



'Entourage' star comes to NMU

Actor presents documentary

By Hannah Fermanich
staff writer

The star of HBO's "Entourage," Adrian Grenier, is coming to NMU to present "The Teenage Paparazzo Experience" on Tuesday, March 13.

Grenier will be showing his film "The Teenage Paparazzo," a documentary that focuses on the celebrity obsession that is embedded in American culture. The presentation will be at 7 p.m. in Vandament Arena.

"I think it's something that will give people something to think about," said Emily Stenson, co-president of NMU's Platform Personalities.

According to Keppler Speakers website, Grenier's presentation will delve into America's obsession with celebrities.

A showing of his documentary, "Teenage Paparazzo," will be the focus of the presentation.

In the film, he teams up with Austin, a 14-year-old paparazzo, to explore the relationship between citizens and celebrities.

The film questions why American culture puts so much weight on the lives of celebrities and the drive to become one of them.

The true-life documentary

premiered at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival and also aired on HBO in the same year.

"It will make us wonder why we choose the people we do to idolize as celebrities," Stenson said.

As the star of HBO's "Entourage," Grenier has been fully immersed in the world of celebrities. He began his career on the big screen in 1997 and has since had starring roles opposite Anne Hathaway's character in "The Devil Wears Prada."

He has also been a part of the Discovery Channel's 13-part series called "Alter Eco," a show that focuses on young individuals who are working to live sustainably and promote an eco-friendly lifestyle.

Grenier has also branched out to include filmmaking, producing and directing as a

part of his repertoire, according to Keppler Speakers website.

The topics that Grenier discusses are prevalent today and the issues are important to college students.

He asks his audience to question what is considered the norm in American culture, Stenson said.

Grenier's work focuses on the social issues of the day, including his founding of Reckless Productions in 2002. The company provides socially responsible stories presented through film and television.

Its goal is to make viewers question the conventional thoughts and ideas that are currently in place and move the conversation forward to-

ward improvement.

"People need to go to this," Stenson said.

Jenni Feighner, a freshman photography major, said she is excited to see him speak.

"I think he is a great actor and he seems like a pretty funny guy, or at least from what I've seen in movies he's been in," Feighner said. "My favorite movie he was in would be 'Drive Me Crazy.'"

While Feighner has never seen "Entourage," she said that the topic he is speaking on sounds interesting to her.

"I'm curious to see what he says about why our generation is obsessed with celebrities and his opinion as a celebrity himself," Feighner said.

Tickets for the event are \$1 for NMU students with an ID and \$5 for the general public and may be purchased at NMU EZ Ticket outlets.

"Entourage" started airing in 2004 and, after eight seasons, it came to an end in September of last year. The show has been nominated for and won many Golden Globes and Emmys.

Grenier's presentation is brought by Platform Personalities and the Student Activity Fee.



U.P. history available online

By Marcellino Signorelli
staff writer

Now available online is an extensive bibliography of the history of the Upper Peninsula.

A long-time project by Russell Magnaghi, director for Center of U.P. History, Portals to the Past: A Bibliographical and Resource Guide to Michigan's Upper Peninsula covers a vast array of topics, ranging from ethnic studies, Native Americans, and even an area on the paranormal. The bibliography is available to anyone and can be accessed through the NMU archives website.

"I started the bibliography in 1978, when I first taught the history of the U.P. as a syllabus for a course on the history of the U.P.," Magnaghi said, "There was no textbook on the history of the U.P., so all the information was scattered among different sources, so I created it so my students could have this information on hand."

Magnaghi had previously worked for the National Park Service, where he said their role was to educate the public. With that view in mind, he

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Presidential candidate visits Marquette

By Aaron Loudenslager
staff writer

Rallying for votes before Tuesday's Michigan Republican presidential primary, former U.S. Senator and presidential candidate Rick Santorum visited the Holiday Inn for an event in Marquette last Sunday.

Santorum spoke to a mostly

conservative crowd of more than 200 people. He spoke for about 30 minutes and also answered questions.

He began his speech with some jokes and discussed how he sponsored a car in Monday's Daytona 500 race.

"I gave him (the driver) a little bit of advice. I said, you know what, you're starting way back

in the back. Stay back there for awhile. [Let] all the other cars in front of you wreck. And then run hard the last few laps and win the race," said Santorum, associating the wrecked cars with the other Republican presidential candidates.

Santorum discussed how his campaign trail had led to little towns all over the state and across the nation.

Afterward, he criticized President Barack Obama and his economic policy over the past four years.

"This president has systematically taken every opportunity to take control of different sectors of the economy," Santorum said. "Try to take your freedom, opportunity away from you and give it to people who know better than you how to run your life."

Santorum also spoke about what he felt were flaws in the Pa-



Adelle Whitefoot/NW

Republican presidential candidate and former U.S. Senator Rick Santorum spoke at a campaign rally last Sunday at the Holiday Inn in Marquette.



Adelle Whitefoot/NW

More than 200 people, made up of community members and NMU students and faculty, attended an event to hear Rick Santorum speak.

tient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Obama's signature legislation of his first term.

"You look at the reason I'm in this race: Obamacare," Santorum said. "I'm in this race because

Barack Obama doesn't trust you enough that you can go out, given a level playing field and an opportunity, to go out and buy your

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Students get creative with sleds



Photos courtesy of Seth Kohtala

Left, WinterFest concludes with the annual Human Sled Dog Races on Sunday, Feb. 26 in the Payne and Halverson field. Center, groups make their own sleds out of whatever they could find and have one person sit on it while the other members pull them through the course. Gant Hall, right, had the fastest time and won the races getting points for their hall.

SANTORUM

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own health insurance, to manage your own affairs, to decide what policies you want, how much you want to pay for it, what doctors you want to see, how much your co-pays are.”

After Santorum finished speaking, he took questions from the audience.

He was asked about his thoughts on a recent federal district court decision that held parts of the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional.

“The Defense of Marriage Act is something very simple. It says this: states have the right to create their own marriage laws,” Santorum said. “I suspect that it is just like every other decision on this subject area; they just make it up.”

Santorum also went on to discuss the 9th Circuit’s Court of Appeals decision to strike down California’s Proposition Eight as a violation of the 14th Amendment’s equal protection clause.

“This is what they said: Anybody who believes that marriage should only be between a man and a woman is irrational, is without reason or rationale,” Santorum said.

Sarah Morrison, President of the NMU College Republicans, helped put together the event for Rick Santorum, along with the other College Republicans.

She said she thought Santorum’s visit to Marquette showed how much the candidate cared about the people in the Upper Peninsula.

“Trekking up to Marquette just to do a meet and greet with around half the population of a congressional district means Santorum’s campaign truly cares,” Morrison said. “Some may call it campaign strategy, but to the people of Marquette it proved the Senator truly cares and values their participation in the electoral process.”

Santorum answered more questions from the crowd, but had to leave for a visit to Traverse City. Before he left he said, “If we win Michigan, I’ll be back.”

Santorum finished second in Tuesday’s primary with 38 percent of the vote, while front-runner Mitt Romney finished first with 41 percent of the vote.

ASNMU plans trip to talk to politicians

By Elizabeth Bailey
staff writer

There was a lot of brainstorming going on at Tuesday night’s Associated Students of NMU meeting.

There has been some talk of sending representatives to Lansing to speak with representatives. The trip is tentatively set for the last week in March.

“We’re planning on a little advocacy trip to Lansing to talk to some of our elected representatives and let them know what matters to NMU students,” said Travis Crowe, arts and sciences representative.

Although the details of what will be discussed with each representative are still up in the air, Crowe suggested finding out what it is that concerns the students of NMU and bringing those thoughts up while in the meetings.

However, getting that information was the main concern.

Crowe suggested trying to get a really low-key survey and send it out to

a sample size of students just to ask people what are some of the issues that concern them about higher education.

Other representatives threw out ideas like holding a “Let’s Chat,” place information in the Marketplace and the Wildcat Den and even in the student announcements.

“We’re planning on talking about, first of all, things that matter to our students as far as higher education funding, support and state legislature for higher education and second of all things that matter specifically for schools in the U.P.,” Crowe said. “We all know that we have different challenges than schools across the state.”

The group of four or five representative from ASNMU plans to meet with the chairs and vice chairs of education committees such as house education, senate education, as well as meeting with local state representatives and the local state senator.

Republican Sen. Tom Casperson,

“We’re planning on a little advocacy trip to Lansing to talk to some of our elected representatives and let them know what matters to NMU students.”

— Travis Crowe
arts and sciences representative

Representatives Steven Lindberg, Paul Scott and Joan Bauer are just a few of the contacts ASNMU plans to meet with while in Lansing.

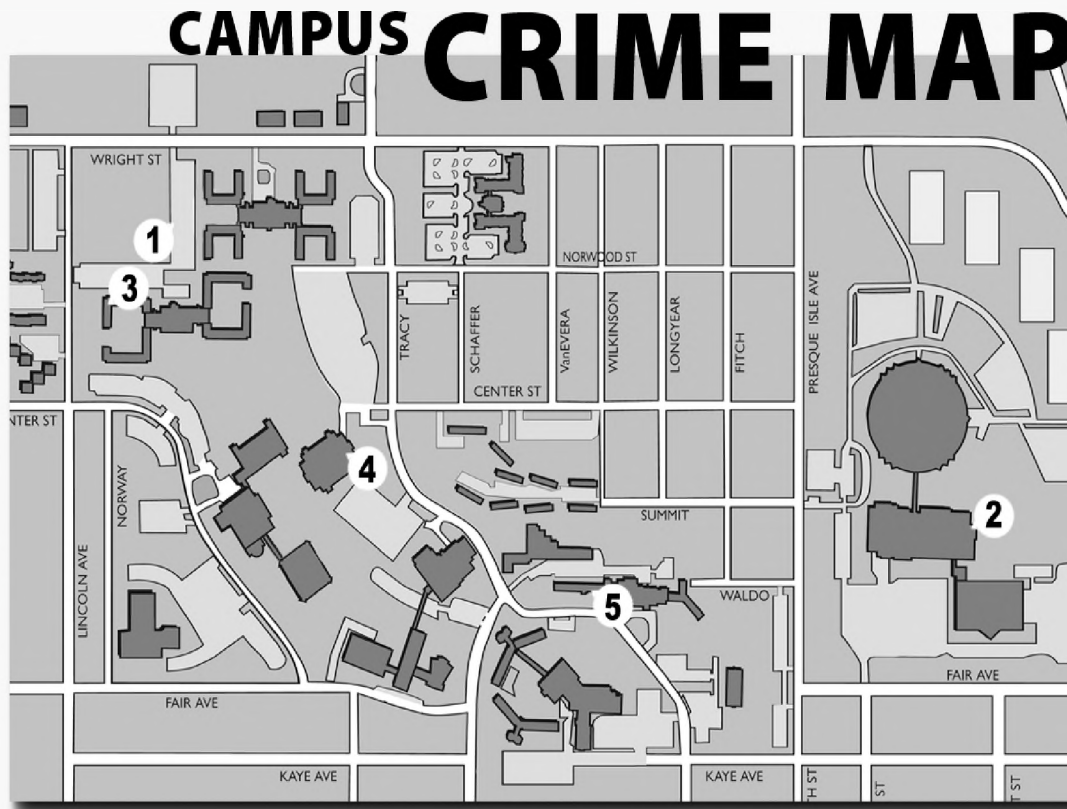
“We have eight contacts and I’ve heard back from five,” Crowe said. “But we already have one confirmed meeting.”

ASNMU’s goal is to represent the student body.

Any questions or comments can be submitted via ASNMU’s website, asnmnu.nmu.edu.

Map Key

- 1) A student was charged with minor in possession at 11:08 p.m. Feb. 23 in Lot 16.
- 2) A student reported larceny of clothing at 10:10 p.m. Feb. 23 at the PEIF.
- 3) A student was charged with possession of marijuana at 10:50 p.m. Feb. 25 in Gant Hall.
- 4) A student reported larceny of a wallet at 4 p.m. Feb. 26 in the Learning Resource Center.
- 5) A student reported a hate crime at 8:25 p.m. Feb. 20 in Spooner Hall.



