it generates outside revenue, which helps us pay for our WiMAX system," Maki said.

WiMAX is currently available for those who wish to purchase the Internet service in the downtown Houghton region, Hancock and Michigan Technological University Campus.

"It isn't that surprising for WiMAX to expand to Houghton because it's such a powerful technology," said Laura Judge, a senior environmental science and Spanish major. "Students need the Internet for course work."

There is only one base

station currently set up, and because of the geography of Houghton, WiMAX is not completely available throughout the city.

"It needs to be built up more," Maki said.

It is just for the Houghton area, although it will probably expand as far as Baraga, but that is up to BBTelsys, Maki said.

"This was a great opportunity that came up for NMU," said John Marra, director of technical services. "Initially (BBTelsys) had the spectrum and needed to use it or they would lose their license."

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## To Write Love On Her Arms leaves mark on NMU



Adelle Whitefoot/NW

Lead singer of Satellite, Steven McMorran, left, sings during the To Write Love On Her Arms event on Monday, Feb. 6 in the Great Lakes Rooms. Founder of To Write Love On Her Arms, Jamie Tworkowski, center, tells stories about friends and others that have taken their own lives or have tried to do so. Right, many students and others attended the event.

### WIMAX

Continued from Page 1

WiMAX operates over a 2.5 GHz spectrum, which is monitored by the FCC. NMU is required to renew their license every year.

"Think of it as a TV station," Marra said. "Before they are allowed to broadcast, they have to apply for the frequency and satisfy all the requirements before the government grants permission to use that frequency.

"It's the same with WiMAX."

For NMU students who are from Houghton and wish to take online courses or are doing student teaching, this means direct contact between NMU and the student, no third party, Maki said.

"It's exciting whenever (WiMAX) can expand and serve more students," Marra said.

The expansion gives NMU WiMAX another presence, Maki said.

"Wherever we have the core system we have the capacity to expand the system," Maki said. "[We will] expand the system whenever it is cost effective and it gets more NMU students Internet service."

Michigan Tech is currently not planning on buying into WiMAX and they do not own spectrum or the equipment, Marra said.

"[It'll really] help students like me, who are visiting for Winter Carnival this weekend, to keep up with homework," Judge said. "Though Tech has a different thing going on, I don't see why they wouldn't use WiMAX. It's a good idea to provide students with a free Internet service."

According to Michigan Tech's website, Resnet and Rovernet are the two wireless systems used. Resnet is for the residence dorms and on campus apartments use. The university commons areas use Rovernet.

"(WiMAX) would be a greater convenience (for Tech students)," said Ryan Hiltunen, a sophomore general science and arts major at Michigan Tech. "I would use it."

## ASNMU looks for new members willing to stay

By Elizabeth Bailey  
staff writer

Tuesday night's Associated Students of NMU meeting was cancelled, which gave the board plenty of time to brainstorm ideas for recruiting new members.

At the start of the new semester, ASNMU lost four members for various reasons. According to Drew Janego, vice president of ASNMU, the main reason so many members left was time conflict with classes.

"Trying to keep people on the board with changing schedules is hard," Janego said.

The board, which is supposed to have 24 representatives in all, is currently down to nine. However, according to Janego, this week there were four scheduled interviews which could conceivably bring the general assembly count up to 13 members.

Along with working over summer and putting up posters to increase the

number of recruits, members of ASNMU plan setting up shop in the lobby of some dorms.

"It's a way in to get the word out about our organization," Janego said.

With all the turnover that ASNMU has, Janego came up with an incentive program for the representatives. The program, which is still in the planning stages, would allow the members to count their work with ASNMU as a credit.

"I thought it would be a good idea to offer something like a class credit or discount to motivate members to stay on the board," Janego said.

In previous years the members of the executive board received pay for the hours they put in; today, however, there are no "perks" for the executive board or general assembly.

"I'm hoping that this will eventually work into the system for future boards," Janego said. "So there isn't so much turnover and the members of the board won't have to build the assembly

back up in the middle of the year, like we're doing right now."

Along with the program to keep members on the board the current members are putting together representative binders that house everything a new member would need.

"Having these binders would make the transition for new members seamless," Janego said.

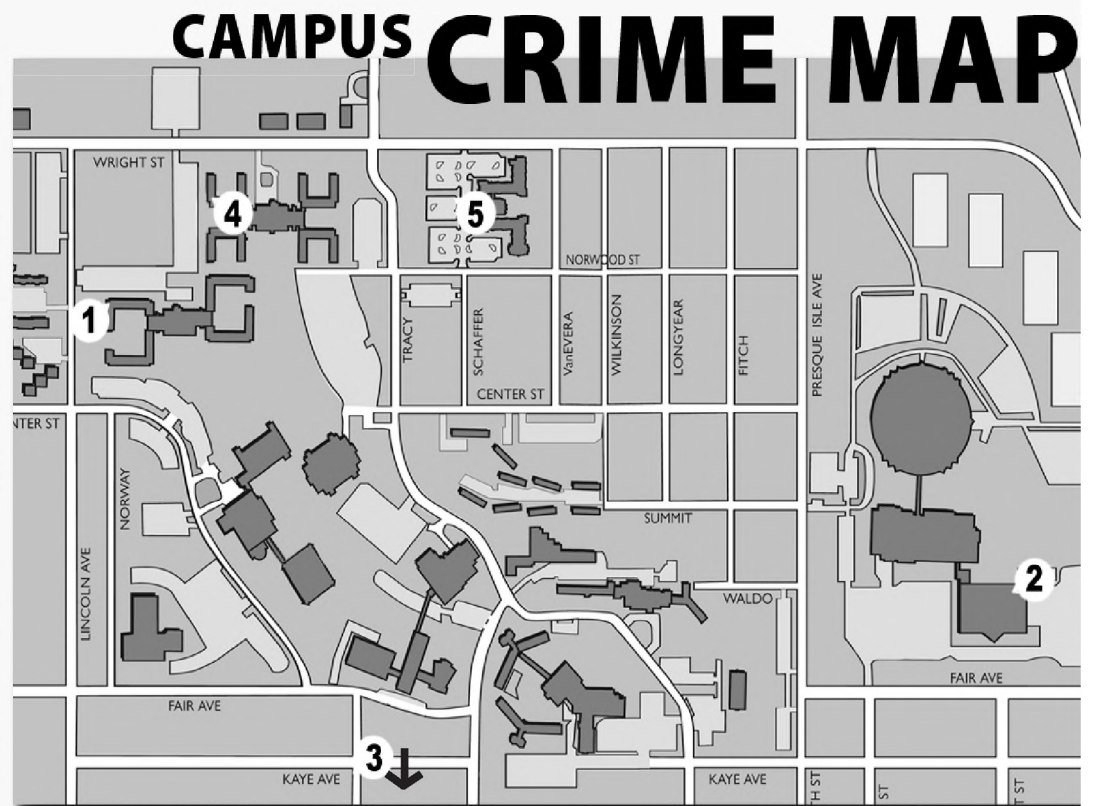
According to Janego, the binders will have things like the constitution and bylaws, any helpful people to contact while working on a project, as well as information about ASNMU for those who inquire about it.

When interviewing for a position on the board, Janego and three other representatives ask questions like, "why you want to be involved with student government" and "if you've had any other leadership roles in previous projects." Janego said it's a fairly easy process.

"We'll be back next week and hopefully we will be appointing new members to the board," Janego said.

### Map Key

- 1) A student was charged with assault at 12:52 a.m. Feb. 3 at Gant Hall.
- 2) Two students were charged with minor in possession at 9:15 p.m. Feb. 3 at the Berry Events Center.
- 3) A person was charged with operating while intoxicated at 10:47 p.m. Feb. 5 on the Washington and Morgans Streets.
- 4) A student was charged with the use of marijuana at 1:32 a.m. Feb. 5 in Hunt Hall.
- 5) A student was charged with larceny at 1 p.m. Feb. 6 in the Woodland Apartments.



## Students being ticketed

# Spirit Police give citations for showing pride

By Joe Rubingh  
contributing writer

The Spirit Police have begun to patrol campus, sporting events and other campus activities to promote WinterFest 2012.

The Spirit Police started looking out for school spirit on Tuesday, Feb. 7 and will continue do-

ing so until Thursday, Feb. 16.

Any student caught wearing NMU apparel or showing school spirit in some other way by the Spirit Police, a group of students part of the Special Events Committee, will be issued a ticket.

The tickets can be redeemed for prizes like a WinterFest T-shirt or mug, supporting this year's

theme "The Ice Age."

"It's a way to celebrate and get ready for WinterFest," said Sarah Muellerleile, head of the Special Events Committee. "And get people hyped for it."

If students gets pulled over by the Spirit Police and is issued a citation, they can bring their ticket to a certain location to redeem their prize.

The locations and the times when you can redeem your ticket can be found on the WinterFest website.

"Basically, if the Spirit Police catch you showing school spirit, they will give you a ticket," Muellerleile said.

If students don't get a ticket, they can stop by the Student Enrichment Center located on the first floor of University Center and buy a WinterFest T-shirt for \$8 or a mug for \$4.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Spirit Police, you have to be a member of the Special Events Committee.

"It's really easy to join and anyone can do it," Muellerleile said.

WinterFest events continue throughout February. There's a broomball tournament, airband competition, comedians Tracey Ashley and Pete Lee will be performing and a snow sculpture competition, just to name a few.

The U.P. 200 Sled Dog Race is also a part of WinterFest and there is always a big crowd to watch the dogs run

through Lower Mattson Park.

A campus-wide game of Clue will be played as part of WinterFest.

Somewhere on campus, the Special Events Committee will hide a medallion and every night from Sunday Feb. 19 to Thursday, Feb. 23, a clue is released until a team finds the medallion.

For more information on any of these events, visit [www.nmu.edu/winterfest](http://www.nmu.edu/winterfest) or keep your eyes open for posters around campus.



Adelle Whitefoot/NW

Not only can students win a WinterFest mug and T-shirt, they are also available for purchase at the Center for Student Enrichment for \$4 and \$8.



## WEED

Continued from Page 1

agriculture and the textile industry.

"Prohibition is counterproductive," Abel said. "[The amendment] will save a lot of money in law enforcement, corrections and courts. It will allow for personal freedom and to get the government off our backs."

Brady Linick, a senior electronic journalism major, supports the petition and said marijuana has been proven useful in treatment against many diseases including cancer, epilepsy, glaucoma, Parkinson's and many more.

"It is a much safer recreational drug than alcohol," Linick said. "There are no known marijuana-related deaths in U.S. history."

Supporters are passing around petitions and there are several businesses in the area that are supportive of the amendment. People who wish to sign the petition in Marquette will have the chance to Feb. 27, 6 to 8 p.m. at The Peter White Public Library in Marquette.

The two other locations the petition can be signed in the U.P. are Nuggy's Tabac-co Shack

in Escanaba and North Bluff Chiropractic in Gladstone.

More locations where the petition can be signed are listed on [www.repealtoday.org](http://www.repealtoday.org). According to Abel, the site is still being updated and more locations will be added as time goes on.

Although many people are supportive of the amendment, there are concerns about marijuana becoming legal and the effects it could have on people.

Christy Kalata, senior graphic communications major said anytime people take a drug, especially one that alters the brain, the medicine should be monitored by a licensed physician.

"If it were to be legalized to the point where it would become over the counter and anyone could take it, I feel the misuse of the drug will become more prominent in our society," Kalata said,

Abel said there will still be an issue with the federal government if the amendment is passed, but this will allow supporters to engage

the issue.

"I see it as more of an opportunity to change federal law or at least enforce the discussion on a federal basis," Abel said.

According to Marquette attorney and activist Brian Bloch, marijuana prohibition was first put in place around 100 years ago by politicians who were disappointed by the alcohol prohibitions. He said the marijuana prohibition was based on racism because back then most of the people who grew marijuana were Mexicans.

"Marquette County has a very serious prescription drug and meth problem, along with the rest of the United States," Bloch said. "[Prohibition is] diverting resources from these dangerous drug crimes to people who are growing pot."