It's a great day to be a Wildcat

Students are asked to show their NMU pride over break

By Jenean Zahran
contributing writer

In an effort to promote school spirit, the Center for Student Enrichment is putting on a photo event this year for the first time.

What the Center for Student Enrichment wants is to see a student wearing your "It's a Great Day to be a Wildcat!" T-shirt near a landmark in their current town or city, or at their spring break location.

"We plan on starting a Facebook page that we will have all the photos on it," said Cara Kamps, principal secretary of the Center for Student Enrichment. "We're hoping to get a good variety of them from around the world."

Rachel Harris, associate director of the Center for Student Enrichment, is hoping this event will encourage more school spirit.

"When you look at other schools like University of Michigan and Michigan State, they're school spirit is seen everywhere on and off campus, and we thought Northern needed to do a better job of showing pride," Har-

ris said. "Northern is a great school and is recognized nationally for all its great programs, and we should be proud of it."

Profit made off the shirts will benefit student leadership programs for the Center for Student Enrichment.

"We do lots of different fundraisers in our office to raise money," Harris said. "The money from this photo event will be spent on things like speakers, leadership presentations and to also help fund the leadership recognition banquet."

Brandon Frazho, a junior political science major, will be participating in a trip to Belize that Superior Edge and the International Programs Office have coordinated. Participants will be volunteering with a local school in the jungle.



but be a good ambassador for NMU."

Last year in Belize, students painted an entire school and this year they hope to organize physical activities and games, lead school lessons and build playground equipment.

"I wanted something to show where I'm from on the trip, not to mention it's one of my favorite shirts from Northern," Frazho said. "You never know the connections you could make, and when we go work with the people of Belize you just never know if we will change someone's life."

Students can purchase a shirt at the Center, for Student Enrichment, room 1206 in the University Center for \$10.

To submit a photograph wearing a Wildcat T-shirt, e-mail it to ckamps@nmu.edu to be part of the Center for Student Enrichment's display and Facebook page.

Frazho said he is hoping that displaying where he's from will be a good way to represent NMU in a positive light.

"That is in fact a shirt that I have packed for the trip," Frazho said. "I figured since I am going out of the country, I need to represent not just America as a citizen,

Workshop to help students figure out their future plans

By Alex Nye
contributing writer

Northern Michigan University students will have an opportunity to sit down and think about their career paths at the Evaluating A Job Offer: Make Sure It's A Good Fit Before You Commit Skill Builder!

The College of Business offers many Skill Builders! throughout the year, said Andrew Chosa, a graduate assistant for the College of Business.

"It is becoming more and more important to come out of college with professional development rather than just the education you receive," Chosa said.

Students should expect an informal workshop where they will have the opportunity to evaluate their career with others who are in similar situations.

"You will spend a majority of your waking hours at work and to not enjoy your career path would be a shame," said Chosa.

The Skill Builder! is from 4 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13 in the Back Room in the University Center.

HISTORY

Continued from Page 1

spent years on increasing the size and making additions to make a full list of the history of the U.P.

"It took a lot of work but the finished product is more than rewarding," Magnaghi said. "This is the first time that any collective bibliography on the complete history of the U.P. has been completed by anyone."

Troy Henderson, associated with the Center of U.P. History, worked on editing the bibliography and formatting it into a PDF so it could be put online.

"I also looked deeper into certain topics that could be expanded, trying to get in as many sources as possible," Henderson said. "While being a comprehensive bibliography, we still can make additions and updates every once in a while whenever new sources are located."

The bibliography is currently 154 pages long, with an array of sources such as books, articles, and journals.

"The goal was not to just make a list but rather getting the information out there," Magnaghi said. "While the bibliography is very inclusive, the information is mostly of historical value."

Concealed weapons discussed

Survey about weapons on campus

By Shaina James
assistant news editor

As the final stage of a three-part project, faculty members were asked to participate in a survey compiling Northern's opinion on allowing concealed weapons to be carried on campus.

Criminal justice majors were first given a survey and last year all NMU students were emailed and asked to fill out a survey telling their opinion of allowing students to carry guns on campus.

In February faculty members were asked to share their opinions on the matter. The same questions were asked in all three surveys.

"The survey asked if people had experience with guns and how confident they are in Public Safety," said criminal justice professor, who helped conduct the survey, Greg Warchol. "It asked for their political views, if they were crime victims and other questions related to that."

All participants remained anonymous and all though the faculty survey results are not in yet, the students' results from the survey taken last year are.

There was a 40 percent response rate and a 45 to 50 percent response rate for faculty.

Thirty-eight percent of the

students who responded to the survey say they own a firearm. Seventy-one percent of students said they thought an increase in firearm violence on campus would occur by allowing concealed weapons on campus.

"About two years ago there was the empty holster protest on campus and that is when we got the idea to study the views of concealed weapons on campus," Warchol said.

According to the results from the student survey, the majority strongly opposed allowing weapons on campus, with only 28 percent in favor of concealed carry on campus.

Opposition was found strongest among liberal students.

"Students weren't so much concerned about someone coming to shoot people," Warchol said. "Students were more worried about accidents."

Three percent of students say they have been involved in a firearm accident and 23 percent say they know someone involved in a firearm accident, according to the student survey results.

According to Warchol, after reading an article in The North Wind about the empty holster protest, he realized there was no research on the topic that states faculty and students opinion of people carrying weapons legally on campus.

"The survey won't have any affect," Warchol said.

"We just wanted the basic opinion; it is an interesting topic."

Forty-nine states allow concealed carry permits for citizens, but most universities do not allow people to have weapons on campus, according to Warchol.

At NMU, weapons must be registered and kept at Public Safety, which is open 24 hours, seven days a week.

About 270 million people privately own guns in the U.S. Every state but Illinois allows citizens to have a concealed firearms permit.

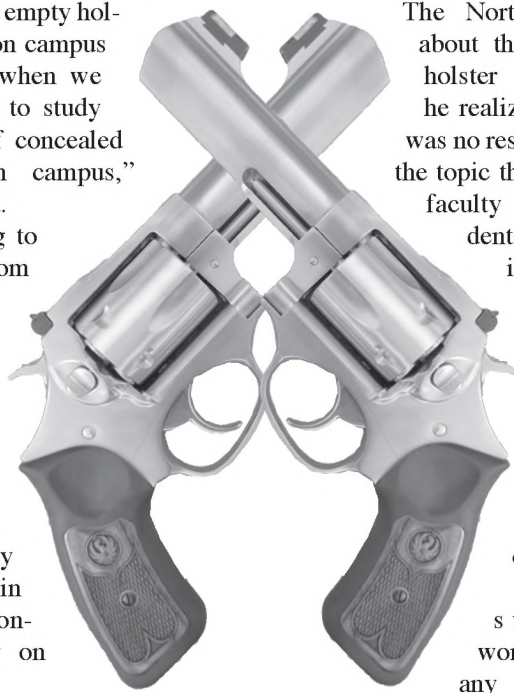
States that allow people to carry weapons legally often have restrictions on places where they are allowed, such as places of worship, government buildings, and schools.

Currently 15 states allow individuals with a concealed weapons permit to carry a concealed weapon on college or university property with consent of the institution according to Students for Concealed Carry on Campus.

According to Public Safety detective Vic LaDuke, if NMU's policy on concealed weapons were to change, which ultimately the state would need to change their laws, Public Safety would adjust.

"If the university's stance on concealed weapons on campus were to change, we would have to abide by the rule."

Even with Public Safety patrolling campus constantly, 23 percent said they were not confident in Public Safety's response time to a violent attack.



Freedom of information celebrated

By Aaron Loudenslager
staff writer

A week of events will be held to promote Sunshine Week, a national public discussion about the importance of open government and freedom of information.

This year's Sunshine Week will be March 11 through 17 and is co-sponsored by the American Society of News Editors and the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press. It is funded by the Gridiron Club and the Knight Foundation.

This year's Sunshine Week includes many events across the country. Ben Burns, director of Wayne State University's journalism program, said there are many ways for people, including students, to get involved in Sunshine Week.

"People can get involved by writing letters to editors, writing editorials and calling the public's attention to acts by government agencies that are prohibited under the laws."

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder will speak at 2 p.m. on March 12 at the U.S. Department of Justice Great Hall in Washington, D.C.

Other Sunshine Week events include the New York Library's Science, Industry and Business Library's Freedom of Information Day celebration at 10:30 a.m., featuring speaker Robert Weissman, president of consumer rights group Public Citizen.

Sunshine Week tries to create a discussion about the transparency of government and free access of public information to citizens.

Two major types of laws that deal with these issues are the freedom of information act (FOIA) laws and open meeting act (OMA) laws.

"Michigan FOIA attempts to make information in the possession of government 'public record' subject to disclosure with very limited exemptions," said general counsel for Michigan Press Association Robin Luce Herrmann. "The intent of the Michigan Open Meetings Act is to have government operate in the open so the public can know what is going on."

"The OMA requires that all decisions take place at a meeting open to the public; and most deliberations must also take place at a meeting open to the public — the OMA provides for limited exemptions that allow closed de-

liberations."

Lisa McGraw, public affairs manager for the Michigan Press Association, says FOIA and OMA laws are very important to everyday Americans.

"They [FOIA and OMA laws] provide the tools to allow everyday citizens access to information about things that impact their lives," McGraw said.

Josh MacIvor-Andersen, assistant professor of English at NMU, also said that FOIA and OMA laws were important to American citizens.

"At the government's best, they're essentially us; they're people. It's people writ large. It's sort of a projection of what our interests are and our needs are," MacIvor-Andersen said. "But once you actually get there, there's a tendency to want to shroud what you're doing in a kind of secrecy."

"So, sunshine laws I think are the counter balance to that."

MacIvor-Andersen said these open government and Freedom of Information Act laws were



important to students, and student journalists in particular.

"I think that at its best these laws guarantee that even a student journalist could do the same kind of work that a professional journalist could do, which is a beautiful thing, which I think is appropriate," MacIvor-Andersen said.

MacIvor-Andersen also said events like Sunshine Week are especially important in today's age.

"Things like Sunshine Week to actually bring awareness to focus on these issues are more important now than ever I think," MacIvor-Andersen said.

Weather takes toll on Midwest

By NW Staff

Leap Day 2012 brought an intense storm that dropped inches of snow across the Upper Peninsula.

According to WLUC-TV6, more than 80 U.P. schools were cancelled Wednesday, Feb. 29.

In addition, Northern Michigan University cancelled morning and evening classes, and Bay and Gogebic Community Colleges were closed.

Classes were cancelled early Wednesday. The cancellations were sent out via the campus text alert system, broadcasted in the media and emailed campus-wide. Students can sign up for emergency text alerts by visiting publicsafety.nmu.edu.

Many NMU students were shocked to get the alert that there was a snow day.

"I thought a student hacked the system and was pulling my leg," said Jordan Smeltzer, junior entertainment and sports promotion major.

Easterly winds of up to 25 mph created blowing and drifting snow, especially near Lake Superior. As of press time, eight inches of snow had fallen in Marquette since around 10 a.m. Wednesday.

The forecast calls for moderate amounts of snow throughout the weekend and with spring break starting for NMU students, traveling plans may have to be adjusted.

"There is always concern for students traveling," said director of Public Safety Mike Bath. "Students should use good judgement. If the weather is bad, they should make other traveling arrangements or delay their leave."

There are traveling tips on Public Safety's website, and road conditions can be checked on Michigan state police's website, www.michigan.gov/msp.

Nationwide, the storm system claimed at least nine lives and caused more than 100 injuries, with tornadoes tearing up parts of southern Illinois, Kansas and Missouri and additional tornado watches were issued in Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana and Arkansas. The storm is pushing into the Mid-Atlantic near the end of the week.

Grant given for creative projects

Workshops teach students Anishinaabe language

By Drea Weiner
staff writer

The NMU Native American Studies Department, in partnership with the tribal historic preservation office of the Lac View Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The \$22,000 grant will be applied to the Creative and Learning Art in Native Setting Project (CLANS).

This project will focus on the revitalization of Anishinaabe art forms, songs and dances. CLANS project will be a week long event full of workshops in a community based setting for 40 middle school and high school students in Watersmeet, Mich.

"Workshops will promote project-based, holistic learning inclusive of Anishinaabe language lessons, traditional songs and storytelling," said April Lindala, director of the Native American Studies Department.