Sixty-three percent of voters said they wanted a different legal attitude toward marijuana, according to Bloch.

"[The state] is using police power to repress the will of the voters, so in response to that I, Matthew Abel, and other activists are pushing back," Bloch said. "That is what this petition is about."

About \$1 million a year is spent in Marquette County on marijuana, according to Bloch. This money could stay in the county and keep the dangerous individuals out.

"Pot is non-toxic," Bloch said. "You can drink yourself to death, but it is impossible to ingest enough marijuana to kill you. But the kind of people who bring illegal drugs across the borders are dangerous criminals."

Prohibition is counterproductive. (The amendment) will save a lot of money in law enforcement, corrections and courts.

— Matthew Abel  
attorney and marijuana activist



## ONLINE ARTICLES

- 'Woman in Black' too slow to build suspense
- Forest Roberts Theatre and Peter White Public Library host storytellers

## Workshop teaches relaxation tips to help improve mood

By Kristen Koehler  
contributing writer

Students are invited to attend the Therapeutic Stretch, Release and Relaxation Skill Builder! workshop where NMU student Rachael Williams will assist in demonstrating various stretches as well as massage techniques.

The workshop will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 15 in Pioneer Rooms A and B of the University Center.

Williams has learned through experience that doing a few simple exercises a day can improve mood, increase energy and alleviate stress.

Learning how to relax by controlling the body is especially important for students, Williams said.

"During the workshop we plan to start out high energy and as time progresses we will slow things down by doing more calming and relaxing stretches," Williams said. "It's important we show students how to relax different parts of their body including the face and neck."

While many of the stretching techniques are done individually sitting or lying down, students are encouraged to bring a friend to the workshop for the partner stretch demonstrations.

For more information, email [slfp@nmu.edu](mailto:slfp@nmu.edu) or call (906) 227-1771.

# FAFSA help offered to students

## March 1 the best time to have application complete

By Marcellino Signorelli  
contributing writer

College Goal Sunday at the Marquette YMCA will provide students and parents the information necessary to get the most out of financial aid.

The session will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12 and will give those who attend information about how to properly fill out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

The FAFSA can be challenging for many first-time applicants since it asks for a lot of financial information, said Lori Smolinski, director of child development at the YMCA.

"We're going to walk them through the FAFSA," Smolinski said. "We'll be doing the FAFSA

with them and by the end of the event most students will either have completed their FAFSA or have it mostly completed with only minor revisions needing to be done."

Mike Rotundo, director of financial aid, also stated the importance of completing the FAFSA as soon as possible.

While the deadline for federal financial aid for the 2012-2013 school year is not until June 2012, state deadlines are much sooner than that.

"Financial aid is awarded on a rolling basis, but quite a few of the programs such as Perkins' Loans and work study have limited funds," Rotundo said. "The deadline for Michigan financial aid is March 1, however March 1 is a priority date for federal financial aid.

"That means it's not a deadline for federal aid, but it's best to have the FAFSA completed by that time so if any problems should come up,



The deadline for Michigan state financial aid is March 1, however March 1 is a priority date for federal financial aid. That means it's not a deadline for federal aid but it's best to have the FAFSA completed by that time.

— Mike Rotundo  
director of Financial Aid

students can take care of them before they leave after the end of the semester."

The only hurdle to completing the FAFSA is if taxes have not yet been filed. However, it is still possible to complete a FAFSA without the current tax return information.

"If the tax returns have not been completed then the previous year's tax return and current W-2 statement will work until the current tax returns are completed," Rotundo said. "A helpful tool when filling out the FAFSA is an IRS data retrieval tool, which can be used if the families tax returns have been completed.

"It will link to the IRS website and all the relevant info can be dragged right into the FAFSA."

College Goal Sunday is a na-

tionwide program managed by the YMCA of the U.S. and offers its assistance for free.

While the session is especially geared towards aiding high school seniors who are filling out the FAFSA for the first time, anyone is welcome to come to the session.

"It is just as important for adults to complete it as well as the students because most often the students are dependents of their parents," Smolinski said. "There is much to be learned, even for college students who have filled out a FAFSA in previous years."

For more information about the event, as well as a checklist for both students and parents, about what to bring to the session, go to [micollegegoal.org](http://micollegegoal.org).

## Workshop helps build useful skills up for success

By Jenean Zahran  
contributing writer

A popular Skill Builder! workshop returns this winter focusing on attitude, motivation and time management.

Open to the general public, this presentation is done by Ken Culp, an instructor for the mathematics and computer science department.

It will take place from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the Back Room of the University Center on Tuesday, Feb. 14.

"The first half of the presentation is about how to obtain the proper mindset in order to be successful," Culp said. "The second half focuses more on goal-setting and managing your time."

This is meant to be an interactive presentation and Culp encourages participants to ask questions.

Students can register online at NMU's Student Leader Fellowship Program's Skill Builder! workshop page, <http://webb.nmu.edu/Centers/StudentEnrichment>.

For more information, email [slfp@nmu.edu](mailto:slfp@nmu.edu) or call (906) 227-1771.



# Plagiarizing common occurrence

## Sometimes done accidentally, other times on purpose

By Hannah Fermanich  
staff writer

With mid-terms approaching, it's good to take the time to remember one of the major issues that comes with papers: plagiarizing.

According to the NMU Student Handbook, "No students shall submit as their own to an instructor any work which contains ideas or materials taken from another without full acknowledgement of the author, and the source."

What that means is that any work or ideas that are used in any student work, without giving credit to the original author is plagiarizing.

"We see it every semester," said Raymond Ventre, head of the English department. "(Students) don't understand the value of academic citation."

The most frequent plagiarism problem comes with a lack of citation.

Students either don't know when they should cite information or they neglect to cite it at all.

"They think it's less original to use more sources," Ventre said.

Other less frequent occurrences are when students either take parts from another's work or they download essays in their entirety from the Internet, Ventre said.

NMU offers students a great amount of resources when it comes to citation. The Olson Library's website has links to citation resources.

The instructors are always willing to help students who are confused and students are also able to visit the Writing Center for more help.

"They can just come in, it's a walk-in service," said Katie Hubbard, graduate assistant at the Writing Center.

The Writing Center works with students to help them cite their sources properly as well as help them with other writing challenges.

They explain step-by-step how to use the different citation styles and go through the citation

process with them.

"One of our goals is to eliminate that confusion," Hubbard said.

Even with the resources made available to students, some still choose to plagiarize. For those individuals, severe punishments can be expected.

According to Dean of Students, Christine Greer there are no legal ramifications involved with plagiarizing, but the Student Handbook makes it clear that other punishments inside the university will affect those who choose to continue stealing other people's work.

"When we catch it, we follow up on it," Ventre said.

According to the Student Handbook, when a student is suspected of plagiarizing, the instructor involved has 14 calendar days to alert the student to the violation of the Student Code, not including the days in which there is no school.

After the student has responded, the instructor is left to determine whether or not they believe that the student has participated in academic dishonesty.

The instructor will then de-

termine the punishment for the student, ranging from repeating the assignment all the way up to failing the student in the course.

"We've had just about every excuse possible," Ventre said.

If a student continues to violate the Student Code with academic dishonesty, the dean of students becomes involved.

Depending on the severity and number of infractions, there is a possibility of the student being suspended or even expelled from NMU.

"Better safe than sorry," Hubbard said.

Students wishing to receive help with citation can either work with their professors or they can take their papers to the Writing Center.

The Writing Center asks that students bring the assignment sheet or syllabus that gives the details of the assignment as well as a printed copy of the paper.

The Writing Center is open Sundays from 1 to 6 p.m. and Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. It is closed on Friday and Saturday as well as holidays, school breaks and finals week.



VENTRE

— UAW —  
Continued from Page 1

of that would have to be used to pay the new health insurance premium and the higher deductibles and higher co-pays, said a UAW statement.

The union also said in a statement it believes NMU is fiscally sound and is upset that money was spent to purchase more property and on other expenses, instead of increasing wages for its members.

The university has a team of management representatives that meet with the UAW bargaining team to negotiate terms for a new agreement, said Gavin Leach, vice president of finance and administration. The management bargaining team consults with Leach as needed throughout the process, he said.

"We will continue to work with the UAW 1950 towards a resolution on a new contract as part of the negotiation process," Leach said. "We are hopeful we can come to a resolution in the near future."

# Alumnus helps children overseas get connected

By Amanda Monthei  
staff writer

Curt Tucker, a Northern Michigan University alumnus, recently traveled to the city of Guaymate in the Dominican Republic to determine the practicality of installing green technologies in the community's school.

He left with a myriad of ideas for improving upon not only the school itself, but also the livelihood of the students within the school.

"The first thing we did was replace all the wiring in the school," said Tucker, a resident and business owner in downstate Saginaw. "It was just a mess and unsafe for the kids to be around."

"The first thing we did was fix the wiring and then we continued to walk around and take pictures, taking notes and drawing maps of the grounds."

Having come with the intention to simply improve the conditions at the school, where 200 students attend classes, Tucker ultimately found a number of things that needed work.

"Our main (goal) was to repair the electrical system," he said. "What we ended up doing was buying 10 computer tables and 10 desktop computers."

Tucker said the project was

primarily paid for by the nine individuals that went on the trip, himself included, but also business owners and churches in the Saginaw area.

After installing the computers, Tucker and the group that accompanied him ran into a problem with providing power to fuel the monitors.

"The power is only on for four hours a day," he said. "It can go off at any time. And that's where the problem lies with the computers; if the power turns off, it dumps everything that was open on them."

The group decided that installing a backup battery pack would help with the possibility of losing power, but even the battery packs proved unreliable.

"When the power is on, it charges the battery backup system," he said. "But that battery backup system only lasts for a very short time."

"What we want to do is find corporations and even individuals to partner with us on funding some solar powered panels, a bigger battery backup system with some solar panels, and then maybe some small wind generators for when it is cloudy out."

Tucker is planning to return to the school in July, by which time he hopes to receive enough fund-

ing for not only new solar panels and generators, but for other structural improvements as well.

"My ultimate goal is to fix the infrastructure of the school," he said. "We also want to secure funding to build new bathrooms and a kitchen to provide hot meals to the kids."

Tucker has a much larger plan in mind in doing all of this, however.

"Ultimately, (we want) these kids to get a good quality education that will be a preview to a good high school education which will be a preview to college," he said. "That is where the problem lies, they will never be able to afford a college education, so what were going to do is try and partner with some of the Michigan colleges."

"We're going to try to get select students that are good in school, good leaders, and were going to supply the funding to send them to college and then once they graduate, they will go back to become community leaders and entrepreneurs. This is a lifetime project for us and I am dedicated to it."

Tucker, who graduated from NMU in 1982 and again in 2008 from the School of Engineering Technology, said he hopes to make Northern a part of the proj-

ect within the next decade.

"My heart is at NMU," he said. "I certainly believe that if these students were at Northern, I would feel very confident that the community would take good care of them and that the university would take good care of them by giving them the world class education that Northern is known for."

Tucker's business, Teamtech Motorsports Safety, also took part in a project of their own by creating school bags for 600 students in the area surrounding the school.

The bags were created using a material that is typically used for

window nets on race cars.

"Everyone donated money for school supplies so we packed those bags with pens, pencils, erasers, crayons and paper," Tucker said.

Yet Tucker admitted his favorite part of the whole experience on the eastern coast of the Dominican Republic was when they revealed the computer room to the students.

"We had done (the room) covertly," he said. "They didn't know what we were doing, they just knew we were up to something big. So when the kids opened that computer room, they were in tears, I was in tears."



Photo courtesy of Curt Tucker

The children that Tucker assisted by installing an Internet system range from kindergarten to eighth grade. The computers currently use dial-up.

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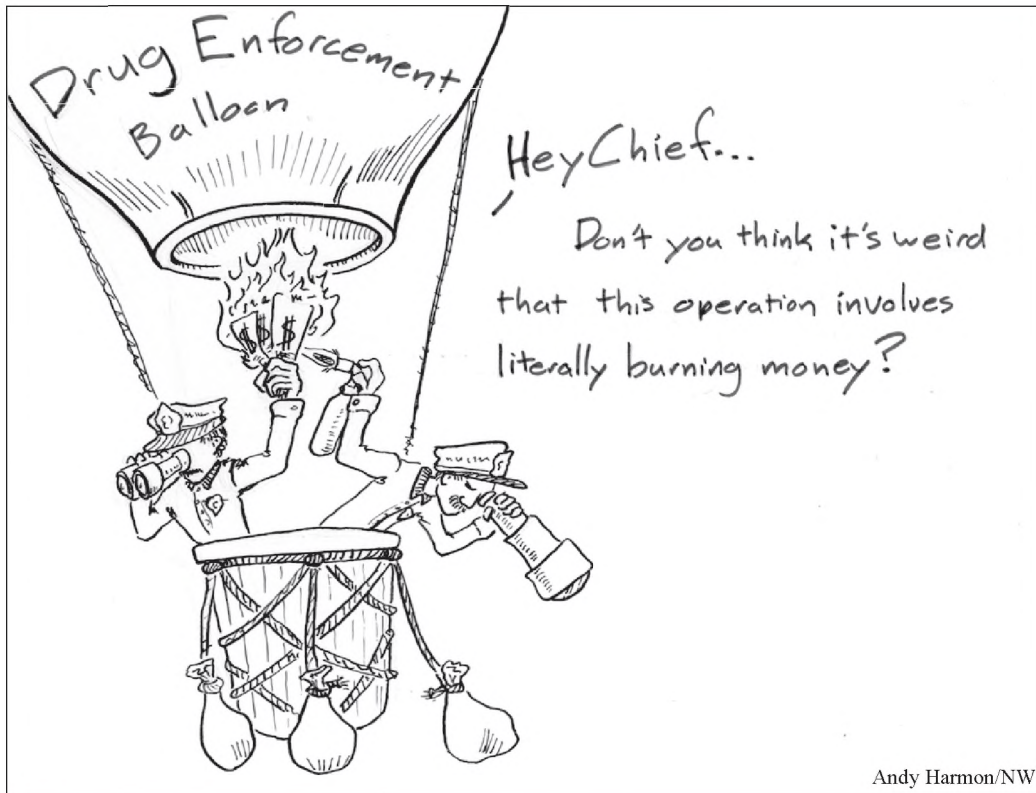
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## Staff Editorial



Andy Harmon/NW

## Pot legalization would fix Michigan economy

Legalizing marijuana in Michigan would help the state economy and citizens. A group of Michigan citizens hope to accomplish this by gathering enough signatures to put a marijuana legalization initiative on the 2012 voting ballot.

When a product that consumers want in large quantities is made illegal, the product will be sold in black markets regardless of legality. Whether or not the product is harmful, the product will go untaxed by the government, resulting in the loss of potential tax revenue. Marijuana is no different.

The U.S. is estimated to lose more than \$1 billion annually in tax revenues because of marijuana prohibition, according to [www.slate.com](http://www.slate.com). According to CNN figures, Michigan loses approximately \$32 million each year in lost tax revenues for the same reason. This lost tax revenue could be spent on things Michigan citizens need, like schools, bridges and health care.

Michigan spends about \$35,000 per prisoner annually to hold them in prison. With five percent of Michigan inmates behind bars for marijuana charges, Michigan taxpayers pay around \$85 million per year to keep marijuana users off the street.

Not only does Michigan lose money in lost tax revenues from marijuana prohibition, Michigan also loses money by using taxpayer funds to keep many non-violent

marijuana users off the streets. Legalizing marijuana in Michigan would reverse the negative economic effects associated with criminalizing marijuana.

Michigan could tax marijuana, adding \$32 million in new state revenue that could be spent on the dire needs of Michigan citizens. Michigan would also save \$85 million associated with locking up marijuana users in Michigan. This is a total of \$117 million in new state revenue that didn't exist under marijuana prohibition.

Critics of marijuana legalization efforts say marijuana is bad for a person's health and for that reason alone and should remain illegal. This hasn't been proven conclusively.

Marijuana's main component, THC, has been found to inhibit the cell growth of various tumors in rats. Even more recently, a University of California-San Francisco study found that marijuana smokers didn't have the same reduced lung function that occurs in tobacco smokers.

Whether you smoke pot or not, marijuana legalization will bring money into the state's treasury and also let marijuana users contribute to society by paying taxes instead of being thrown into prison.

If Michigan wants to start fixing its struggling economy, legalizing would be a first large step in the right direction.

## Fear shouldn't stop a vacation



Staff Column

Shaina James

Over winter break I visited the beautiful country of Mexico. After going to the Dominican Republic for past vacations, I wanted to travel to a different tropical location.

After doing hours and hours of research on what location would be cheapest, since I am a college student after all, and Riviera Maya, Mexico seemed to offer the most for your buck. My boyfriend and I were really excited and could not wait for the adventure that was only weeks away.

However, our excitement soon turned into worry, which was followed by hesitation. When we shared with our friends, co-workers and family that we would soon be vacationing in Mexico, they quickly addressed their concerns.

I heard many different stories about tourists being killed, kidnapped, robbed, drugged and really anything related to tourists being in danger. My uncle even told me not to eat the ice because some places put drugs in it that will make you pass out.

We did research online and there were mixed opinions about traveling to Mexico. Most of the reviews said that as long as you stayed in the tourists cities or on your resort, you would be safe.

Others mentioned police officers pulling visitors over and forcing the tourists to give them money, or people being kidnapped on their way to the resort from the airport and held hostage in order to get money from the victim's family.

We thought about these warnings and decided to take our chances and go to Mexico anyway. How

bad could it really be there? The night before I couldn't fall asleep; however, it was not from being over excited, it was because I was so nervous.

When we finally stepped off the plane in Mexico after a long flight, all my boyfriend and I were hoping for was to just make it to our resort. We had set up our transportation from the airport to our resort when we made reservations for our vacation.

We were nervous it would be some shady cab driver in a car that was falling apart that would take us to a scary room where we would be tortured. However, we were greeted by a friendly young man who guided us into a large tourist van.

We finally got to our resort, and looking back, the scariest

**We finally got to our resort and looking back, the scariest part about the drive was the speeding semi-trucks on the highway.**

part about the drive was the speeding semi-trucks on the highway. Yes, we saw many police officers with machine guns posted along the highway, but that made me feel safer.

Throughout our vacation we only left our all-inclusive resort once, but the one time we did was a great experience. All the locals we ran into were very friendly and welcoming.

Sure, the store owners at the shops were pushy and tried ripping everyone off. And yes, if you tipped the bartenders, they instantly became your best friend. But isn't it the same in the U.S.?

So if you want to go to Mexico, or any other country for that matter but have been too scared, do not believe everything you hear. As long as you're smart and aren't asking for trouble, you probably won't get into any.

I almost canceled my trip but I am so glad I did not. I was able to experience the great food, friendly people and culture of Mexico. What I thought would be the worst vacation turned out to be an amazing experience.

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## THE NORTH WIND

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*I just figured that people would recognize the skill in poker if we dressed the part.*



## Poker skills overcome luck in the long run

### For What It's Worth

Aaron Loudenslager



Online poker in the U.S. is being prohibited under the false premise that poker is a game of chance. Poker is not a game of chance. It is a game of skill. For this reason, online poker must be legalized for the millions of American poker players who play every day.

Sitting behind a stack of poker chips at a Madison, Wis. casino playing Texas Hold'em, I found myself holding ace-king unsuited in late betting position.

When it was my turn for a pre-flop bet, I made an average-size raise. The other players folded their hands and two players called my bet.

I already knew at this point that both players had pretty good starting hands, although I wasn't sure if they were better than my ace-king.

The flop brought a jack, queen and ace, all unsuited. I had gotten top pair on the board along with top kicker. The board made me worry, though, because the other two players had acted strong before the flop.

The first player in position checked, with the second player making a bet about half the size of the pot.

I pondered what to do with my current ace-king. I was worried one of these players had a big pair pre-flop and had now made a set or, even worse, flopped the nut straight. I folded because

the first player seemed ready to put all his money into the pot as he leaned in closer to the poker table.

After I folded, the first player called the bet made by the second.

The turn card brought a low-numbered card. The first player bet out this time and the second player raised the first player, which the first player then called.

The river card brought another queen, pairing the board. I replayed the hand in my mind, trying to figure out what the other players' cards were.

I thought the first player had either pocket jacks or aces, while the second player must have had cards to give him a straight or two-pair.

The first player made a final bet, which the second player called. The first player flipped over pocket jacks, giving him a full house.

The second player flipped over his cards, exposing a king-10 suited which gave him a straight, realizing he lost the hand on the river card.

Many new poker players would be tempted to stay in the hand I just described with an ace-king, after getting top pair on the flop. They think ace-king is too good a hand to simply fold in this situation. This is incorrect.

A more experienced player would have seen that holding ace-king, with top pair after the flop, was vulnerable to possible set and straight possibilities from two other opponents in the hand. When these players acted aggressively, showing that they had strong hands, the correct move was to fold ace-king and wait for another hand. That's exactly what I did.

Every hand of poker includes chance, but in the long run, poker winnings are determined by the skill of individual players.

This is self-evident by professional poker player Phil Ivey's career winnings of approximately \$14 million.

The hand I described demonstrates how poker is not a game of chance or luck.

It is a game that requires an understanding of math, recognizing betting patterns, reading player's body language and understanding different poker strategies, proving that poker is a game of skill.

Recently, the federal government has been going after U.S. online poker sites for violating the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006.

Under this law, companies can be prosecuted for knowingly accepting payments related to wagers or bets placed on the Internet that is unlawful under any federal or state law.

The problem with this is that many people have been prosecuted under another law, the Federal Wire Act, for online poker. Except this law was meant to apply exclusively to sports betting, not online poker.

With the UIGEA, the federal government is trying to apply the misinterpretation that FWA applies to online poker to arrest company CEOs who decided to allow Americans like myself to play poker. This is a huge misinterpretation of FWA and UIGEA that must be changed soon.

Many legal scholars argue that there is no concrete federal statute criminalizing online poker.

We need to stop making criminals out of innocent people.

The U.S. needs to liberate poker players like myself and let us play the game we love without interference.

Sooner or later, Congress will finally recognize that poker is game of skill and legalize online poker for millions of Americans who love the game.

# Military cuts make us safer

### Guest Column

Kevin Kyle



Recently, President Obama released his new plans for the future of the U.S. military. This includes a much smaller military, with cuts totaling close to \$487 billion over the next 10 years. Many people are asking if this puts our national security at risk.

Multimillionaire and presidential-hopeful Mitt Romney describes Obama's policy as "dangerous." Many right wing politicians see the turmoil in Iran as a clear sign that military spending cannot be cut and think the president may be putting U.S. lives on the line with these types of cuts.

I don't believe this could be any further from the truth. The U.S. spent more than \$687 billion in 2010, which was \$573 billion more than the next highest military spending country.

The enormous amount of money spent on the military is completely unnecessary and makes us appear as a country set upon imperial domination in the eyes of other countries. By decreasing the amount we spend on the military, we may in fact be making ourselves safer in the long run. Yes, I said safer in the long run.

If the cuts go through like Obama has planned, an entire shift in foreign countries' perceptions of us will undoubtedly be forced to change. If we are spending amounts similar to other countries around the world, this will make other countries view us as a more peace-seeking nation, instead of one bent upon invading foreign nations and going into wars that we do not belong in.

For too long, other countries have looked at the U.S. as a country to attack first and ask questions later. Hopefully this downsizing of the military will mean not only a shift in others' perception of the U.S. but how we actually deal with foreign policy. This shift in foreign policy has been evident with the Obama administration, whether

it is pulling troops out of Afghanistan or demanding that we look for diplomatic solutions to the heightened threat Iran is bringing to the rest of the world.

With these cuts to the military, we will be able to reinvest in areas our country needs direly. First off, our country's infrastructure is far from where it should be. Roads and bridges are falling apart, putting our citizens at risk even when driving to work.