Lindala applied for the grant. "When I saw that 'tribal centers' were included, I felt that this would be a perfect grant for the type of work that was starting at the Lac Vieux Desert Indian Community with some arts revitalization projects," Lindala said.

The students will have the opportunity to learn from at least 11 recognized American Indian artists. Brian Pourpart will teach a workshop on singing instruction.

Kelly Church will focus on Black Ash Baskets and Cattails and Basswood Projects. Linda Cohen will workshop on beadwork and leather working.

Summer Cohen will instruct beadwork, sewing and making hoops choreography.

Gregory Johnson and Leon Valliere will teach birch bark projects and

language workshops. Elizabeth Kimewon will workshop on Birch Bark and Porcupine Quill Projects and Language (Elder).

Adrian King plans on teaching male dance styles and old dances. Cherish Parish will instruct black ash baskets. Michelle Reed intends to teach sewing, female dance styles and choreography. Hoop dancing will be taught by Megan Tucker.

"The prospect of the Native American Studies program re-

ceiving a \$20,000-plus grant to educate pre-college students is nothing short of amazing," Levi Warnos, junior English major said. "[It will] be placing a considerable amount of valuable resources back into the hands of the people who deserve [it]."

Some of the dances that will be taught are the buck and doe dance, the fish dance and the swan dance.

"Personally speaking, my heart is and always has been tied closely to music, dance and art," Lindala said.

"As a small child I was brought up with piano lessons during the week and went to powwows to dance over the weekend."

"I was a huge fan of the television program. 'Fame,' and from that I have always felt that the performing arts could really inspire young people to do good with their life."

For those who wish to apply, there will be an application sent to the 35 tribes in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the urban

American Indian centers in those states. The application will also be available online once plans are finalized.

"We are seeking to educate tribal citizens of the Upper Peninsula tribes," Lindala said. "However, we will open it up to tribes in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota."

There will be no extra cost for participants except for transportation.

The CLANS project is also receiving additional support from NMU College of Art and Sciences, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community's Youth Program, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission Hannahville Indian School and the Hannahville Indian Community's Youth Program.

"In combination with (my) personal experiences, the importance of revitalizing some of the social songs of the Anishinaabe just makes sense," Lindala said. "I know that there are fewer and fewer drum groups who know and understand some of the older social songs."

"While some of the adults might know the dances to go with those songs, our young people do not always have an opportunity to learn these dances unless they happen to be at a powwow where

Personally speaking, my heart is and always has been tied closely to music, dance and art.

— April Lindala
director of the Native American Studies department

New library search engine gets praise

OneSearch makes research easier for students

By Elizabeth Bailey
staff writer

NMU's Olsen Library has made researching even easier for students, with the recent switch to OneSearch.

This program allows students to find adequate results all in one

place and cuts research time making students a lot happier.

"OneSearch is a great resource not only for NMU, but for high school students as well," said Nicholas Sina, senior secondary education major.

Sina, is student teaching this semester and recently taught

his students how to do properly research with the help of OneSearch.

"Being a student teacher, we're constantly trying to find ways to make the researching process as painless as possible, and with NMU's new database it makes researching and teaching that much easier," Sina said.

The library gained access to the OneSearch index last winter, but it took a while to set up everything.

Over the summer, it was up and running, however the library didn't promote it until this fall. The librarians wanted to make sure every aspect was fine tuned.

When implementing the new search option, the Olsen Library also reformatted the webpage, which took some time said Kevin McDonough, reference and electronic services librarian.

"The difference with OneSearch is that you're searching the full text not the citations," McDonough said. "You're also searching by default full text that is owned by Northern."

According to McDonough,



Kristen Koehler/NW
Erin Folgert, a senior criminal justice major, looks through a book between the stacks on the third floor of the Learning Resource Center.

The chances of finding relevant material is a lot better when all the information is in the same place. McDonough said is exactly what OneSearch is doing.

"OneSearch used the model like Google scholar," McDonough said. "All the relevant items are at the top and slowly taper out after the first couple pages."

McDonough said students don't have to spend as much time searching because the best results will be at the top instead of mixed in with all the other irrelevant items.

OneSearch also allows the viewer to narrow down publication date, content type and if it's scholarly or newspaper; the possibilities are endless.

"I've heard from students and faculty that they like this product, I can't possibly see why anyone would dislike it," McDonough said. "It is worlds better what we used to have."

McDonough said students do a search just to try it out, and if there are any problems go to the reference desk in the library.



Kristen Koehler/NW

If any students are unfamiliar or confused by the new OneSearch engine, they can always get help at the desk. The old search engine is still available.

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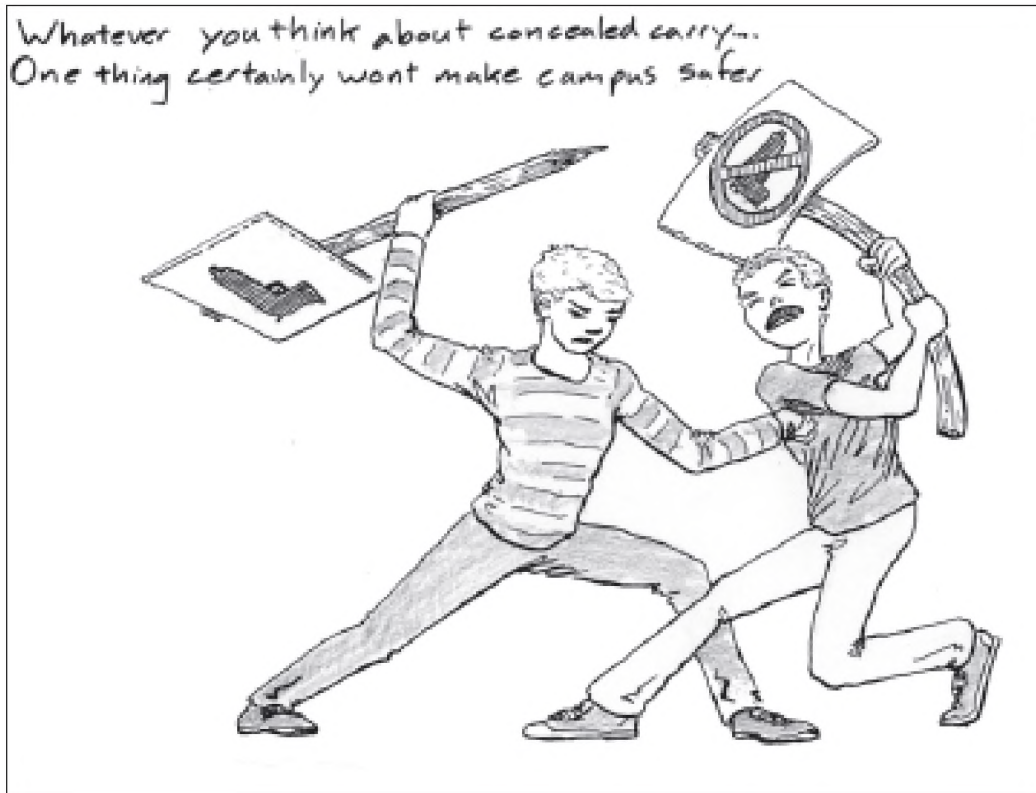
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Staff Editorial



In concealed weapons debate, no guns needed

NMU students and faculty may have received an email recently with a survey pertaining to carrying a concealed weapon on campus with a CCW permit from the state of Michigan. Although it is currently against Michigan law to carry a concealed weapon on college campuses, the survey being administered to NMU students and faculty show the debate about concealed weapons on college campuses has not dwindled.

The issue of concealed weapons with permits on campus is not as simple as any one person would tell you it is. Ultimately though, having concealed weapons on campus doesn't solve anything.

Students and faculty on campus and across the state have diverse views on this subject. Some think weapons and guns in particular have no place in an academic atmosphere. They think concealed weapons will not make students any safer from a threat at school. Some even think students with concealed weapons on campus would make the university more dangerous.

On the other side of the issue, people believe that being able to carry a concealed weapon on campus will make them safer and protect them from a possible school shooter. Some even believe that carrying a concealed weapon on campus is a constitutional right. Many of these views, on both sides of the argument, are either wrong or

misguided.

The core of this issue comes down to this: concealed weapons won't stop a school shooting; society must create the conditions that make school shootings disappear.

It's true that a student carrying a legal concealed weapon could theoretically stop a school shooting because he or she is armed with a weapon. But the odds of a student stopping a shooting by him or herself is very slim and could actually hinder the effort of law enforcement to stop the shooter because law enforcement must distinguish between the shooter and regular students with concealed weapons.

Another problem with concealed weapons on campus is that students will not know which students have permits for their weapons and which ones don't. This could lead to unnecessary worry for students.

Valuing a safe learning environment is important. But students or faculty legally carrying concealed weapons will not make the learning environment on campus any less safe. In order to get a concealed weapons permit from Michigan, you must go through a background check, attend a class and take a written test.

People carrying concealed weapons on campus legally will not make the university community any less safe. But concealed weapons won't solve anything either.

Seek assistance for college stress



Shootings like the one at an Ohio high school earlier this week are all too common an occurrence, but what is often not given enough attention is the mental well-being of the individuals behind the bullets.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death in college students, according to the National Alliance of Mental Health, compared to being the ninth leading cause for the general population.

An in-depth study conducted by a University of Texas at Austin professor showed over half of college students have considered suicide at some point in life or have had an episode of suicidal thinking.

These numbers seem shocking, but less so when the pressures of college life are taken into consideration; students' resources, namely time and money, are running out with no means of control.

The college years, regardless of which school a student attends, act as a transition from childhood to adulthood, but often leave students struggling to make ends meet. Along with attending school full-time, many college students also hold time-consuming but scarcely paid jobs.

To add more pressure, some students have additional commitments, such as an internship, a family to care for or a sport to play. With ever-expensive tuition and a struggling economy, it is plain to see how chal-

lenging and complicated college life can become.

This stress without relief can lead to deeper problems, like anxiety and depression, which are too complex and dangerous for students to handle alone.

Those who try to face their problems without professional help can make them worse or take riskier approaches like turning to substances to ease the pain.

Society puts pressure on people, especially the college-aged, to conform to stereotypes. It is unattractive to be unhappy, but acting happy and avoiding legitimate problems will not cure anything.

It is OK to have problems – as minor as homesickness and as major as suicidal thoughts. What's not OK, however, is to let them build up instead of confronting them with help from an adult.

Students at Northern Michigan University are lucky to have Counseling and Consultation Services available to them free of charge and they even offer emergency sessions when necessary.

Counselors work closely with clients to overcome troubling situations and adversity, and to develop a collaborative plan for a healthy future. All information is kept completely confidential and students are welcome to use their services for significant problems or even just for personal growth.

Do not let personal struggles and stress reach the point of suicidal thinking. Mental illness is just as serious as physical illness and both should be treated by a professional.

Call CCS at (906) 227-2980 to schedule an appointment.

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.

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

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Socialism must fix the flaws of modern capitalism



For What It's Worth
Aaron Loudenslager

In America, we live in a false dream where capitalism is perfect. At a young age, we're taught that a free enterprise system facilitates freedom. Freedom is equated with free markets. Not only is this line of thinking dangerous, it's unequivocally and emphatically wrong.

I'm the person your parents warned you about before you decided to enter a college campus. I'm not a bearded-Marxist who sits in the library all day reading "Das Kapital" and "The Communist Manifesto," but I am a socialist. More specifically, I am what I denote a pragmatic socialist.

Socialism has been claimed by many people and many nations, sometimes for good and for bad. I look to the good. I look to democratic socialists and social reformers like Eugene Debs, Norman Thomas, Bertrand Russell, George Orwell and Robert LaFollette. I look for what was at the core of these men's beliefs.

At the heart of socialism thought is the belief that every person has the means to live a fulfilling life. Political scientists would call this positive liberty. The means to achieve this has always been argued among socialists.

From libertarian socialists who would like to abolish authoritative institutions like the state to democratic socialists who would like use the democratic process to take over the state, the core belief has never changed.

Pragmatic socialism takes that core belief and looks at which actual policies will achieve positive liberty. Theoretically, it could

take any form, from free markets to state-owned industries.