It doesn't make a whole lot of sense to me to spend billions protecting our country from those overseas when our country's own critical infrastructure is deteriorating, putting our own citizens at risk. Investing in our infrastructure would not only help to make our roads and bridges safer, but it would also put people to work. No exact number is available but with unemployment around eight percent, any new jobs would certainly help.

On top of the failing infrastructure of our country, our education system is in dire need of reform as well. One example of how the Obama administration has demonstrated its commitment to education reform was when the Obama administration announced that nine states (California, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island and Washington) would receive grant awards from the \$500 million Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Fund last December.

These grants were created to support states in creating systems of high-quality early learning and development programs, developing new approaches to raise the bar across early learning centers and closing the school readiness gap. Cuts in the military will allow for more funding of programs like these and make our educational system competitive once again on the global scale with countries such as Finland, Denmark and Australia.

Many Republicans and Democrats view cuts to the military as a direct threat to our national security and way of life. I believe if you look deeper at what is actually going on, these cuts will allow our country to regroup, change our global image and once again establish an excellent educational system.

### Letter Policy

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

All letters may be edited for grammar and length.

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

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

# Facebook Timeline unwelcomed by users



**Guest  
Column**

**Taylor  
Syring**

Facebook is part of our everyday lives. It is simple to use, easy to access and it's not about to go away. It has become more popular than MySpace because it is laid out simply and it's easier to navigate.

There have been changes since the site began. These changes have been simple and subtle but were still unwelcomed by many Facebook users. Now Facebook is changing the entire layout of users' profile pages.

Facebook Timeline has been around for weeks now and is still optional for users. It changes the traditional layout from a profile picture in the left corner to a huge banner picture across the top of the page. Instead of being able to post on your friends' wall at the top of the page, Timeline requires you to scroll down past the obnoxiously sized photo and profile picture.

The wall post then shows up on

a vertical line. As time passes and more posts appear on the person's wall, your post is moved from left to the right and back and forth to fit in appropriately with the time it was put there.

What was wrong with the regular system where the lists of posts that show up are already in order? There are even time stamps that tell viewers how long ago each post was put up. The news feed page resembles the regular profile layout. To make them different would be to move closer to MySpace. The two sites are valuable in different ways and should remain different.

I am annoyed when my friends get Timeline because I am then bombarded with advertisements once I try to access their pages. Information about Timeline also pops up in my news feed. These get old and annoying, but at least I don't have to use this layout.

There have been many rumors about Facebook Timeline becoming the only profile layout soon. This will be just like every other change Facebook has made; unwelcome.

However, this time Facebook will lose some users. There are multiple people who have ex-

pressed their concerns with the Timeline switch and have decided to delete their accounts if and when this change is made to their profile.

I am not sure if it worth waiting around for the next negative change either. Facebook keeps complicating its site and adding more ridiculous changes. While technology changes every day, Facebook specifically shouldn't have to.

I hope this layout doesn't take over as the rumors are telling us, but rather remains an option until people get bored and realize that the original layout is better.

There also needs to be the option for people who try Timeline to switch back. There is the option to delete posts, un-like something and remove people from your friends list, but there's no going back from Timeline.

After all this time, waiting for a dislike button and nothing happened. But out of the blue, completely unwanted, appears this Timeline option.

Facebook needs to listen to its users. If not, leave the old system alone. At least stop forcing the changes to the site and all its 400 million users.

## Sound Off compiled by Kristen Koehler

*Where do you like to grocery shop?*



**Lauren Marquardt**  
freshman, biology  
*"I don't really need to go grocery shopping because I live on campus."*



**Jonathon Connors**  
senior, biology  
*"I prefer Econo because it's the most convenient place for me to go."*



**Hayley Stroik**  
sophomore, graphic comm.  
*"I go to Econo because I actually know where it is."*



**Megan Church**  
junior, art history  
*"Econo. They have a better selection than Walmart."*



**Reannon Dykehouse**  
junior, English  
*"Super One. It's inexpensive."*



**Alex Hagedorn**  
freshman, undeclared  
*"Walmart. It's big with lots to choose from."*

## Adrian Grenier

*actor. director. filmmaker.*

DISCUSSES THE COMPLEX RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CELEBRITIES AND THE MEDIA.

“  
The Teenage Paparazzo  
**Experience**”  
”

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# NFL Commissioner threatens future Pro Bowl

## Pro Bowl needs better rules, not entire shutdown



**Guest Column**

**Billy Littlejohn**

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell publicly stated he was disappointed in the quality of this year's NFL Pro Bowl. He even went as far as to say that without improvements, the Pro Bowl could be eliminated altogether.

Although the Pro Bowl has its problems, just like many other professional all-star games, it doesn't mean the NFL needs to eliminate the game entirely.

Most professional all-star games have two common flaws: the players' fear of possible injury and the lack of defense.

Most professional all-star games are known for their lack of defensive rigor. Just take a look at this year's NHL All-Star Game score: 12-9. It's not hard to tell that these all-star games are mainly offensive clinics against the defenses.

Roger Goodell had good rea-

son to complain about the most recent NFL Pro Bowl. Many players seemed that they would rather be somewhere else that day. Maybe back at home enjoying the off-season.

2012 NFL-MVP Aaron Rodgers also criticized his own Pro Bowl teammates for their lack of effort, calling it "embarrassing."

Philadelphia Eagles wide-receiver LeSean McCoy admitted he was probably one of those players Aaron Rodgers was talking about saying, "It's the Pro Bowl. It's more for fun. I'm not sure guys are out there trying to play too hard."

Although there definitely was a lack of effort at this year's Pro Bowl, as shown by the high final score, some are trying to make it seem like this has never happened in the past. In this year's Pro Bowl, both teams combined for 100 points. That is certainly

high.

Yet, just eight years ago in the 2004 NFL Pro Bowl, both teams combined for 107 total points, with the NFC defeating the AFC 55-52.

I'm sure there were complaints then, just like now, but the league didn't threaten to possibly end the Pro Bowl forever.

The main reason for the flaws in the current NFL Pro Bowl can be attributed to the fear of players becoming injured and the special rules in place to protect players during the Pro Bowl.

Without some of these special rules, some NFL players would rather stay home, knowing they are safe from injury away from an all-star game that really doesn't mean much.

One reason people watch football is because of the very physical nature of the sport. Some people just like seeing a

quarterback like Eli Manning being chased around the pocket by Ray Lewis all day.

Some want to see a cornerback completely flatten a wide-receiver trying to catch a pass on a quick slant over the middle of the field.

During the NFL Pro Bowl, this part of football takes a back-seat to ensure the safety of NFL players.

Most defense formations are limited to basic coverage and the defense is usually not allowed to blitz linebackers, meaning the pass rush must come from defensive linemen.

This takes much of the defense out of the Pro Bowl, explaining why both teams can score more than 50 points in a game some years.

As football fans, we are essentially given two choices. We can have an all-star game with relatively few injuries, not much defense and lots of scoring by the offense.

Alternatively, we can have an all-star game with a much higher risk of injuries, much better defensive play and more moderate offensive production.

This is a bad situation. Although I want to see better defense and a better effort out of the NFL players on Pro Bowl Sunday, I don't want to see a fan's all-pro quarterback, such as Drew Brees, standing in the pocket looking for his receivers and suddenly get hit in the legs by a linebacker and tear his ACL.

This is a trade-off we must consider as fans.

Do we want better defenses and a higher probability of injuries, or do we want lackluster defenses and a lower probability of injuries?

There is no clear-cut, fool-proof solution to the lack of effort at this year's Pro Bowl. Some say paying players more to be in the Pro Bowl would be a solution. I don't believe that.

All we can do as fans is voice our concerns that we value NFL players not getting injured in all-star games.

At the same time, we want this interest balanced more evenly with better defensive performances in the near future, so that both teams don't score a combined 100 points each and every year.

**Most defense formations are limited to basic coverage and the defense is usually not allowed to blitz linebackers, meaning the pass rush must come from defensive lineman.**

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**Amanda O'Farrill**  
Senior  
Zoology

"Kevin and I really don't do anything for Valentine's Day, but once we were talking about it and he said, 'Every day is a day I tell you I love you. Unless I lose my voice, then I'll write it.'"



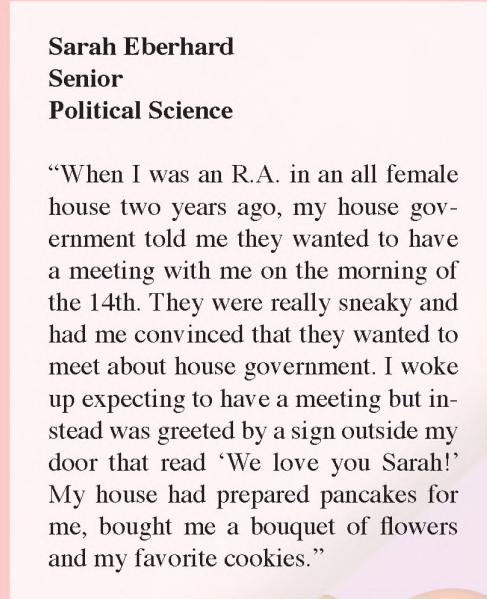
**Crystal Nutt**  
Junior  
Media Production

"It was Terry's and my first Valentine's Day together last year. He picked me up after class with flowers waiting in the car. We went to Doncker's and shared a chocolate zanzibar malt. Then we went to his apartment and had dinner and exchanged gifts. He got me a French-press coffee grinder that I could take on the go and also some dark chocolate coffee to go with it. Seriously, I had no idea what it was, and he was confused as to why I wasn't more excited. Now he is always worried when he gets me presents. He always remembers to buy me flowers though."



**Kathleen Kerr**  
Senior  
Nursing

"Probably my best Valentine's Day memory will be this year. I will be handing out condoms downtown outside bars for the NMU Health Promotions Office. Come see me!"



**Sarah Eberhard**  
Senior  
Political Science

"When I was an R.A. in an all female house two years ago, my house government told me they wanted to have a meeting with me on the morning of the 14th. They were really sneaky and had me convinced that they wanted to meet about house government. I woke up expecting to have a meeting but instead was greeted by a sign outside my door that read 'We love you Sarah!' My house had prepared pancakes for me, bought me a bouquet of flowers and my favorite cookies."



**Adam Magnuson**  
Junior  
Environmental Science/Conservation

"Valentine's Day two years ago was one to remember...two girls, one night, and a whole lot of fun."

# The Best &

# Valen

**By Delaney Lovett**  
editor in chief

Valentine's Day is a holiday people either love passionately or absolutely despise. Although it might appear these feelings simply depend on whether or not there's a significant other in the picture, The North Wind discovered this is not necessarily the case. Students shared stories too cute for Hallmark and stories so disappointing they couldn't be made up.





**Lindsay LaBerge**  
Junior  
Public Relations

“On Valentine’s Day in high school I sent my boyfriend a rose during school. At the end of the day I realized he hadn’t sent me one, let alone talked to me. So after school, I asked him why he hadn’t sent me a rose, and he said, ‘Oh, I forgot. But you you can grab one out of my locker from one of the other three girls that sent me one.’”



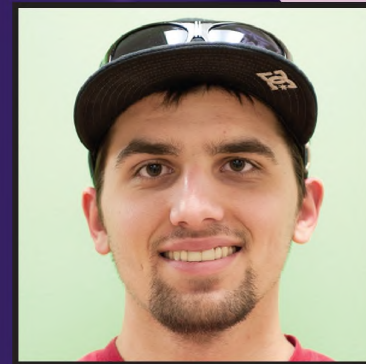
**Lauren Roediger**  
Freshman  
Nursing

“One of my ex-boyfriends surprised me one year with dinner reservations at White Castle. Apparently they shut down the dining room for reservations only but decorated everything with the dollar store’s finest.”



**Josh Normand**  
Senior  
Elementary Education

“When I was in 10th grade there was a time when I kept having notes left in my locker from a secret admirer. Finally on Valentine’s Day I got a note saying, ‘Meet me in the gym,’ so I went down to the gym where they said they would be. Turns out it was just all my friends playing a game on me.”



**Melissa Baroni**  
Junior  
Art & Design

“On Valentine’s Day when I was 14 it was lunch time and all of us girls were comparing our Valentine’s Day gifts from our boyfriends. I was looking around the cafeteria and my boyfriend was no where in site. Soon enough lunch was almost over and one of my good friend Brittney came over and said, ‘Missy, I have something to tell you but don’t get mad. He wants to break up with you.’ I haven’t been a fan of Valentine’s Day ever since.”

**Adam Reed**  
Senior  
A&D: Human Centered Design

“In elementary school, I got Valentine’s from a bunch of girls, which was pretty cool at the time. But our school made us make one for everyone so that nobody got left out.”



# & The Worst Valentine’s Days



# Mayday Parade marches into Marquette

By **Melissa Young**  
staff writer

For the past four years, the members of Mayday Parade have worked hard to make their music as interesting and unique as possible.

The band out of Tallahassee, Fla. will take a break from their five-month tour to come perform tonight for the first time at NMU and the first time in the U.P.

According to Alex Garcia, guitarist for Mayday Parade, the band is looking forward to taking time off their tour to perform for college students.

"Seldom do we play where we haven't played before and performing for college students is always a good time," Garcia said. "The students always seem to be into the bands performance."

The band has five members who have become very close to one another after touring 200 shows in 2010.

"We have been together for about six years and have grown to be really good friends," Garcia said.

Garcia said all the members are a little different from one another but their main goal is to make their music as broad as pos-

sible with a lot of energy.

"We keep the music genre on the lines of emo and rock," Garcia said. "Overall, it's just a very powerful, fun and worthwhile performance for our fans."

Mayday Parade has had opportunities to perform in many countries and branch out to different cultures.

"The first time I went to Japan had to be my biggest highlight because we were basically treated like royalty," Garcia said.

The band has already started touring and has just announced that they are set to play at this year's Warped Tour as well.

"I can't wait to see how many fans of ours go to school in the U.P.," Garcia said. "Being able to dance and sing into that crowd will be pretty amazing."

Northern Arts and Entertainment has worked hard to bring Mayday to NMU and, according to sophomore entertainment and sports promotion major Marcela Godoy, NAE strives to bring a variety of entertainers to fit students' favorite genres.

"Music is a really big part of my life and I found the whole business of putting together a show really interesting," Godoy said. "I enjoy being able to help bring different types of performers to NMU."

NAE has brought many performances like Hello Goodbye and 3OH!3, but this year NAE wanted to try and attract a different demographic.

NAE is also announcing that Big Gigantic will be coming to NMU on April 26. Information can be found on their Facebook page.

"Mayday Parade is a really well-known band to those who listen to alternative music," Godoy said. "It will be awesome to have such a different genre come up here and play."

Mayday Parade is an alternative/rock/indie group, but seems to be very popular among all types of people.

"If students aren't familiar with

their music, they should still come out because it will all around be a good time," Godoy said.

Along with Mayday Parade will be Lights Out Dancing, the opening act based out of Minneapolis, Minn.

"They are a really fun band to see perform," said Brooke Linn, a sophomore zoology major and member of NAE.

The bands look forward to performing in front of the college students here at NMU, Linn said.

"Students can expect a really good time, especially those students who are already familiar with the music," Linn said. "It always ends up being one big sing-a-long."

This has been a performance that has been planned for a while now and NAE is very excited to show Mayday Parade off to students.

"They are popular here at NMU because they don't go into a super specific genre," Godoy said. "If someone were to listen to more pop music, they would enjoy Mayday Parade."

The show will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8 at the Vandament Arena, and doors will open at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for the general public. Tickets can be purchased at any NMU ticket outlet, online at [www.nmu.edu/tickets](http://www.nmu.edu/tickets), or by calling (906) 227-1032.

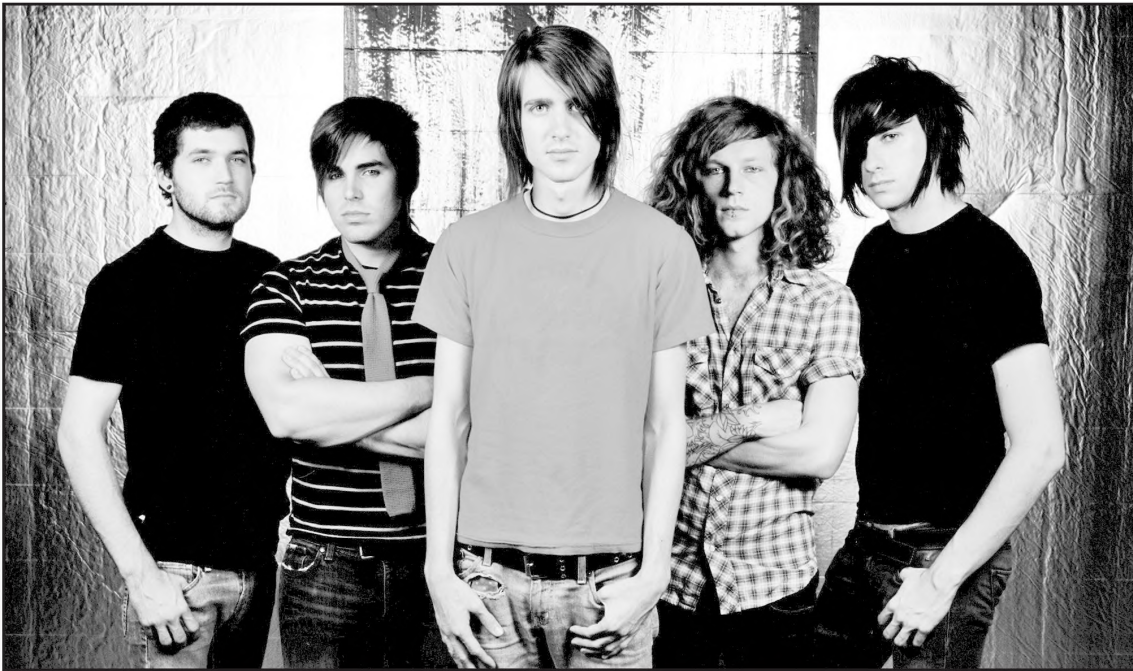


Photo courtesy of [www.swotti.com](http://www.swotti.com)

Mayday Parade performs at the Vandament Arena at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 8. Tickets cost \$5 for students.

# U.P. 200 races to find student volunteers

By **Beatty Nelson**  
contributing writer

The U.P. 200 Sled Dog Race is quickly approaching and on Friday, Feb. 17, Washington Street in downtown Marquette will be packed with dogs, mushers and people to cheer on the teams.

Volunteer work is a big part of what makes the U.P. 200 possible, and there are still spots open for people looking to volunteer. Students can see what the races are all about firsthand and have some fun while helping the community.

Senior hospitality major Stephanie Hahn is one of the volunteer coordinators and said she is looking forward to the race.

"I know many college students who get really excited to go downtown, stand in the cold and watch the start of the race," Hahn said. "It's a great chance for us students to get involved with the Marquette community."

The first U.P. 200 was in February 1990 and took two years to plan. Now teams from all over the U.S. and Canada come every year to compete.

The U.P. 200 is not the only race offered on Feb. 17. Approximately half an hour after the last

U.P. 200 team leaves, the Midnight Run will begin. The Midnight Run is a short race from Marquette to Munising, Mich. and the teams will return to Marquette early on the Feb. 18.

The JackPine 30 is a 30-mile sprint race from Gwinn, Mich. to Marquette and will take place on the morning of Feb. 18 with the teams leaving Gwinn at 9:30 a.m. and arriving in Marquette in the early afternoon.

"I first got involved with the U.P. 200 when I volunteered with PRSSA (Public Relations Student Society of America)," Hahn said. "Then I took a class with Dr. Steinhaus called Event Management and became in charge of coordinating volunteers for one of the race crossings."

The U.P. 200 is 240 miles long. Teams travel from Marquette to Grand Marais and then back to Marquette. The trail covers all sorts of terrain, such as creek crossings, hills, valleys and wooded areas.

"I have brought my friends to the Carp River crossings for many years, and it's a great time," Hahn said. "We love volunteering for the U.P. 200."

Head volunteer coordinator Anna Sanford previously taught

in the nursing department at NMU.

"I got interested in sled dog racing when my daughter raced in her early 20s," Sanford said. "She used to be a musher and she ran the U.P. 200 and the Midnight Run. I started volunteering for the races again this November and I am in charge of coordinating all the volunteers."

The U.P. 200 is a major event for the Upper Peninsula and volunteers are the main source of labor. There are more than 300 volunteers who work and contribute to the U.P. 200, many of whom are students.

"Most of our volunteers are students from NMU," Sanford said. "The rugby team always helps by setting up on Friday morning and the NMU constructors group is always helping. Without student volunteers, the races wouldn't be possible. We're extremely grateful for their participation."

There are many different types of volunteer jobs that people can sign up for. Sanford said she tries to assign jobs to volunteers by their area of interest.

"Main volunteer jobs are dog handling, crowd control and covering road crossings so that there

are no accidents during the races," Sanford said. "We're always looking for new volunteers and we still have lots of openings for the races this year. Come out and help. We'll be sure to have some fun."

The first team will leave the

gate at approximately 7:10 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 17. To volunteer for the U.P. 200 or for more information, contact Anna Sanford at [asanford@nmu.edu](mailto:asanford@nmu.edu) or call (906) 869-4827. For more information on the races, visit [www.up200.org](http://www.up200.org).



Justin Key/NW

Sled dogs plunge through the snow in the 2011 U.P. 200 race. Students fill many of the volunteer positions, including dog handling and crowd control.

# 'Chronicle' worthwhile found footage



**Film:** Chronicle  
**Director:** Josh Trank  
**Producer:** John Davis, Adam Schroeder  
**Writer:** Max Landis  
**Starring:** Dane DeHaan, Alex Russell and Michael B. Jordan  
**Runtime:** 84 minutes



By Justin Marietti  
 staff writer

"Chronicle" edged out the top spot at the box office on Super Bowl weekend, just ahead of Harry Potter's attempt at horror, "The Woman in Black." But is it just another found-footage film that everyone went to see because they've already seen "The Grey," or does "Chronicle" actually have something to offer?

The main camera in the film is handled by Andrew Detmer

(Dane DeHaan), an angst high school kid with a lot more baggage to deal with than just being a teenager. He buys a video camera and decides to record just about everything. After all, if he didn't, it wouldn't be much of a movie.

Detmer spends most of his time with his cousin Matt Garrett (Alex Russell), virtually his only friend. Garrett is one of the more popular kids and he decides to invite Detmer to a party because he doesn't ever get out of the house. Reluctantly, Detmer agrees and Garrett tells him to leave the camera at home. Detmer decides he should bring it with him.

At this party, uber-popular guy

Steve Montgomery (Michael B. Jordan) stumbles upon Detmer, who is just sitting by himself in the grass. When Montgomery sees Detmer's camera, he says to follow him, because he and Garrett just found something really cool in the woods.

He doesn't want to, but peer pressure gets the best of him, and Detmer follows him to an almost perfectly formed hole in the ground where his cousin is waiting. Of course, they venture down into the hole. What high school kid wouldn't think this was a good idea?

Whatever that odd looking thing was in the ground, it managed to give the three boys superhuman powers. Over the next few weeks, they spend nearly all of their time together honing their skills. For the first time in his life, Detmer feels like he has friends.

From almost the inception of their powers, Detmer seems to be a little stronger than the other two. The changes seem to come much more naturally to him. But when you give great responsibility to a group of high school kids, they don't always handle it as gracefully as Spider-Man did.

The three-fold combination of a superhero origin story with a bit of alien sci-fi, topped off with a drama led by Detmer's father was

definitely a smart one. This is the most promising found-footage film I've seen yet to date, and it was because of the playful nature of the first half of the movie.