It could never take the form of capitalism, or so called free markets. You can just take a look at neoclassical economic models and prove them wrong with their own tools. Free market fundamentalists preach the dogma of perfect competition and profit motives leading to efficient markets. This simply isn't true by looking at their own models.

Once you ask questions about imperfect information and competition, the models crumble. Instead of perfect competition, the real world is dominated by the oligopolies of transnational corporations like GM and Exxon. Instead of prices that respond quickly and accurately to reflect true price values, we find sticky prices and economic bubbles.

The truth of the free market is this: it never existed. It was only a myth. Don't worry though; it has just been busted.

There's a much larger problem than just the flaws in neoclassical economic models. There are problems with capitalism itself.

How could an economic system based on pure self-interest ever work? How could a system based on this view create a good society? It goes against the views of all major religions, including the teachings of Jesus Christ. It rewards a corrupt CEO but punishes a hard-working university student with back-breaking loans.

It's an economic system that allows two-thirds of American corporations to not pay taxes, to not pay their employees a living wage, to lobby millions of their treasury dollars for favorable legislation against the interests of social justice, the environment and consumers.

In just a quick illustration, we see what capitalism is. Lebron James signed an endorsement deal with Nike in 2003 worth approximately \$90 million. No problem with that.

Here's my problem. Nike has workers in Indonesia making only \$2.50 a day to make the products that Lebron James will be paid to simply wear on national TV. This is simply and utterly unjust.

Government can help. Government is the realization of civil society. It represents everyone and can promote the common good. The main reason it fails at times is because former corporate CEOs run federal agencies and business lobbyists water down legislation that would help the American public. These specific failures are a byproduct of capitalism.

The best way to achieve positive liberty is for the state, through the democratic process, to make decisions that will help the American people. What policies would help the American people?

A single-payer health care system (Medicare-for-all) would cover all Americans. This would fix our current inefficient health care system that leaves 50 million people uninsured, 50 million people underinsured and leads to the death of 45,000 Americans per year because they cannot afford health insurance.

Closing corporate tax loopholes and taxing financial derivatives could fund a multitude of things the American people desperately need. These funds could be spent on providing tuition-free university education to all Americans. The funds could also be spent on investing in our infrastructure and providing millions of living wage jobs to our citizens.

Capitalism will not provide positive liberty for people; its philosophy is intrinsically opposed to it.

We can either have socialism or capitalism.

As Ralph Nader's father once said, "Socialism is the government ownership of the means of production, while capitalism is the business ownership of the means of government." I would rather have socialism.

Santorum's views scare U.S. voters



Guest Column
Brian Westrick

Any of my friends can tell you I am not shy about my political beliefs. I don't truly fall under the liberal or conservative umbrellas, but I do have very strong feelings about nearly every issue.

I usually try and keep an open mind in regards to the positives about each and every presidential candidate (although I have become supremely disillusioned with the current Republican Party candidates).

But Rick Santorum is making a very strong case as one of the worst major-party presidential candidates of all time. As a firm believer in the Establishment Clause (often erroneously referred to as "separation of church and state"), I tend to be wary of any candidate that the established evangelical base is supporting. Thus begins a wonderful journey, not unlike "Alice in Wonderland," where we will discover just how deep the rabbit hole and Rick Santorum's insanity truly go.

The First Amendment states, "Congress shall make

no law respecting an establishment of religion." When asked about it by George Stephanopoulos on Sunday, Santorum responded, "That makes me throw up." But not before he slandered his case and created a hilarious straw-man argument, making it sound like the Establishment Clause prevents people of faith from being public figures.

For a man who is of the party attacking Barack Obama for "violating the Constitution," to say that a part of it he disagrees with makes him "throw up" seems at best hypocritical, at worst downright insane. The man prides himself as a Reagan-esque candidate, the same Ronald Reagan who proclaimed, "church and state are and must remain separate."

Santorum has not been shy regarding his opinion of Obamacare. He has claimed his presidential campaign was inspired by Obamacare and the fact that it would essentially ration health care based on the usefulness of an individual to the whole of society, rather than caring for every individual. His fear was that under Obamacare, his special needs

daughter Bella would therefore be denied coverage under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

He forgets that the health care law expressly forbids insurance companies the right to deny people insurance based on pre-existing conditions. Santorum claims that Obamacare is an egregious violation of Obama's constitutional abilities as president and that the government has no place regulating health and what goes into the human body (with the obvious exceptions of contraception and abortions for rape victims, clearly those are his business).

Of course, we all know about how Santorum feels regarding how sacred every human is, except for homosexuals. After all, his strategy for winning the Latino vote in the general election, should he win the nomination, was to turn them against the LGBT community.

In an October debate, Santorum answered a question regarding the Latino vote by stating the GOP can appeal to their sense of family and faith and continued on this point by stating how that is "what's at stake in this country." Sure, he didn't expressly

Of course, we all know about how Santorum feels regarding how sacred every human is, except for homosexuals.

state that his plan was to turn the Latino community against the LGBT community, but

the veil over the sentiment was as thin as Newt Gingrich's sense of faith.

Speaking of faith, we've all become aware in recent weeks how Santorum feels about making sure that religious liberty in this country stays at the forefront of our values (as long as the religion that is given the liberty is his own) and how wrong it is to impose one religion upon people in this country who don't share a particular faith.

Especially in the case of rape victims, as mentioned previously, Santorum has made it clear that he would allow for no exceptions for rape victims in his outright ban on abortion, and that rape victims should "make the best of a bad situation" and "accept God's gift."

This is totally not a religious statement or the imposition of religious views upon an unwilling participant, definitely not that.

Rick Santorum is so far out of touch with the modern world and the hypocrisy of his statements are truly terrifying.

I can only hope that cooler heads will win out and keep this man out of the White House.

Diversity helps students learn in school

U.S. Supreme Court should uphold Grutter v. Bollinger



Guest
Column

Lee
McClelland

Diversity is an invaluable supplement to a successful classroom. Being an active member of a course that has students who have lived in the American Midwest, the Middle East, the posh flats of Washington D.C. or the impoverished neighborhoods that surround it makes an incredible difference in the quality of your education.

In recent years, the issue of diversity has brought about arguments regarding current affirmative action laws. These laws offer a chance for students who may come from a poor socioeconomic area, a dysfunctional household or an inner-city school where the quality of education is not so great.

Affirmative action allows students who may not have an impeccable GPA or a stupendous SAT or ACT score to have a chance to go to college and bet-

ter themselves.

There are some who believe affirmative action allows for discrimination against another racial group: Caucasians. Abigail Fisher seems to think so. She is the high school graduate who applied to the University of Texas at Austin and was denied entrance. In Ms. Fisher's eyes, she was discriminated against on the basis of her race; being Caucasian caused her to be overlooked.

This case, Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin, was heard this past Monday. There is a lot of speculation on the outcome of these proceedings.

The current Supreme Court has a collective ideology that leans on the conservative side of the political spectrum, leading many to believe that this case will overturn a major precedent, meaning that affirmative action would be declared unconstitutional.

The precedent that is currently in place resulted from the

2003 Supreme Court case Grutter v. Bollinger, which holds that affirmative action is constitutional, so long as it is a narrowly tailored factor in the admissions process. That means that colleg-

Having affirmative action policies that are constitutional and fair removes the barriers that minority students face. It is something essential to our system of higher education.

es cannot use race as a predominant factor, that quotas cannot be used and that points cannot be given to an applicant based on their race.

The University of Texas has a race-neutral admissions process. They factor in two aspects when deciding admissions: the projected grade point average (PGPA) of a student in their first year and how they rank on a personal achievement index. The index derives its scores from other factors, such as where the student is from, if they are a first generation college student, etc.

The Top Ten Percent Law is also part of the admissions process at the University of Texas. Any student in the top ten per-

cent of their class in high school is automatically accepted if they apply to the University of Texas.

Abigail Fisher was not in the top ten percent of her class, nor did she have the qualifications to attend the University of Texas. She is a jaded white student who wanted to gain entry to a prestigious university. When Fisher couldn't, she did the American thing. She took them to court.

What Abigail Fisher fails to understand is that as a white person, she has more opportunities and advantages over other minority ethnic groups.

It is a sad but true fact. We'd like to think that every person is equal because we've come so far since the Civil Rights Act of 1964, but we are still operating on a system of distorted equality.

Now, I can understand the above statement could be contrived as racial in its nature. What I would like for you to do is look at some facts that are unbiased and the subsequent information received from the United States Census.

From 2007-08, the median household income for white Americans was \$55,530; for Hispanics it was \$37,913; and

for African Americans it was \$34,335.

Why is there a gap between white Americans and two of the largest minority groups in this country, which is as large as a median of \$19,406? The gap exists because of inequalities that still pervade our society, inequalities that could be lessened by affirmative action laws currently in place.

Everyone deserves a chance to prosper and better themselves. Isn't that the American dream?

Having affirmative action policies that are constitutional and fair removes the barriers that minority students face. It is something essential to our system of higher education.

It is a proven fact that diversity in the classroom results in enhanced learning; students in a diverse classroom score higher on standardized tests.

This is the grey area—the taboo garden, of black and white, wrong and right. If Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin results in the overturning of the Grutter v. Bollinger precedent, we will all feel the coarse ripples of injustice through the system of higher education.

NMU students visit CPAC to learn



Guest
Column

Justin
Bis

Way up here in the U.P., Washington D.C. sure seems like a far off and remote place. When Northern students talk about politics, the concept of the federal government has a very "them" and not an "us" mentality to it. Perhaps this is a problem.

When students turn on their TVs or watch the news on their computers, our national leaders and issues seem a million miles away. Perhaps the apathy and frustration students have with the political process is because politics isn't personal enough.

The Northern Michigan University College Republicans decided to reverse that trend by visiting Washington D.C. Last month, 12 NMU students travelled to D.C. where they met politicians, pundits, policy wonks and presidential candidates at the 39th Annual CPAC.

CPAC, which stands for Conservative Political Action Convention, is a nationally-renowned, three-day conference, where leaders of conservative and libertarian ideologies, leaders of the Republican Party and leaders of the various states and federal government meet to discuss the future of the nation. These leaders include presidential candidates, governors, congressmen, senators, for-

eign dignitaries, journalists and issue advocates. With more than 11,000 attendees from across the country, CPAC has become one of the largest and most important meetings in American politics.

It was truly an educational experience for NMU students. The theme of the conference was "We Still Hold These Truths," referring to the Declaration of Independence and the conviction that our Founding Fathers had in the idea of unalienable rights. Speakers spoke about the need to stay true to constitutional government and to pay heed to the ideas that made our country great.

Students heard from John Boehner, Speaker of the House of Representatives and presidential candidates such as Mitt Romney, Newt Gingrich, Rick Santorum, Rand Paul as a surrogate for his father Ron Paul and Michelle Bachmann. Governors Bobby Jindal of Louisiana, Scott Walker of Wisconsin and Rick Perry of Texas were also present. They provided a good argument for federalism and the importance of state government.

Some of the best speeches came from the "short list" of potential vice presidential picks. Senators Marco Rubio (Fla.) and Jim DeMint (S.C) received several standing ovations from the audience for their defense of American exceptionalism. Last but not least was Sarah Palin. Considered dead by many political observers, the former vice presidential candidate drowned out Occupy Wall Street protestors who attempted to disrupt her speech. The energy and

enthusiasm from her voice led the audience to several standing ovations.

Alongside these high profile speeches were smaller breakout sessions. In a more intimate setting, College Republicans met with and had conversations with Daniel Hannan, a member of the European Parliament, Samuel Wurzelbacher, known famously as "Joe the Plumber" from the 2008 campaign, Daniel Bongino, a former Secret Service agent running for Congress, Michael Medved, a conservative radio show host and many others. Students also had the chance to attend a job fair, with dozens of think tanks and policy groups taking application and recruiting interns.

Students visited the Capitol building, the Supreme Court, the Library of Congress, the Washington and Lincoln monuments and the WWII and Vietnam memorial. Northern students also had the exceptional privilege of meeting the U.P.'s Congressman. Congressman Benishek was kind enough to show NMU students his Capitol office. He introduced his staff and also explained his votes.