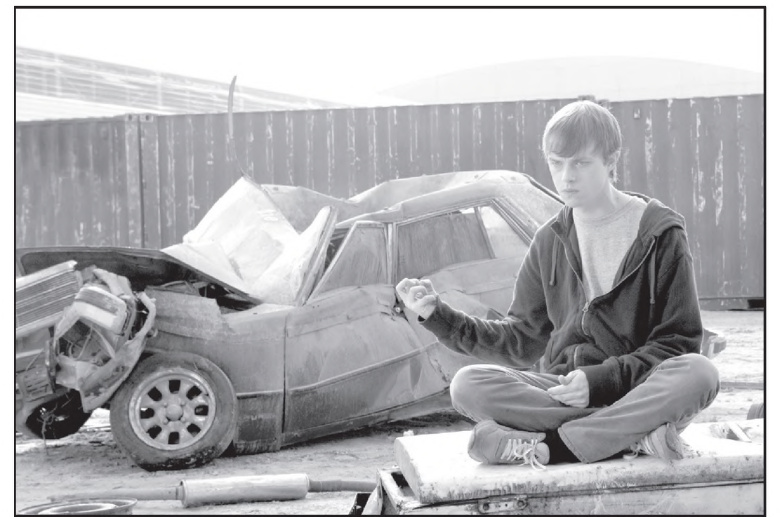
"Chronicle" captures the ups and downs of high school life for a group of superheroes in training. The second half of the film takes a turn toward the less playful, and Detmer's dark side comes out. It starts to feel like Detmer might be the villain of the group.

The ending disappointed me a little bit, but I was able to come to terms with the premise of the movie. Given the powers

they had, this movie could have taken many different turns, but it didn't. These powers were given to a group of teenage kids, one of which had some deep-seated anger issues. It makes perfect sense to me that it didn't turn out well.

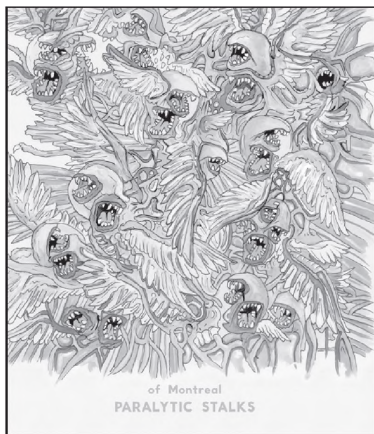
Overall, "Chronicle" wasn't something I would call an instant classic, but it was an entertaining movie, and it was well filmed. The CGI was never overbearing which was a surprise, given the abilities these kids had.

I think the best part of "Chronicle" is that it shows that not all found-footage films are total garbage.



Photos courtesy of www.collider.com  
 Andrew Detmer (Dane DeHaan) uses his powers to smash a car with the squeeze of his hand. Detmer's dark side comes out as his skills strengthen.

# Of Montreal applies diverse influences



**Album:** Paralytic Stalks  
**Artist:** Of Montreal  
**Label:** Polyvinyl  
**Tracks:** 9  
**Release:** Feb. 7, 2012



By Nolan Krebs  
 staff writer

It seems unlikely that Kevin Barnes, the creative force behind the avant-garde pop group Of Montreal, struggles much with writer's block.

Since the group's conception in 1997, Of Montreal has released 11 full-length albums, the last five of which were written, recorded and performed almost entirely by Barnes.

The decision to take up the reins as sole creator was synonymous with a pivotal change of direction; what began as a relatively simple guitar-bass-drums outfit from Athens, Georgia gradually morphed into the wildly eclectic

version of the group that exists today.

To provide some context for those unfamiliar with Of Montreal, their will to be weird is unparalleled. If you don't revel in the abstract end of the spectrum, turn back now. The subject matter is dark and full of unfiltered, extremely personal expressions from Barnes; topics touch on sex, self-loathing and unabashed hedonism.

The instrumentation, however, isn't so much a reflection of humanity's dark secrets as it is a celebration of them. Barnes draws from funk, glam rock and electronica to create unpredictable, off-kilter compositions (think Prince-meets-Animal Collective) that are inventive and catchy as hell. As for the live shows, elaborate theatrics and lots of men in dresses are pretty much the norm. Of Montreal's latest release, "Par-

alytic Stalks," is a satisfying combination of business-as-usual and evolution for Barnes and company.

Following 2007's acclaimed "Hissing Fauna, Are You the Destroyer?," Barnes steered away from his transparent, confessional writing tendencies and adopted an alter-ego named Georgie Fruit (not kidding), while experimenting even further with his music on 2010's "False Priest" and 2011's "Controllersphere EP."

"Paralytic Stalks" returns to the intense, full-to-the-brim pop music and lay-it-all-out-there style of writing that makes Of Montreal a standout in contemporary music. The music is pretty indecipherable; rarely can one instrument be singled out from the rest, but that's not to suggest things sound overly-convoluted. As a composer, Barnes continues to weave the delicate and extremely interesting sonic web he's known for.

Opening track "Gelid Ascent" eases into Barnes' colorful consciousness with echoed vocals and a climactic squall of synthesizers and organs backing his introspections about narcissism and self-consumption.

"Spiteful Intervention" and "Dour Percentage" follow; more upbeat and melodic tracks accentuated by funky bass lines and woodwind sections. The dark ruminations continue, with Barnes

loosely addressing religion, broken friendships and infidelity. On "Spiteful Intervention" he sings, "I made the one I love start crying tonight/and it felt good/still there must be a more elegant solution."

Not surprisingly, there are tracks that favor experimentation over melody. "Exorcismic Breed Knife?" is an eight-minute odyssey into anti-tonality and dissonance, both concepts drawn from classical music composition and applied to Barnes' twisted brand of neo-classical pop. "Wintered Debts" is a journey into the shallows of country music, with a nicely-placed pedal steel guitar making its way into the mix.

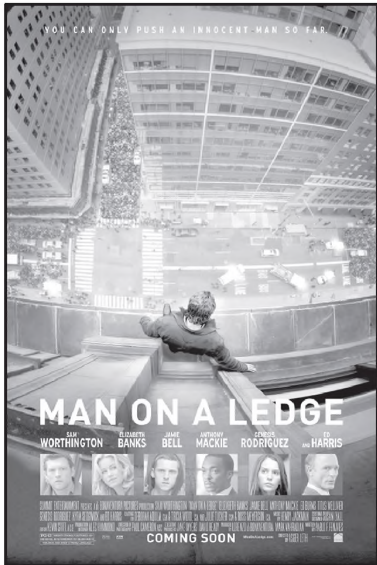
As tracks began to leak from "Paralytic Stalks" prior to its release, commentary often suggested that it was "too fragmented" or "obtuse." The problem with these sorts of observations seems fundamentally flawed. Approaching any material from Of Montreal with the intent of taking away some sort of concrete truths or definitive ideas about what exactly Barnes was going for is what seems obtuse.

If you subscribe to the idea that an artist owes you an explanation outside of their own terms, "Paralytic Stalks" probably isn't for you. This is honest self-expression and it sounds really good.



Photos courtesy of www.chronogram.com  
 The members of Of Montreal show they are comfortable being unusual.

# 'Man on a Ledge' could have jumped



**Film:** Man on a Ledge  
**Director:** Asger Leth  
**Producer:** Lorenzo di Bonaventura, Mark Vahradian  
**Writer:** Pablo F. Fenjves  
**Starring:** Sam Worthington, Elizabeth Banks and Jamie Bell  
**Runtime:** 102 minutes

believes he is innocent then clearly he's not going to jump.

If he does, there is no point to any of this, and he has no more proof that he is innocent than he did before. So why would anyone who knows this information take any of the protagonist's threats seriously? How long could this plot unfold before the audience feels the same way as the onlookers and just want him to jump?

When the police arrive to the scene, Cassidy says he will only speak to one officer in particular, Lydia Mercer (Elizabeth Banks). Mercer apparently has a bad reputation amongst her co-workers for a botched suicide negotiation which left a rookie officer dead.

This was not a very good effort by Banks. Although a great deal of her roles have been comedic performances, she has done well in more serious roles, such as "The Next Three Days." Maybe it was the fact that she appeared hung over right from the start, I'm not sure. But I never really took her seriously.

Acrophobia, or the fear of heights, is one of the most common fears among humans, myself included. In that respect, "Man on a Ledge" is definitely able to deliver. There were a handful of scenes where I didn't even want to look at the screen.

Director Asger Leth filmed a large portion of the scenes right

from the ledge where Cassidy is standing, which allows the audience to feel like they're up there alongside him. However, Worthington does not seem very convincing for the most part, leading me to wonder what kind of trained officers would actually be fooled by a guy like this.

The ending is just as questionable as the rest of the material, but it might as well be. The screenwriter must have watched "The Fugitive" and decided to make a new version that swaps a one-armed man with a millionaire and the city of Chicago with a rooftop. Oh, and a plot that was much

weaker than that of its classic predecessor.

The visual effects of "Ledge" are its only strength. The plot is so farfetched and ridiculous that only the most passive viewers can actually remain ignorant to the plot holes and enjoy what they are watching.

That being said, if you don't take this movie as seriously as it takes itself, I don't think it's all that bad. Sometimes, even the most unlikely of plots can lead to an enjoyable time at the theater. But if you lend any common sense to this movie, then you will feel ripped off.



By Justin Marietti  
 staff writer

In the new crime thriller "Man on a Ledge," Sam Worthington plays Nick Cassidy, a man who has decided that "today is the day that everything changes, one way or another."

Cassidy rents a room on the 21st floor of the Roosevelt Hotel, and orders what could quite possibly be his last meal. After he finishes his lunch, he opens up the window and casually steps out onto the narrow ledge overlooking the busy streets below. This is where he will make his last stand,

and put everything on the line to prove he is an innocent man.

Once a police officer, Cassidy ended up on the other side of the law. He was arrested and convicted for stealing one of the world's largest diamonds from mega millionaire David Englander (Ed Harris). In an extravagant and extremely unlikely turn of events, Cassidy manages to get out of prison and regain his freedom, at least temporarily.

As he catches the attention of onlookers and media alike, the public starts filming the scene with their cell phones and chanting, "Jump! Jump! Jump!" I found myself thinking about the paradoxical situation this man is experiencing. See, if Cassidy is a man who be-



Photos courtesy of www.collider.com  
 Nick Cassidy (Sam Worthington) stands on the ledge of a hotel while negotiator Lydia Mercer (Elizabeth Banks) tries to talk him out of jumping.

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# Wildcats split with top-ranked Bulldogs

## 'Cats lose tough game on Saturday after shootout win Friday night

By Delaney Lovett  
editor in chief

After tying 5-5 on Friday and losing 3-1 on Saturday at the Berry Events Center, the Wildcat effort was not enough to knock Ferris State University out of first place in the CCHA conference standings.

"It's another weekend where you play 120 minutes and one goal really separates the two teams," said head coach Walt Kyle. "Unfortunately we weren't the team who came out with that goal."

Kyle said he gives No. 6 Ferris (12-6-4-1 CCHA, 18-8-4 overall) a lot of credit and that they're a very good team. However, Northern's pace of play has slowed over the season, he said.

With a couple key players no longer on the team or out with injuries, Kyle said the 'Cats (7-9-6-3 CCHA, 12-10-6 overall) don't have the same depth.

"What happens is our guys that are a little bit higher in the lineup are trying to stay out a little bit longer and with that comes a little more fatigue," Kyle said.

Senior goaltender Reid Ellingson, who had his first start on Friday since Jan. 13 against Michigan State, said the Wildcats are practicing taking shorter shifts and regaining their fast paced, high-energy game.

"Kind of the overall consensus was our tempo dropped a bit this weekend," Ellingson said. "We're trying to get back to our true identity, which was when we were clicking."

The Wildcats and Bulldogs traded the lead several times on Friday before Ferris State tied the

game at 5-5, which was stagnant through a five-minute overtime.

"Friday night, we certainly scored enough goals to win," Kyle said. "Nights when we get five, we have to be a lot tighter defensively ... In my opinion, we should have come out of there with another point."

Northern did, however, come out of the night with an extra conference point by earning the shootout win in three rounds with a goal from junior center Matt Thurber.

"The extra point is big," Ellingson said. "The league is so close right now, we're scratching for any point we can. It's unfortunate we weren't able to pull off the win Friday night considering we had some leads."

Saturday night proved to be another close game, but the Bulldogs were too much for the 'Cats, maintaining a 2-0 lead until an unassisted third-period goal by redshirt freshman left wing Reed Seckel.

Ferris State sealed the win with an empty-net goal, with 40 seconds remaining in regulation.

"Saturday night, we played a pretty good defensive game," Kyle said. "Both of their goals were special situations – a power play and a lost faceoff. We just didn't get any breaks."

Although penalties stayed under control over the weekend, NMU's penalty kill hit a season low, allowing the Bulldogs to score on 3-5 Friday and 1-4 Saturday.

"One of the holes in our game right now is our special teams," Kyle said. "We haven't changed anything tactically from what we were doing early in the year when

we were really efficient, we've just been making some mistakes."

The Wildcats travel to Ohio this weekend to face the Bowling Green State Falcons (4-14-4-3 CCHA, 9-16-5 overall) for the first time this season.

"You just have to look at it one game at a time," Ellingson said. "We know they're tough; last year, they knocked us out of the playoffs."

Kyle said each of the remaining 18 points available to the 'Cats is critical to move into the top half of the conference.

"There are points out there and we have to get points," Kyle said. "That was the message we told our guys going into last weekend and we were only able to get two of the six; we have to make up those points somewhere along the line."

Northern faces CCHA opponent BGSU at 7 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday in Bowling Green, Ohio.



Justin Key/NW

Junior forward Matt Thurber skates into the zone in a 3-1 loss to Ferris State. Thurber has eight goals and 13 assists for 21 points in 28 games.

### 2011-2012 CCHA Conference Standings

	CONFERENCE						OVERALL						
	GP	W	L	T	SW	Pts.	GF	GA	W	L	T	GF	GA
Ferris State	22	12	6	4	1	41	62	55	18	8	4	86	69
Western Michigan	22	11	8	3	3	39	57	50	14	11	5	80	70
Michigan	22	11	7	4	1	38	67	48	17	9	4	102	67
Notre Dame	22	11	8	3	0	36	59	54	16	11	3	87	81
Miami	24	11	11	2	1	36	59	53	15	13	2	81	70
Ohio State	24	10	9	5	1	36	67	65	14	10	5	83	72
Michigan State	22	10	9	3	2	35	65	57	15	11	4	94	79
Lake Superior	22	9	9	4	4	35	56	58	14	11	5	77	75
<b>Northern Michigan</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>77</b>
Alaska	24	7	13	4	2	27	56	64	10	14	4	69	72
Bowling Green	22	4	14	4	3	19	32	67	9	16	5	52	81

# Apodaca uses wrestling as cornerstone

By Karly Ratzenberger  
staff writer

Sophomore freestyle wrestler Melissa Apodaca is no stranger to hardship.

Growing up in foster care, Apodaca had to grow up a fighter and has only gotten stronger from there.

In middle school, Apodaca said she played all the sports she could just to stay away from any home situation. She never thought she would pursue wrestling, but her natural talents gave her the confidence to compete.

"I saw wrestling and it was all boys, but I wasn't afraid of taking a beating from them," Apodaca said. "So, I went out there and was just naturally pounding on everyone."

As the first one in her fam-

ily to graduate from high school, Apodaca did not have very lofty dreams for her future and never saw herself as a potential Olympic athlete.

"I never really thought I would stick with wrestling, or graduate high school for that matter," Apodaca said.

When she was a junior in high school, Apodaca was adopted and her grades skyrocketed. She continued to excel in wrestling, made Junior Nationals and received an offer to train at the USOEC in Marquette.



APODACAC

"Throughout my whole life, I didn't fit in anywhere," Apodaca said. "I walked into the USOEC and I was like, 'Wow, I kind of fit in here.' I was doing well against the older girls so I decided to give it a go."

Coming to NMU and training while getting an education was a big step for Apodaca. College was a world unknown to her, but much like wrestling, she decided to give it a try.

"I thought if I was able to graduate high school then I would try a year at college and here I am with a 4.0 GPA," Apodaca said. "I really think God used wrestling as a way to get me here."

This year, Apodaca placed second in the Senior National tournament and through that, has qualified for the Olympic Trials that will take place in April.

"My first goal in life was to pass ninth grade, just to be better than my sisters," Apodaca said. "My current goal is to use the talents that God has given me to shine through me and be a witness for him to everybody, and to help people who doubt."

Apodaca said she spends a lot of time with the high school men's team and helps them with their technique. She is not sure, however what her future holds as far as training goes.

"I might go to Iowa to train under Dan Gable," Apodaca said.

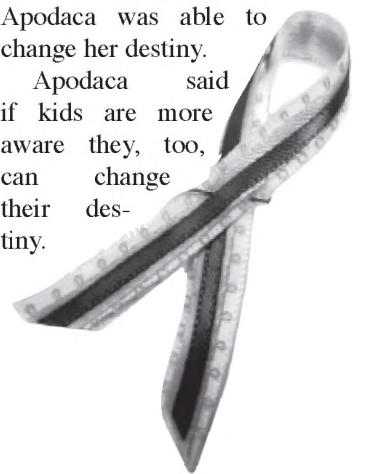
Apodaca not only wants to use her talents to be a witness to God, but she also wants to use her status as Olympic athlete to promote her cause.

"I started a change ribbon when I was 21 to promote awareness for child abuse," Apo-

daca said. "I think me being an Olympian or Olympic champion would really get that ribbon out there and make people more aware about child abuse."

The change ribbon is a combination of the childhood abuse, rape and poverty ribbons. It's called "change" because Apodaca was able to change her destiny.

Apodaca said if kids are more aware they, too, can change their destiny.



# Track and field sets four school records

By Heather Seppanen  
contributing writer

Four school records were set last weekend when the NMU women's track and field team traveled to Stevens Point, Wis. to compete in the Pointer Invitational.

Senior Bailey Franklin took first in the pentathlon with a new school record of 3,339 points. Junior Brooke Granquist (3,064) took third and senior Melissa Christensen (3,050) took fourth.

Franklin set a new school record and also automatically qualified for nationals with a 1.76-meter high jump, which ties her for second in the country. Head coach Tom Barnes expects her to make a provisional mark in the triple jump as well.

Senior Catherine Angeli set the school's 200-meter dash record at 25.26 a provisional mark for nationals and is ranked 11th in the country.

NMU freshman Angelina Howard set a third record in the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.75 and got a provisional mark. NMU is now ranked 17th nationally.

"I'm really excited about high jump," Franklin said. "I've been working hard in practice and I knew I could do it. I guess everything came together this weekend."

Franklin said she was hoping for a better score in the pentathlon, only beating her previous score by four points. Franklin had teammates competing with her and said she worked harder knowing she had her teammates to push through the five events with her.

"I wanted to do well for my team," Franklin said. "I had five other girls in the pentathlon with

me, which is a ridiculous number. It was great to compete all day with them."

Barnes said he likes how the team supports each other.

"They pull for each other, they're really nice teammates," Barnes said. "I'm really proud of that, it makes it easy to be a good coach."

Also winning events were sophomore Jaime Roberts, who took first in the pole vault with 3.68 meters, is ranked seventh. Redshirt freshman Sherice Hewett, who won the triple jump with 11.45 meters, is also ranked seventh. Franklin followed Hewett to take third with 11.23 meters.

"We didn't train as hard so we would have better times," Franklin said. "I'm really impressed with our team and how everyone did this weekend."

Out of 13 schools attending the invitational meet, NMU tied for second with UW-Eau Claire with 100 points each, just below first place Winona State with 141 points. The Wildcats have moved from being ranked No. 21 in the



Photo courtesy of Paul Gerard

Senior Bailey Franklin competes in the high jump. Franklin was named GLIAC Track and Field Athlete of the Week after first and third-place finishes at the Pointer Invitational last Saturday. NMU is ranked 17th nationally.

lory Celaya placed third in the 3000-meter run (10:47.85) and Hewett placed third in the 60-meter hurdles (9.11). Angeli, Christensen, Hewett and junior Colby West took second in the 4x400 relay (4:07.80).

"It's basically dedication, hard work, good attitudes, confidence and our first goal for our team is kindness," Barnes said. "I have a word every year and this year it's unity."

Franklin took first in the pentathlon 60-meter hurdles (9.36), Christensen followed in second (9.46) and Granquist in third (9.80).

Granquist took second (1.61 meters) behind Franklin in the high jump pentathlon. Franklin placed first in the long jump pentathlon (5.28 meters) with Christensen in second (5.24 meters) and sophomore Katie Searles third (4.94 meters).

Junior Mariah Beaman took third in the shot put pentathlon (10.10 meters) with Searles in fourth (9.97 meters).

"It all goes back to practice," Franklin said. "I really think it matters who you practice with."

We're looking for more great performances, more school records and improvements on provisional marks and new provisional marks.

— Tom Barnes  
head coach



nation to No. 17 in the U.S.

"There are about 300 teams in division II, that's pretty good," Barnes said. "That ties the highest ranking we've ever had. We're trying to get as many people to nationals as we can."

Other athletes who placed include senior Rachael Williams who took third in the 800-meter run (2:24.11), freshman Larissa Halonen placed second in the mile (5:17.80), junior Mal-

# Lacrosse starts season with win, two losses

By Cody Boyer  
contributing writer

The Northern Michigan club lacrosse team played three games over the weekend, losing the first against the Aquinas Saints on Friday, defeating the Oshkosh Titans and then losing against UW-Whitewater on Saturday.

Junior attackman Kingsley Agassi said UW-Whitewater came well-prepared but was impressed with his club's drive.

"[Whitewater] was pretty well organized," Agassi said. "Both teams played really well, and we had lots of great effort, but we just couldn't get the goals in the end that we needed to pull ahead."

Coming off of a 17-5 loss against the Aquinas Saints, the Wildcats started strong against Oshkosh with a 2-0 lead by the end of the first period and a 3-0 lead at the beginning of the second.

The Titans did not give up, as they came back to score with 8:15 left in the half. NMU pushed back for another point, bringing the score to 4-1 with 4:07 remaining in the second period.

With only seven seconds left in the half, Oshkosh answered the Wildcats' goal, bringing the score to 4-2 at the halfway mark.

"The team has a lot of fast, new players," said Jason Cassens, senior midfielder and NMU lacrosse club president. "We started

really quick and held as our team has a lot of quick, young players."

The Wildcats finished off the last half of the game with a well-balanced third period with no points between either team. Freshman attackman Elliot Karafa scored at 11:37.

Senior Jameson Redden, long-stick middie, ran in the last NMU point, putting the 'Cats up 6-2 with 7:11 left in the game. The Titans pushed back late with two more goals.

Head coach Kevin Sande said the game was a welcome change for the Wildcats off of the 5-3 loss against the Saints.

"I'm really impressed with the team," Sande said. "They were

flowing really well and working the ball really well, especially after yesterday. It was good to see that the guys could still come out and still give it their all and finish the game with a win."

NMU is made up mostly of younger players this season and many factors went into their win on Saturday, including senior crease Mike Glenn, who led in hits with six.

Scorers for the game were Karasha and Agassi with two points each, and freshman attackman Sean Costello and Redden with one point each.

After the second game on Saturday against Whitewater, Agassi said there were good things going on with the team as well as things

to improve on amongst the squad.

"Especially coming off the weekend's losses, we're still really proud," Agassi said. "We are not fazed by losses because we know that we have it in us to win."

Agassi said the team chemistry is great, and they are putting the losses behind them already.

"We know not to take it too hard," Agassi said. "We need to take each game as they come and people will up the intensity."

NMU's next game is against Davenport at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 3 in Pontiac, Mich.

"I feel like we are prepared," Sande said. "We work hard every time. Everyone shows up because they want to play the game."