The NMU College Republicans learned a lot and they are now eager to bring the knowledge and the arguments being heard in our nation's capital here to Northern. Most importantly, the College Republicans made politics personal, and brought the far out concept of national government to a concrete and real conception. If any student is interested in joining the College Republicans, email them at collegerepublicans.nmu@gmail.com.

Letter to the editor

This letter is respectfully submitted by the members of Campus Cinema in response to a Feb. 23 column titled "Campus Cinema needs to improve" by Drea Weiner. We are troubled by the baseless accusations of incompetence and the misrepresentation of our responsibilities. We believe a response is necessary to more accurately inform the NMU community of our successes and challenges.

The first falsehood in the article claimed that Campus Cinema advertising has declined. In fact, the opposite is true. This year the movie posters have been generated and posted around campus in a more timely fashion than any of the previous three years. More modes of advertisement have been utilized than ever before as well.

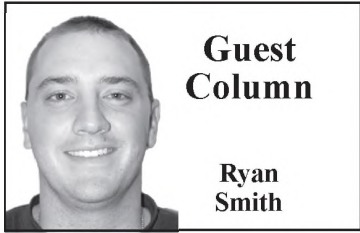
The NMU Master Calendar of events is filled with our movies and student announcements are posted as soon as we know our schedule. The North Wind contains weekly ads for our upcoming movies. We also keep the website and Facebook updated weekly.

The NMU adviser for Campus Cinema, Jon Barch, has even commented that he is "happy to see the improvements this year considering a full organizational leadership transition coupled with difficulties of working within the time constraints created by the movie industry's post-theater and pre-DVD release dates."

The only part of our advertising that has decreased is the removal of our large movie poster display case in the Marketplace when it was renovated. This is a decision that we were disappointed with and had no control over. More to come in the following edition of the North Wind.

Meredith Bruischat
Campus Cinema president
sophomore, pre-veterinary major

Iran's actions could lead to major war in Middle East



Guest Column

Ryan Smith

The Iranians want to destroy Israel. Big news, right? Not really. But what is and has been big news for the past few weeks is the advancement of the Iranian nuclear program, the possible international sanctions placed on Iran and the reactions of the Iranian leadership.

While the major issue has been the Iranians threatening to close the vital Strait of Hormuz, if more sanctions are placed, the world keeps one eye on Israel and wonders what they will do.

The Israelis have proven time and again that they will not hesitate to defend themselves if they see a threat. Their military has proved several times that nothing is out of their reach. Will the Israelis strike Iran's nuclear program?

There is legitimate concern on this matter. Israel has done this before when they attacked and destroyed the Iraqi nuclear reactor at Osiraq using a coordinated air attack in 1981, which brought strong condemnation from the international community. Also in

September 2007, Israeli aircrafts carried out Operation Orchard, which destroyed a nuclear reactor site in Syria and brought no comment from anywhere in world. Even the Iranians offered no condemnation of the attack. Israel has gotten very good at destroying nuclear reactors.

While the world has made it clear to Iran that closing the Strait of Hormuz, where 85 percent of the world's oil transported by sea passes through, would be considered an act of war, Western navies have increased the number of ships patrolling the area. The Israelis are more concerned about the nation, whose leaders weekly call for its destruction, claim the Holocaust is a lie, sponsor the terrorist network Hezbollah, which have carried out several attacks on Israel, of getting a nuclear bomb.

There is no doubt that Israel will never allow Iran to have a nuclear weapon and will resort to military action to defend itself. A strike on Iran would have major implications for the region and the world as a whole.

Unlike Iraq in 1981 and Syria in 2007, Iran has the capability of striking back with medium range ballistic missiles, possibly tipped with chemical weapons. While the Iranian Air Force would offer nothing except target practice for any Israeli aircraft involved in an

airstrike, their ground based air defense is now formidably well-prepared, having seen what the IAF is capable of in the past.

Iran has also shown that its vast terrorist networks and intelligence services have a long reach. Although the recent plot to murder the Saudi ambassador was uncovered, it does show that the Iranians are capable of retaliatory strikes.

Some speculate that this time the Israelis would not have to go at it alone and that Western nations may provide support for an operation that would end the headache of Iran's nuclear program. I personally think this true and the Obama administration has shown it is willing to go after hard targets regardless of international fallout.

This is a very dangerous situation in a very unstable region. Iran is feeling the pressure of the world and is flexing its military strength and threatening to bring the world economy to its knees by choking off all trade through the straits.

Western navies and American aircraft carrier battle groups are ready to keep the vital trade routes open, all with a nuclear backdrop and Israel willing to do anything to prevent a nuclear Iran.

Is this the powder keg that ignites the first major war of the 21st century?

Sound Off

compiled by
Kristen Koehler

Do you think concealed weapons with permits should be allowed on campus?



Liz McCord
senior, English

"Yes, this gives students the option of defending themselves."



Tanner Andrews
senior, criminal justice

"I think they should be allowed."



Eric Leinonen
sophomore, accounting

"No. We have the NMU campus police and the Marquette police to protect us."



Emily Stulz

sophomore, electronic journalism

"No, they shouldn't be allowed. This is a place we should all feel safe."



Dan Mundy
freshman, criminal justice

"I don't see why not if you have a license."

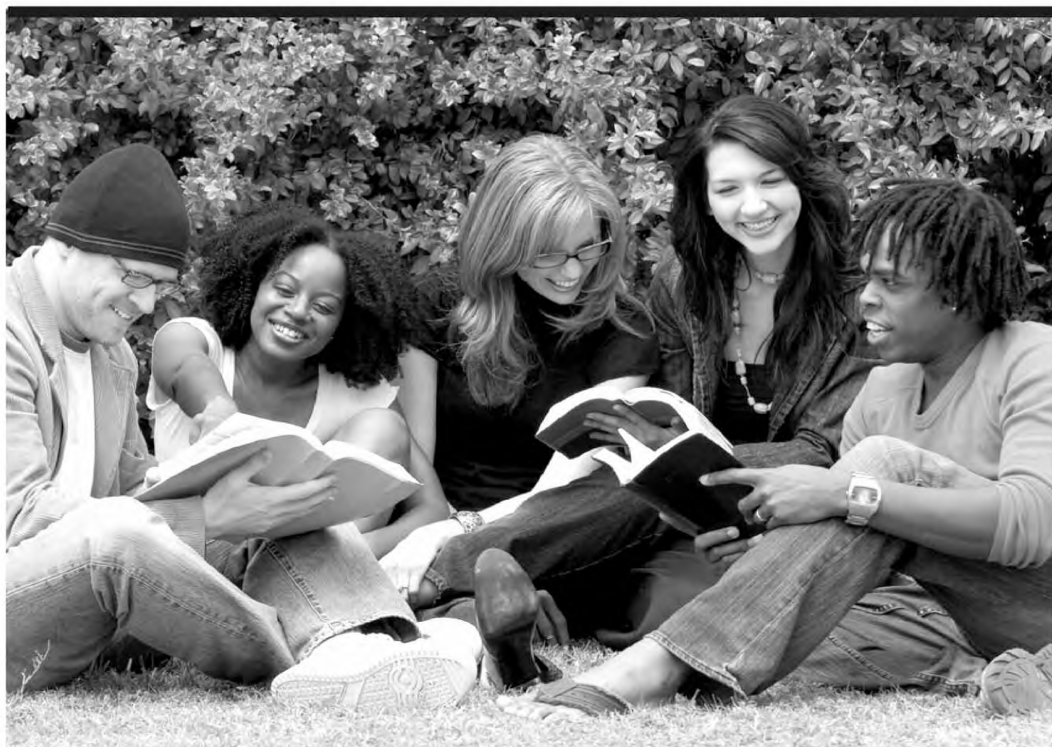


Kiefer Yates

sophomore, undeclared

"Yes. Because concealed weapons aren't allowed at schools, I think it makes students easier targets."

HOME FOR THE SUMMER?



Take a couple classes at your community college.

- Costs are much lower
- Credits transfer back to NMU
- Make up that missing credit or get a jump on next year.

Contact your local Community College for details



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Gogebic Community College . . . Ironwood
800-682-5910 • www.gogebic.edu



Henry Ford Community College . . . Detroit-Dearborn
800-585-HFCC • www.hfcc.edu



Macomb Community College . . . Warren, MI
866-Macomb 1 • www.macomb.edu



Montcalm Community College . . . Sidney
989-328-2111 • www.montcalm.edu

Norman the No

Students get a glimpse of NMU adventures through friendly gnome

By Alisa Fox
features editor

Norman the Northern Gnome, an NMU icon, has been all over the world and back and shares his adventures with students through Facebook photos and updates.

Michael Treacy, a junior English major, was one of the creative minds in the Communications and Marketing office that came up with Norman. Now, as one of Norman's handlers, he is responsible for bringing Norman to various events and photo shoots.

"Wildcat Willy can't be everywhere at once, so Norman sort of helps him out," Treacy said. "If someone wants to include Northern in their event, they can just take Norman and go. He's more inclusive so that everyone can have a chance to take him."

While Wildcat Willy and Norman are busy with their own schedules, Treacy said he likes to think that they are best friends.

"Wildcat Willy always was and always will be the official mascot of Northern and Norman is not in

any way in competition with him," Treacy said. "Willy is just very busy with sporting events and Norman is very mobile. He can go many places very easily."

Norman started out as a simple office gnome who traveled around campus to different places and events, getting his pictures taken and showing NMU's student population how much fun they could have at on-campus events. Now, he travels all over the country and the world with students and alumni.

The popularity of Norman the Northern Gnome has taken the Communications and Marketing office by storm. Although Norman was born on Aug. 19, 2010, in this short time, he has become a mini celebrity on-campus.

"A few summers ago, me and some other student employees were talking about 'World of Warcraft and gnomes came into the conversation,"

Treacy said.

"We decided that we needed a gnome in the office."

Treacy said the

idea spiraled after that. With the help of the Communications and Marketing office, they bought a garden gnome, dressed him in NMU colors of green and gold and arranged for him to be pictured at various on-campus events. Treacy said they had no idea how well it would turn out or even if they would keep doing it for more than a few months.

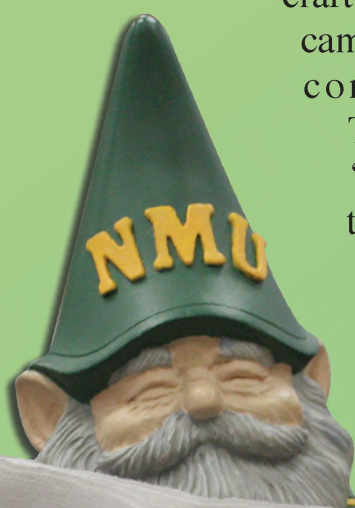
"When we started, we made him just to see if we could," Treacy said. "We thought it would be kind of fun to take him around campus and take pictures."

Norman now has more than 1,000 fans on his personal Facebook page and he is recognized all over campus.

"It started out mostly just us and some people in the office would take him around campus and to events with us," Treacy said. "Then friends became interested and they brought him to their events. Eventually fans from his Facebook page started to request him at different places and events."

Now, Norman is an official Northern figure with his own NMU email address and his own business cards. Last week, Norman was even able to receive his own NMU student ID.

"It's something that just kind of happened," Treacy said. "We didn't



Northern Gnome



particular event or group.”

Norman has most recently been seen welcoming students back in the Wildcat Den at the beginning of the semester, playing his bagpipes at the Burns Supper hosted by the Beaumier Center, long jumping in the Dome, trying on jewelery in the Art and Design building and has even made an appearance in the NMU Meme’s Facebook page.

“It’s a challenge trying to accommodate everyone’s schedule since there are so many requests coming in,” Treacy said. “We’re just trying

dressed up in school colors is pretty cool.”

Treacy said his favorite adventure that Norman has been on was when he volunteered to be a part of the Secret Service during President Obama’s visit to Marquette in February 2011. However, there’s a different aspect of Norman that he enjoys more.

“I enjoy getting him dressed up for the various events,” Treacy said. “He wore a kilt with some bagpipes to the Burns Supper and we painted his beard red.”

Norman was also seen dressed up

“ If someone wants to include Northern in their event, they can just take Norman and go. ”
– **Michael Treacy**
junior English major, one of Norman’s handlers

to find a way so that Norman can attend more events and go more places in the world.”

Not only has Norman been all over campus and Marquette County, he’s also been as far as Russia, South Korea, China and France. Other adventures include visiting the Michigan Iron Industry Museum, watching the Blueberry Classic golf fundraiser and hanging out with the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority.

“Alumni all over the country and all over the world are requesting an appearance of Norman the Gnome at their events or even just to show him the sites and send us pictures,” Treacy said. “People who don’t even know Norman will request a picture with him when they see him at events. I think people just think that a gnome

in a blonde wig and makeup for the NMU drag show during Homecoming festivities last semester.

“We’re always looking for no-cost or low-cost activities for Norman to demonstrate how much fun students can have on-campus,” Treacy said. “Some students just have no idea how much there really is to do out there.”

For more information about Norman or to request him at an event, email norman@nmu.edu or visit his Facebook page.



expect this kind of a response at all.”

Norman is now so busy that people are lining up to get him at their event. Treacy said they do not discriminate which events Norman attends; it’s on a first-come, first-serve basis.

“When all of this started out, I knew exactly what Norman’s schedule was and where he’d be at all times of the day,” Treacy said. “Now, I’ll go by a poster with Norman in it and not even know when those pictures were taken or even who requested him for that

Local brewery implements changes

By Reed Belmonte
staff writer

The rich overwhelming smell of hops, barley, oats and yeast marinate the warm atmosphere of Blackrocks Brewery as homemade beer flows from the various taps made from ski poles, bicycle gears and canoe paddles.

Standing under a canopy of hundreds of beer mugs, men and women of all ages tap their toes to a four-piece live band covering Johnny Cash on a Sunday evening.

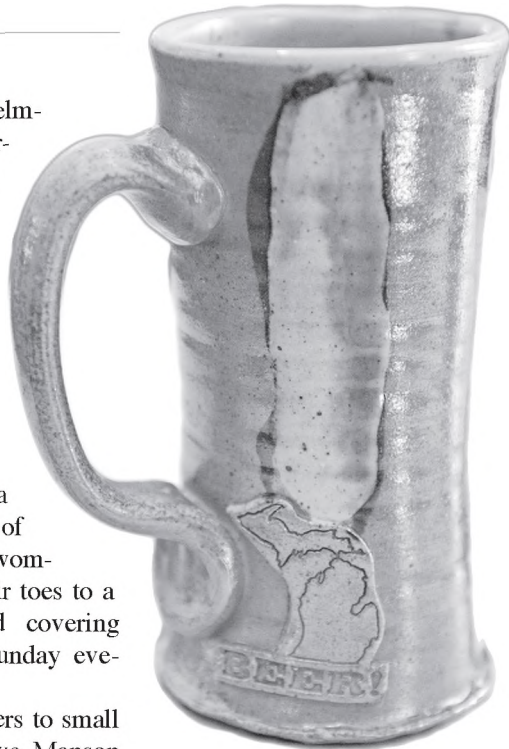
From garage brewers to small brewpub owners, Dave Manson and Andy Langlois have dedicated their hearts and souls this past year into establishing a legitimate brew house for Marquetteans to enjoy.

"We wanted to put Marquette on the map as a destination known for craft beer," Manson said. "There's a particularly different, warmer vibe here, which you lose once you throw liquor into the equation."

Established in 2010, Blackrocks Brewery is the alternative from the regular bar crawl that is Remies, Stuckos, the Doghouse and the Wild Rover.

There is no such thing as a slow night at Blackrocks Brewery.

A true Yooper institution, the shoulder-to-shoulder crowd



Ashley Wiggins/NW

slowly makes its way to the beer garden outside. Customers are drinking stouts and ales under falling snow in their Carharts with not a Miller Light or vodka and cranberry in sight.

"Blackrocks is a house party for grown-ups," Manson said. "With a grassroots following that has a close first-name fan base, customers and employees stand by a creed of making friends, having a great time and, of course, sipping their mystic juice."

The brewery thrives on offering different beers every week, while bringing back some of the local favorites, such as the Amazon Blonde, Drunk Yoda, Coconut Brown and their various India



Ashley Wiggins/NW

Andy Langlois checks one of the homemade beers that Blackrocks Brewery makes. They now have eight different brews that they make. They also offer a new flavor of beer each week such as Amazon Blonde and Drunk Yoda.

pale ales.

"We've always try to concentrate more on variety than quantity," Manson said.

Beginning with just four taps, they've doubled to eight, bringing the variety to a whole new level.

The customers are the heart of the menu at Blackrocks. Whether it's coming up with brew names by voting for them on the glass board behind the bar, or the innovative and somewhat unorthodox beers, such as the Chipotle Stout and Creamsicle.

The average price for a pint is \$3.5. Since last summer, Blackrocks also offers their 64-ounce growlers for \$15 and \$12 to fill up.

Blackrocks serves beer in signature mugs (which hold a few more ounces than the pint), handmade in the Upper Peninsula by potter Ryan Dalman.

At \$40 apiece, the brewery now holds 654 mugs, none identical to the next, making every

Blackrocks experience that much more special.

Manson said it's a well-known factor that they are quite restricted on space.

"We want to open a second location in addition to the Third Street spot, but still try to remain a very small business," Manson said.

In addition, the brewery is now open until midnight on Fri-

day and Saturday, and is considering opening on a new weekday.

They will still provide live music on Sundays and are presently operating Thursday through Sunday from 5 to 10 p.m.

For more information on Blackrocks, visit www.blackrocksbrewery.com, or friend them on Facebook for daily updates on the upcoming brews of the weekend.



Reed Belmonte/NW

They serve eight original brews at Blackrocks Brewery and offer one new flavor each week. Menus and event are listed on their website.



Ashley Wiggins/NW

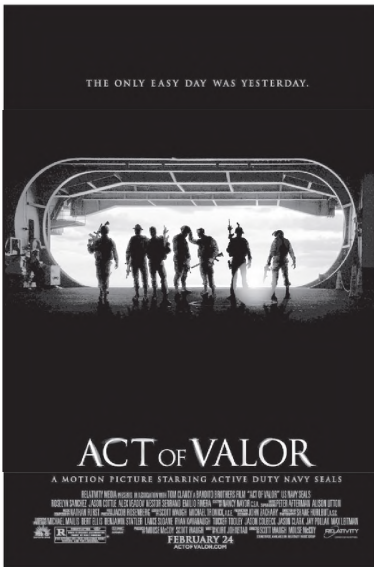
Blackrocks uses handmade mugs from a local potter. Each mug is different from the others and creates a new dimension of the Blackrocks experience.



Ashley Wiggins/NW

The Blackrocks Brewery is on the corner of Third Street and East Michigan Street. They've made a few changes both inside and out, but Manson said they still want to remain the small business the community fell in love with.

'Valor' boring yet accurate in SEAL life



Film: Act of Valor
Directors: Mike McCoy and Scott Waugh
Producers: Mike McCoy and Scott Waugh
Writer: Kurt Johnstad
Starring: Alex Veadov, Roselyn Sanchez and Nestor Serrano
Runtime: 111 minutes

Abu Shabal (Jason Cottle). While this scene definitely instills viewers with the type of evil these guys are dealing with on a daily basis, it also felt a great deal like propaganda to me.

The SEALs featured in "Act of Valor" go by fake names, so it's tough to describe any of them in great detail. These men are first seen in action when a young CIA agent named Lisa Morales (Roselyn Sanchez) becomes abducted by a group of ruthless thugs.

The bad guys torture Morales in an attempt to make her tell them what she knows about them, while the SEALs prepare to extract her from the site.

I had my hand over my mouth quite a bit during these scenes, partially because of the fact that there was blood flying everywhere and also because this is what these guys do for a living.

The second section involves the SEALs trying to stop a group of suicide bombers strapped with ceramic ball-bearing vests from entering the U.S. through a series of underground tunnels.

If these vests explode, it makes the person wearing it not only a human bomb, but the ball bearings act as a massive shotgun firing in every direction.

Although "Valor" definitely

felt like American propaganda at times, there were plenty of other qualities that allowed me to see the film as more than that.

The action scenes were surprisingly effective. Even though the directors of this film (Scott Waugh and Mike McCoy) are relatively inexperienced behind the camera, I was very impressed by the clarity of their more brutal scenes.

Another thing I enjoyed about "Valor" was the lack of sugarcoating. They didn't make it appear like being a SEAL was easy work, nor did they tack on a happy end-

ing at the end. I've never been in the military myself, but I believe this is a fairly accurate portrayal of what life is like for these guys.

There are a few cheesy parts in this movie, which I guess is to be expected in a film without real actors.

Another thing that kind of sent me for a loop was all the code names and military talk that was used.

Overall, "Valor" was an engaging disclosure of the life of Navy SEALs. It was not, however, the ground breaking motion picture that it was made out to be.



By Justin Marietti
 staff writer

"Act of Valor" was very heavily advertised before its release and the theater was nearly full as a result. The trailers pitched this film as an unprecedented one because it used real, active-duty Navy SEALs instead of actors, and it portrayed likely (although fictional) situations that these men are faced with.

Because of this, right off the bat I had a hard time figuring out

how to gauge this movie. If the acting is bad, then there must always be the consideration that these people are not paid actors, but soldiers.

Then, when I considered that the movie is actually about Navy SEALs, I had to grant a little leniency toward these "actors." Despite the fact this is a work of fiction, these men are not acting in the traditional sense of the word, because this is loosely based on their actual job description.

Within the first few minutes, there is an extremely violent and gut-wrenching scene involving the lead antagonist of the movie,



Photos courtesy of www.collider.com
 Instead of Hollywood actors, "Act of Valor" used real Navy SEALs during filming. Although the acting may be subpar, the story remained clear.

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 At: The Wildcat Den

Chris is currently undergoing treatment for cancer at the Mayo Clinic. This Luncheon is being held to help with travel costs and medical expenses.

Chris held the position of cook in the University Center Kitchen and enjoyed preparing menu items from the South West. The menu for this benefit will honor his love of food from this region.

The recommended donation for this lunch is \$10. Tickets can be purchased in advance in the NMU Dining Office located at 1103 of the University Center.

Donations can be mailed to:
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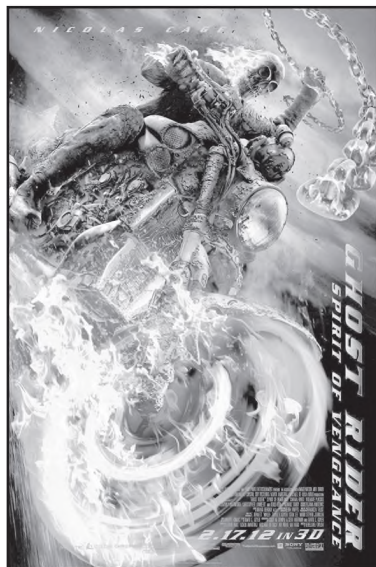
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'Ghost' rides straight to the garbage



Film: Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance

Directors: Mark Neveldine and Brian Taylor

Producer: Michael De Luca

Writers: Scott M. Gimple and Seth Hoffman

Starring: Nicolas Cage, Ciaran Hinds and Idris Elba

Runtime: 95 minutes



By Reed Belmonte
staff writer

"Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance" could quite possibly be the worst movie ever, with the worst actor ever and the worst excuse for 3-D effects money has ever bought.

I would love to be a fly on the wall when the executives at Columbia Pictures decided that after a five-year hiatus, they would produce a sequel to a garbage film that flopped at the box-office and with the critics, and then make it 3-D.

All I have to say is, God save comic book movies. Some of them are truly great films, but for the most part, we're trapped watching garbage like "Green Lantern."

"Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance" is nothing short of an awful movie. It makes me feel sad that either movie studios are that stupid or they're under the impression that the general public is a bunch of idiots.

We're left off with Johnny Blaze, aka the Ghost Rider (aka stupid Nicolas Cage), who has fled the United States and now resides in Eastern Europe. He is visited by a monk on a motorcycle (of course) and told that a small boy is going to be the sec-

ond spawn of Satan, and he has to save him, and he should do it to lift his curse, and the world's going to end, and it really doesn't matter because nobody cares.

The 3-D was garbage, too. All the moments when stuff should have been flying at your face, we just got a close-up of a flaming skull or a hand. 3-D is slowly becoming a "when all else fails" tactic. If a movie really sucks and producers know it, at least it's entertaining at a 3-D level (James Cameron's Avatar).