## Wildcat of the Week

**Bailey Franklin**  
Track & Field  
Senior

- Ranked first in the GLIAC in seven events
- Named GLIAC Track & Field Athlete of the Week
- Qualified for Nationals after breaking school record in high jump, clearing 5' 9.25"
- Placed 1st in high jump and 3rd in triple jump at Pointer Invitational



# 'Cats look for fast break out of streak

By Jon Young  
assistant sports editor

Closing out games is something the NMU men's basketball team has worked on improving all year. The 'Cats are still looking to improve their second half efforts after losing two games at home last weekend.

On Saturday, the Wildcats (4-10 GLIAC, 8-13 overall) held a 37-31 halftime lead over the Findlay Oilers but were outscored by 15 in the second half and lost, 85-76. Head coach Doug Lewis said the defense has to be tougher late in the game.

"I thought we played hard, but we played like a team that hasn't been winning down the stretch," Lewis said. "We lost a little confidence and when a team shoots 68 percent in the second half, you can't win the ball game."

Early foul trouble limited the play of some key starters. Senior center Jared Benson, freshman

guard Haki Stampley and senior forward DeAndre Taylor all picked up three fouls early in the second half.

The Oilers were able to take advantage and score a lot of points down low.

"We're talking about 26 points in the paint; that's the trenches, it's like a war," Lewis said. "You can bomb them from the top, but if you want to win the war, you got to win in the trenches, that's why you send in the Marines and right now we're not sending in the Marines."

NMU did get a lift on the offensive side from freshman point guard Quinten Calloway who scored a career-high 23 points, connecting on five 3-pointers. Lewis said he is encouraged by the play of his young backcourt.

"He played really well and I want him to be aggressive because I don't know what were going to get inside night-in and night out," Lewis said.

Taylor also netted 15 points and grabbed eight boards for NMU. Benson chipped in another 12 points and sophomore forward Matt Craggs added 11 points to round out the double figure scorers. Calloway said the team is working on putting it all together.

"I think we're a team that doesn't know how to win yet. We're kind of young and were still trying to learn how to win," Calloway said. "We just have to get stops, we can't let them score. That's what it's all about right now."

On Thursday, the short-handed 'Cats dropped a 72-55 contest against the Wayne State University Warriors. Northern and Wayne State exchanged leads early, but the Warriors got up by double digits at the half and never looked back.

"We got beat by a really good team," Lewis said. "They're a team that really gets after it defensively and that's going to be a test for our team because where not the toughest team and they came out and out toughed us tonight."

The 'Cats leading scorer Stampley was out of the lineup due to a violation of team rules. Lewis said his absence was felt, but wasn't the difference in the loss.

"The way we're going to build this program is principles, working hard, doing the right things and that's something he has to

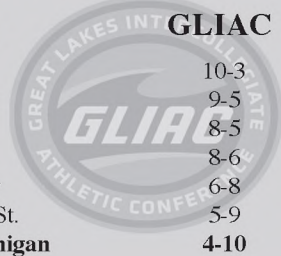


Justin Key/NW

Sophomore guard Curtis Pettit goes one-on-one with a defender from the Wayne State Warriors. The 'Cats are 4-10 in the GLIAC and 8-13 overall.

## GLIAC North Standings

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



learn as a freshman," Lewis said. "It hurt us, but where we lost tonight it wouldn't have matter if he played tonight or not."

Taylor led the 'Cats with 21 points and 12 rebounds. Calloway chipped in 12 points and junior forward TJ Cameron added another 11 points to round out the

scoring.

NMU is at home this week at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 9, looking to snap a five-game losing streak as they host the Lake Superior State University Lakers (5-9 GLIAC, 10-11 overall). Northern beat the Lakers, 63-55, in Sault Ste. Marie earlier this season.

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# NMU snaps out of skid with GLIAC sweep

By Jon Young  
assistant sports editor

Losing streaks are never easy, and last weekend the NMU women's basketball snapped theirs in a big way, sweeping a pair of con-

ference games to jump into third place in the GLIAC North.

Last Saturday, the 'Cats (6-8 GLIAC, 10-11 overall) outlasted the Findlay Oilers, 79-76. Timely threes and a huge night by the backcourt paced NMU. Head

coach Troy Mattson said he was impressed with freshman guard Lauren Gruber who hit two from downtown in the last six minutes.

"Lauren's two three's were really big because I was searching for someone to step up and make some plays," Mattson said. "It ended up in her hands and she made them."

Gruber's shots were part of a fast-paced offensive showing from the backcourt. Senior guard Chelsea Lyons dropped 28 points, freshman guard Alyssa Colla netted 24 points and senior guard Hillary Bowling added another 12.

Mattson said he was impressed with how the offense responded to the Oilers defense. Findlay frequently switched from man to zone and threw presses at the 'Cats.

"I thought we executed extremely well on offense today," Mattson said. "We got the ball where it needed to go and people made plays. We didn't run a play today because you can't run anything against it because their just constantly switching and trying to match up with you."

Last Thursday the Wildcats snapped their four-game losing streak with a 70-69 nail-biting win over the Wayne State University Warriors.

NMU overcame a 17-3 deficit to start the game and survived a

last-second shot attempt by the Warriors to hold on for the win. Mattson said his team could have played better but he was happy with the effort.

"We dug in and we fought back and we kept grinding all night long," Mattson said. "Those girls have a lot of heart; they got a lot of guts. They're never going to give up on Northern Michigan, they play their hearts out for this school."

Lyons, who led the 'Cats with 25 points and five assists said the victory was a big morale booster for the team heading into the final stretch.

"It was huge, we needed that win to keep our season alive, to get our motivation back, our hopes and dreams back; that was a huge win for us," Lyons said.

Lyons had some help on the scoring end from freshman center Courtney Lemon who scored 20 points and connected on five of 11 3-pointers. Mattson said her versatility was key in the win.

"She's a huge weapon out there. She can just flat out shoot the basketball for a 6'3" girl and really stresses the other team's center out," Mattson said. "I thought she had a really solid game on both ends."

On the defensive end, Lemon was matched up with the Warriors junior center and leading scorer Jaunita Cochran. Lemon slowed

down the Division I transfer in the second half.

"It feels good to actually stop a big girl like that," Lemon said. "We all really worked well as a team tonight to get the stops on the defensive end that we needed."

The game almost slipped away from the 'Cats at the free throw line where they went 16-28 as the Warriors attempted to get back in the game.

Mattson said the lack of practice time in the Berry makes it a challenge.

"It would be nice to get in there and shoot everyone once in a while," Mattson said. "It's an adjustment for us; we basically play 27 road games a year."

The struggles at the line were saved by the ball control and offensive rebounding. The 'Cats snagged 19 offensive rebounds and rarely coughed the ball up on offense.

"We had eight turnovers, not many teams in the country have eight turnovers at the end of the night," Mattson said. "We took care of the basketball and got it where it needed to go."

The 'Cats are back at home this weekend to take on the Lake Superior State University Lakers. Tip off is at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9. NMU is looking to complete the sweep of the Lakers after a 55-36 victory last month.



Justin Key/NW

Senior guard Hillary Bowling steps back for a shot. Bowling has started all 13 games this season and averages 3.3 rebounds per game while shooting 36.7 percent from the field and 40.3 percent from three-point range.



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**Shout Outs**

**You** — We’re in this together. Through the good and the bad you are my soulmate and I was born to love you. Thank you for all the memories my love. Happy 3 Year Anniversary I love you. — **Me**

**Meredith** — You are so wonderful and I am glad we are together. You really help me through and I love you for all you do. — **your secret admirer ;)**

**the Kappa Ladies** — I am so proud of all of you, keep up the good work, keep studying, and don’t forget to smile, even when you are having a bad day! Have a good weekend! I will miss you all at Sunday’s meeting. — **your academic chair**

**Jessie De Hale** — I quite enjoy your new name. I hope you love it too. =P — **Legal Roommate**

**Alpha Xi Girls** — We are amaX-ing!!! I love each of you :) Try to relax this weekend because starting Sunday we have two busy weeks. Xi. — **Sister 654**

**The Last Photo** — Stop torturing our opinion editor. He needs to go home and referee the watchers of the big game. — **Adviser**

**Bre** — Remember the code words: V Day, Gracie Mae. — **Sean**

**Carolyn** — I enjoyed having Starbucks with you yesterday. Good luck with donating blood tomorrow. Love you.. — **Adelle**

**2000 Presidential Election** — Are you ready to be spoiled? — **Ralph Nader**

**Christine Esposito and Chandler Countryman** — Thanks for making my first year epic! You guys have been the best friends that a little freshman could have. Chandler: Don’t forget to put the moose in your living room. Christine: Always knock... twice. ;) — **Ashlee Hughes**

**Katrina** — This is a test to see how closely u read the north wind!! :) hope u get ur parcel today! — **Your roomie**

**Mama & Daddy** — I can’t believe I get to see you two weekends in a row! Love you always. — **Delaney**

**Friends** — Thanks for sharing your Valentine’s Day stories. They were a blast to read. — **NW staff**

**Life** — You’re so ridiculous... settle yourself. — **Human**

**Mr. Forbes** — I’m wondering how many of your fellow students know what a bad-ass job you have Iron Cheffing in Negaunce.... — **Your boss**

**M.I.A.** — Your tact was M.I.A. last weekend. What you did wasn’t shocking; it was annoying. Get a clue.. — **Super Bowl Fan #336**

**Becky Kerkela** — Where are you? We miss you. — **Your old boss**

**Knitters and Crocheters Anonymous** — I’m glad we are so tight knit! Love you guys. — **Val**

**Hailey** — Bend it over make this thing shake. TWERK. Love ya! — **H & K**

**NW Editors** — I’m so proud of you guys! Way to stay on top of everything and get your work done. — **EIC**

**My bridesmaids** — 2 WORDS: SKI WEEKEND!!!! — **Your bridesmaid**

**Shaina** — Love you so much. You are the best sister! Keep doing your thang girl and things will all work out! Don’t ever give up and remember don’t do anything I wouldn’t do! LOVE YOU!! — **Your favorite sister!**

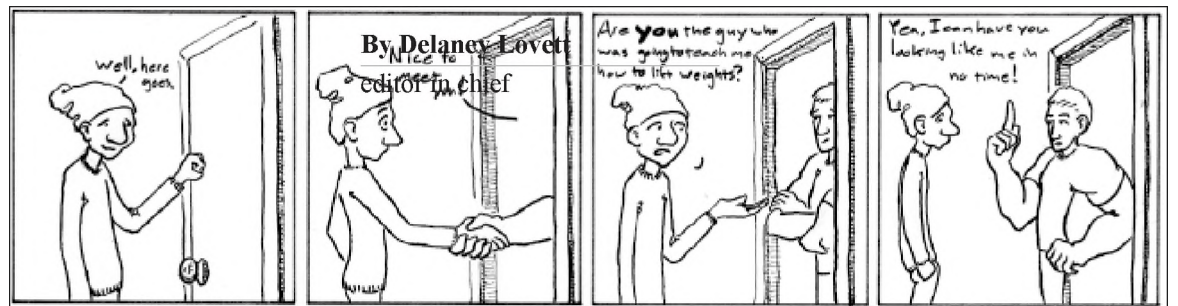
**Midnight** — Good try, but I’m too quick for you. Boom! Good-night. — **Donezo**

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Pot makes us more \$  
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Brule Room, UC

## MONDAY FEBRUARY 20

*Airband Competition*  
7 p.m.  
Jamrich 102

## TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21

*Open Skate*  
6-9 p.m.  
Berry Events Center

## WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22

*NMU Discount Ski  
and Snowboard Day*  
Noon-8:30 p.m.  
Marquette Mountain

## FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24

*Snow Sculpture  
Contest*  
10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
On Campus

## FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24

*NMU Hockey v. Lake  
Superior State  
Banner Competition*  
7:35 p.m.  
Berry Events Center

## SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25

*Broomball  
Championship Game*  
3 p.m.  
Behind the Dome

## SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26

*Human Sled Dog Races*  
1 p.m.  
Payne/Halverson Field

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### Spirit Police: February 7-16

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