The writers of this film broke a cardinal rule in comic book movies that is repeated too often: invincibility. No audience wants to watch a character that has no weakness. If he can't get hurt, there is no problem to produce, and all stories need problems and a climax. Cage smacking people with a chain gets old after 30 seconds.

Oh, that's right. I almost forgot the most paramount achievement of this masterpiece; the consistently astounding-to-watch, handsome and talented Nicolas Cage.

Such wonderful cinema spectacles as "Bangkok Dangerous," "Next," "Knowing," "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" and "Drive Angry 3-D" are just the tip of the iceberg for the resume that is the past decade of Nicolas Cage's career.

What happened to Nicolas

Cage? When did the Oscar-winning American-man turn to jello and start making this crap? What happened to "The Weatherman," "Lord of War" or "Adaptation," what I would consider some of the best movies of all time, showing some true, unimaginable talent.

He's a joke. Cage's ultimate creed seems to be whispering when something is deep and important, and just yelling the rest of the lines. He looks exactly the same in every movie and doesn't

change his character either.

Movie studios hang to Cage like a bottle of cheap whiskey; you want him now, but you're going to regret it tomorrow. I used to have pity for Cage, but it has been melted by rage. Columbia Pictures really made a mistake.

Johnny Blaze sold his soul to the devil to save his father, only to be plagued with the curse as a Ghost Rider. Nicolas Cage sold his soul to the devil to save his movie career, only to lose fans in the process.



Photos courtesy of www.collider.com
Nicolas Cage plays the demon-cursed Johnny Blaze. Blaze has left the U.S. and now resides in eastern Europe where new adventures await.

Adrian Grenier
actor. director. filmmaker.

DISCUSSES THE COMPLEX RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CELEBRITIES AND THE MEDIA.

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Justin Key/NW

Junior center Matt Thurber (left) and senior right wing Tyler Gron both look to score in a sweep of LSSU. Gron, Thurber and senior left wing Justin Florek lead NMU in scoring this season.



Wildcat of the Week



Scott Macaulay
Hockey
Defenseman
Junior

Games Played Goals	
33	3
Assists Points Shots	
14	17 35

- Named CCHA Defenseman of the Week

2011-2012 CCHA Conference Standings

	CONFERENCE							OVERALL					
	GP	W	L	T	SW	Pts.	GF	GA	W	L	T	GF	GA
1 Ferris State	28	16	7	5	1	54	80	63	22	9	5	104	76
2 Michigan	28	15	9	4	1	50	85	63	21	11	4	120	79
3 Western Michigan	28	14	10	4	4	50	72	65	17	13	6	95	81
4 Miami	28	15	11	2	1	48	74	63	21	13	2	103	74
5 Michigan State	28	14	11	3	2	47	80	75	19	13	4	109	90
6 Northern Michigan	28	11	11	6	3	42	76	77	16	12	6	98	91
7 Lake Superior	28	11	13	4	4	41	71	66	16	15	5	92	96
8 Notre Dame	28	12	13	3	0	39	65	74	17	16	3	93	100
9 Ohio State	28	11	12	5	1	39	74	69	15	13	5	89	86
10 Alaska	28	8	16	4	2	30	63	69	12	18	4	81	88
11 Bowling Green	28	5	19	4	3	22	40	77	10	21	5	60	102

Wildcats clinch home ice with sweep

Two wins over LSSU set up rematch of last year's first round playoffs

By Delaney Lovett
editor in chief

The Wildcats ended their regular season on top with two wins against Lake Superior State University (11-13-4-4 CCHA, 16-15-5 overall) on Friday, Feb. 24 and Saturday, Feb. 25 in the Berry Events Center.

With the sweep, NMU gained home-ice advantage for the first round of playoffs against Bowling Green State University this weekend and improved its record to 11-11-6-3 in the CCHA and 16-12-6 overall.

"I thought we played well," said head coach Walt Kyle. "The guys understood the significance of the games, and they came out and performed."

The 'Cats won Friday's game, 6-2, with each goal from a different player. Redshirt freshman left wing Reed Seckel scored early in the first, but LSSU tied it up by the end of the period.

In the second period, NMU put up three goals: one from senior right wing Tyler Gron, the second from senior left wing Justin Florek and a power-play goal from sophomore center Stephan Vigier.

"We made some adjustments to our power-play and switched a few things around," said junior defenseman Scott Macaulay. "As the weekend went on, we got more used to it."

Junior center Matt Thurber scored a shorthanded goal early in the third to put the Wildcats up 5-1. The Lakers scored their second goal of the night before senior right wing Andrew Cherniwchan sealed the win with a sixth goal.

"I thought our energy was up," Macaulay said. "I think if we go out and we work hard, that's when we're playing our best."

Much like Friday, NMU was first to score on Saturday with Gron's second goal of the weekend. Lake State came back to tie it up, but the 'Cats regained the lead with a goal from freshman right wing Ryan Daugherty.

Northern Michigan dominated the second period with an even strength goal from freshman defenseman Mitch Jones, and Thurber and junior defenseman Kyle Follmer each scored on the power-play.

In the third period, however, Kyle said the Wildcats got sloppy, letting in an additional even

strength and shorthanded Laker goal to finish with a score of 5-3.

"We made a couple of plays the guys know they shouldn't be making," Kyle said. "We were getting up and getting ahead. Guys were trying to force plays, and you can't do that."

The 'Cats showed the strength of their special teams, killing 10 out of 10 penalties on the weekend. Macaulay finished with one assist on Friday and four on Saturday, earning the title of CCHA defenseman of the week.

Macaulay said he is honored to receive the award, but it relates back to the strong play of the entire Northern Michigan team.

"Picking up a couple assists, it's making plays to guys who went and put the puck in the net," Macaulay said. "It's a compliment to the whole team."

NMU takes on the Bowling Green Falcons (5-19-4-3 CCHA, 10-21-5 overall) this weekend in the CCHA quarterfinals from the Berry Events Center. In their last matchup in early February, the 'Cats swept the Falcons, but Macaulay said it will be a tough series.

"They battled us for both games," Macaulay said. "But we

can't help but think about last year in the plays and how they took it to us there."

The Wildcats will have the chance to redeem themselves this weekend after last year's disappointing first round loss to the Bowling Green.

"We remember last year; that's fresh in our minds," Kyle

said. "They're a very good, competitive team, and we're going to have our hands full."

This weekend's games are scheduled at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 2, Saturday, March 3 and Sunday, March 4. The first team to win two games this weekend will move on to the next round of playoffs.



Justin Key/NW

Sophomore center Stephan Vigier makes a pass up ice against LSSU. The 'Cats secured home ice for the first round of playoffs against BGSU at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 2, Saturday, March 3 and Sunday, March 4.

Lady 'Cats make statement heading into playoffs

By Jon Young
assistant sports editor

The message was simple for the NMU women's basketball team this weekend: win and you're in. The 'Cats swept their final two home games and wrapped up a GLIAC tournament bid.

On Saturday the Wildcats (9-10 GLIAC, 13-13 overall) beat Saginaw Valley, 76-61, to take third place in the GLIAC North. It was Senior Day for NMU and their senior backcourt duo of Hillary Bowling and Chelsea Lyons buried the Cardinals.

"I thought Hillary just had an unbelievable day from the field and obviously Chelsea continued to do what she does," said head coach Troy Mattson. "I'm just excited this team has a chance to move on, because there are some people that really deserve it, such as Chelsea and Hillary."

Bowling was dialed in from the distance. She connected on a season high 7-12 from deep to lead NMU with 21 points.

Bowling said it was a relief to put Saginaw away and get a convincing win.

"We actually came together for a full 40 minutes," Bowling said. "It has been our goal the whole season to play the full 40 minutes and today we finally did

that and we won by more than two points so that was good."

The 'Cats went into halftime ahead, 36-31. Increased defensive pressure and three second half 3-pointers from freshman Lauren Gruber helped sink any chance of a Saginaw comeback. Mattson said her clutch factor is crucial.

"She's not going to back down from any situation and she's kind of like our toughness in that group right now," Mattson said.

NMU held the Cardinals to 38.5 percent shooting in the second half and forced 19 turnovers in the game. Bowling said the team is coming together at the right time.

"I don't think it could be better timing," Bowling said. "Usually teams peak at the beginning of the season or mid season but it's perfect timing for us to peak right now. We're confident at what we can do and we know we can beat anybody."

On Thursday, the 'Cats hosted the Northwood University Timberwolves. Lyons poured in a career-high 34 points to carry NMU to a 71-62 victory.

"I don't keep track of how many points I have during the game but when you have the open shots you try and take them," Lyons said. "I was blessed to be able to capitalize on the opportunities

that I had."

The 'Cats went into the half leading, 31-26, even though they only connected on 1 of 10 from deep. Mattson said he was happy with the effort his team showed in the second half.

"I thought we really gutted it out and made some big plays in the second half to seal the deal," Mattson said.

Gruber was a vital part of those big plays. The freshman dropped 17 of her 19 points in the second half including back-to-back 3-pointers early in the half that broke the tie and put NMU up by six.

"Lauren stepped up and knocked them in like she's been doing it everyday," Mattson said. "I think she's going to be a wonderful player in this league because she's just a real tough player and when the going got tough, she got going."

The 'Cats sealed the game at the free-throw line where they connected on 15-17 for the game. Lyons sealed the win when she took the foul, converted the lay-up and made the point after with 45 seconds left.

"We had a bit of a drought in the second half but that was probably one of the best games we played and it was really good to come out in such an important game," Lyons said.

As the No. 8 seed the 'Cats will travel to Ohio to take on the No.1 seed Ashland Univer-

sity Eagles (19-0 GLIAC, 25-1 overall). The game is at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 29.



Justin Key/NW

Senior guard Chelsea Lyons takes a jump shot vs. Northwood. Lyons shot 46 percent on the season and finished third in the GLIAC in points (428).

NMU ends season in buzzer-beating fashion

By Jon Young
assistant sports editor

It was a big final weekend for the seniors on the NMU men's

basketball squad. Both forward DeAndre Taylor and center Jared Benson ended their careers on a high note.

On Saturday, a Saginaw

freethrow tied the game at 74-74 with 12 seconds left. The 'Cats called a timeout and head coach Doug Lewis put the ball into the hands of Taylor.

"It's a tie game, we only needed two and I knew DeAndre could drive the ball to the basket," Lewis said. "It's his last day, his dad is in the stands, so there's no way I wasn't going to give him the ball to win the game, and he came through."

Taylor drove the right baseline and put up two of his team-high 23 points as the buzzer sounded. Taylor said it's been a tough season but the team never stopped fighting, which resulted in the 76-74 win.

"I just believe in the coach's play," Taylor said. "I believe in myself and I just wanted us to get a win. It's our last year, this is it for us. I just wanted to go out with a win."

The 'Cats missed a jumper with 23 seconds left and secured the offensive rebound. In a scramble in the paint, NMU missed two layups and Benson fouled out of the game.

Saginaw was only able to convert one of their freethrows. Benson, who netted 20 points, said there was no doubt Taylor would get the last shot.

"Nobody goes to the hole like him, he goes in so hard and he jumps so high it's almost impos-

sible to play defense on him," Benson said. "That's why I felt really confident going into that last play, I knew he was going to get it done because no one can elevate with him."

Freshman guard Haki Stampley also chipped in 16 points, while freshman guard Spencer Huss got his first career start, netting eight points to help snap the 'Cats nine-game losing streak.

On Thursday, NMU wasn't able to get into a rhythm and fell, 81-53, to the Northwood University Timberwolves.

The Wildcats most tenured player was able to reach a milestone in the loss.

At the 14:23 mark of the second half, Benson converted a layup to become the 29th player in NMU's history to net 1,000 points.

"I feel like it's a great accomplishment," Benson said. "It gives you a good feeling about what you've done over the past four or five years."

Benson led the team in scoring last season at 14.1 points-per-game and is averaging 11.7 points per-game this season.

Lewis had high praises of the senior, who was honored before the Saginaw game.

"He's an example of a great student athlete," Lewis said. "He works hard on the court, and he works hard in the classroom. He's

had a great career here."

Benson hopes to play basketball professionally after he graduates from NMU. He expressed interest in playing in Germany and said his time as a Wildcat has been valuable to his career.

"I've learned a lot from Coach Lewis and Coach (Dean) Ellis. It's going to help me a lot," Benson said. "Having two different coaches you learn a lot of different philosophies and it's helped me over the years, and I hope to keep learning in the future."

Leading the 'Cats in scoring this season was Taylor at 14.1 points per game, while Stampley was close behind averaging 14 points per game.

Taylor led NMU with 6.0 rebounds per game and Benson contributed 1.7 blocks per contest.

Lewis said the seniors on this year's squad have shown the younger players what it takes to turn the program around and build a foundation heading into the future.

"When you're trying to change a program around and change the attitude and culture of the program you need a couple of guys who are going to stick in there and work hard," Lewis said. "Benson and Taylor for the last two years, no matter how hard it got, continued to work hard and were committed."



Justin Key/NW

Freshman guard Haki Stampley drives the hoop in a loss against Northwood. Stampley finished the season shooting 40.9 percent and averaged 2.9 rebounds a game. NMU finished 5-14 in the GLIAC and 9-17 overall.

Track and field sends four to Nationals

By Cody Boyer
contributing writer

The Northern Michigan track and field team hit the road to compete in the 2012 GLIAC Championships held in Findlay, Ohio last weekend, finishing seventh.

Ranked No. 14 in the nation, the 'Cats broke three school records, had four provisional qualifiers for the NCAA Nationals and one automatic qualifier by the end of Saturday.

Head coach Tom Barnes said, although the team placed lower than they expected, the team worked hard and performed very well.

"The team is a very seasoned team," Barnes said. "They all shined and didn't get nervous. They know what they have to do, and that is the kind of team we are."

The 'Cats started off strong, breaking two school records and finishing the first day in sixth place. In the 60-meter dash finals, freshman Angelina Howard placed fifth and senior Catherine Angeli placed seventh.

Angeli also qualified for the 200-meter dash finals, placing fourth place with an NMU record time of 25.18 seconds.

Redshirt freshman Sherice Hewett was named Freshman of the Year for the indoor season.

In the 60-meter hurdles, Hewett broke another school record in preliminaries at 9.03 seconds, just missing finals. She also broke a conference record in the triple jump by jumping 12.24 meters. Sophomore Delaney Lovett also scored points for the team, placing fifth in triple jump.

Hewett said the team was at its peak, and her performance was a product of goals set by everyone.

"As a team, patience has been something we are told to remember," Hewett said. "There were times that I would aim at a goal and, although I wouldn't reach it, if I remained patient, I could always work to get closer to it."

In the mile run, sophomore Mandy Dye took ninth place, followed by junior Nora Kiilunen in 10th and freshman Larissa Halonen in 11th.

Freshman Mallory Celaya placed eighth in the 5,000-meter run, breaking another school record with a time of 18:19. Celaya also placed 10th in the 3,000-meter run.

Seniors Bailey Franklin and senior Melissa Christensen competed in the long jump, placing seventh and eighth, respectively. Sophomore Samara White also competed in the event, placing 14th.

Franklin said the team is ready for the next challenge coming

away from the championship weekend, including her appearance at Nationals.

"I know as a team we were a bit disappointed in how we placed overall, but so many good things did come out of that meet," Franklin said. "A lot of people hit new personal records, and with that we had a few more provisional and automatic marks for Nationals."

Four Wildcats competed in the pentathlon on Friday. Melissa Christensen placed seventh, junior Brooke Granquist placed ninth and sophomore Katie Searles and junior Mariah Beaman placed 10th and 11th, respectively.

In the pole vault, NMU sophomore Jaime Roberts tied a Grand Valley State athlete for second place with a jump of 3.8 meters.

Three athletes will represent NMU at NCAA Division II Nationals, with Roberts in the pole vault, Franklin in the high jump and Hewett in the triple jump. Franklin said the three 'Cats are focusing on the upcoming events.

"For most athletes, you want to go in at it just like it's any other meet," Franklin said. "If you over think it, you will perform badly. You just have to trust in yourself and your training at this point."

NCAA Nationals will be held in Mankato, Minn. on March 9 and 10, with the possibility of other teammates with provisional

marks joining the three qualifiers.

"This is the best squad we've ever had," Barnes said. "We have three going to the Nationals and they represent the whole team.

They didn't get there by themselves, and they know that. They got there with all of the support and the hard work of their teammates and that catches."



Justin Key/NW

Sophomore Mandy Dye (front), junior Nora Kiilunen (back) and freshman Larissa Halonen all competed in the mile run at the GLIAC Championships, where they finished ninth, 10th and 11th place, respectively.

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Speedskaters return home with eight medals

By Jon Young
assistant sports editor

The U.S. Olympic Education Center short track speed skaters enjoyed success on the ice during the weekend of Feb. 18 and 19, as they traveled to Champaign, Ill. to compete in the American Cup III.

Senior Barry Winslow said that he was impressed with the team's effort at the event. The team was able to capture eight medals between the men's and women's teams.

"We had a really good showing," Winslow said. "Coach Tony

Goskowicz did a really fantastic job. We had four guys who skated especially well. It was a really good showing.

Three skaters finished in the top 10 of their divisions, including Winslow who finished his 1000-meter race with a time of 1:36.550. Winslow was fourth overall in point standings, racking up 1,998 points.

"It was actually my first gold I've gotten in the American Cup Series in my skating career," Winslow said. "So that was a pretty big achievement for me."

Junior Chelsea Creveling was the point leader for group two of

the women's division. She took first place in the 1000-meter, 1500-meter and 1500-meter superfinal.

Creveling, who is in her first year with the team, said she didn't expect the successful outcome.

"It was actually a really surprising performance for me, I didn't expect to skate that well," Creveling said. "I hadn't been skating that well in practice. I just kind of went out there and tried not to think too much in terms of competition and just tried to have fun with it, and it actually turned out really well."

Creveling also took home a fourth place in the 500-meter and finished with a total of 3,512 points. Creveling said the shorter races don't come as natural to her.

"I use to be an Inline speedskater and it's a lot easier for me to go for the long distances because it's slower, so I can focus more on my technique," Creveling said. "In the sprint it's just all out and I make a lot more mistakes than I do in a distance race."

Creveling said she was happy with her first season at NMU and hopes her time trail in the next few weeks of practice will push her into group one for next year.

"With the first year it's just a matter of learning the technique and learning what to do," Creveling said. "I think I'm right where I want to be in terms of the end of my first season and how I did and



Justin Key/NW

Men's and women's speedskating practice leading up to the American Cup III. The team brought home eight medals from the competition.



Justin Key/NW

Junior Kimberly Derrick sweeps around the track earlier this season. The team has its final race of the season in Green Bay, March 16 through 18.

where I'm going next season."

Sophomore Sarah Burg finished third overall after picking up third place victories in the 500-meter, 1500-meter and 1500-meter superfinal. She finished the event with 2,330 points.

Winslow credits Goskowicz and the team's hard work for their success at the American Cup Final III and for his own recent improvements.

"The second half of this season my skating has really improved," Winslow said. "I think a lot of it has to do with the hard work my team and I are doing and a lot to do with our coach Tony Goskowicz; he's set up a really good program for us and we're seeing the

results."

The team doesn't compete again until after spring break; starting on Friday, March 16 through Sunday, March 18. The American Cup Final is held in Green Bay.

Winslow said the team will have high-intensity workouts this week and will rest following the weeks leading up to the American Cup Final.

"Next week we're going to be working more on slowly tapering," Winslow said. "So we'll decrease the volume and we'll work more on foot speed and try to get the snappiness back in our leg, so the following weekend we'll be ready to rock 'n' roll."

The Marquette Frassati Society and Catholic Campus Ministry welcomes

Dr. Janet Smith

Author and international speaker on
Catholic teachings on sexuality and bioethics

Friday, March 9

2:00 p.m. **Preaching and Teaching Difficult Truths**
(for clergy)

7:00 p.m. **Contraception: Why Not?**

Saturday, March 10

10:00 a.m. **Contraception, Conscience & Catholic Doctors**
(for medical professionals)

3:00 p.m. **Why Premarital Sex Is Wrong**

This talk will be held at St. Michael Parish, 401 W. Kaye Ave.

Dr. Smith has appeared on the Geraldo show, Fox Morning News, CNN International, CNN Newsroom and various series on EWTN. She holds the Father Michael J. McGivney Chair of Life Ethics at Sacred Heart Major Seminary.

She is serving a third term as a consultant to the Pontifical Council on the Family and serves the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian unity as a member of the Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission.

Nearly two million copies of her talk Contraception: Why Not? have been distributed.



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Shout Outs

Honey Bear — You read this every week. I just wanted you to know how special you are and how jealous of the paper that you are looking at ;) — **Me**

Ashley and Kelly — You know I could never forget you two! Here's to you both for the time I'm gone! I'll miss you like crazy! Watch out for that Hot cocoa isle too...it'll getcha! — **Biss**

Responsibility — I am not ready to face you in the gauntlet of life. Could you stop by another time? Perhaps we could both take a load off and watch the Jersey Shore, where you have never been. — **Naive Student**

Jake — Good luck on your new job. I know you will be awesome. I will miss you so much. I love you! — **Shaina**

Gaga — I love you. I cant wait to see you! — **Shaina**

Saige — Good luck on your test. Love you! — **Yo sista**

Family — I cant wait for the dells and to see you guys. I miss you! — **Shaina**

Bre — Have fun in Maine scatterbrain. — **Sean**

Natasha Nelson — HAVE A GREAT TIME IN FLORIDA. See you there next week. Looking forward to our ALL DAY Ocean Fishing Trip. Love Ya. — **Dad**

TV6 Weather — Thanks for the heads-up on the snowstorm! — **Bill & Haley**

Students — You're welcome for the snowday. Don't expect too many more. — **Old Man Winter**

Rationality — Hey, you! Get back here! I need you if I'm going to be president someday. — **Rick Santorum**

D — Can't wait to have date week instead of just date day! — **B**

Pittsburgh — It's been far toooo long. Can't wait to watch my boy Evgeni — **Beloved Fan**

Mario — Your apartment is officially lonely and smelly. — **Brad**

Jack — Hey man! Can't wait to hang out on Spring Break and do some shenanigans. — **Blue**

Newt Gingrich — Let's put a smile on that face! — **Joker**

Egg — Did I come before you or did you come before me? It doesn't matter; I can talk. — **Chicken**

Republican Party — You invoke my name daily. You know nothing of my work or what I mean! — **Constitution**

America — We want our freedom fries back. — **France**

B — So looking forward to snowshoeing Friday. Ice caves, here we come! — **D**

Relevant & Service Trip Members — Have a safe trip and cannot wait to hear all about you amazing experiences. — **Relevant's President**

My Bridesmaids — Hey, I just met you and this is crazy, but here's my number, so call me maybe...love you's. — **Your Bridesmaid**

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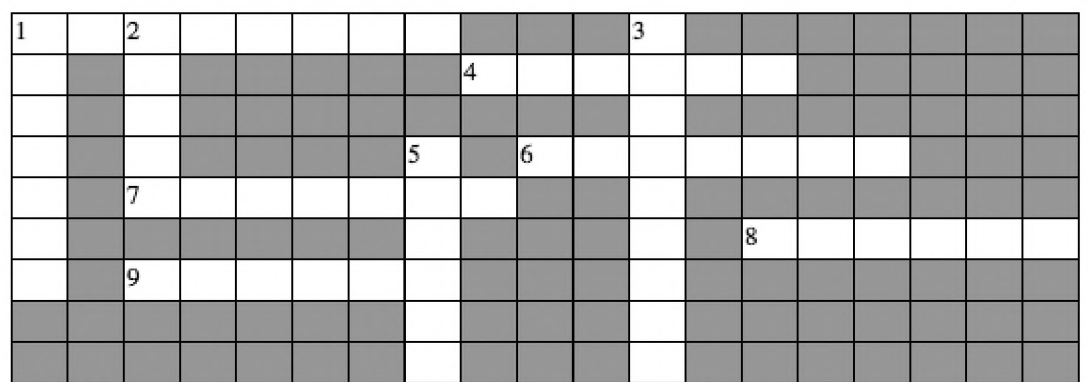
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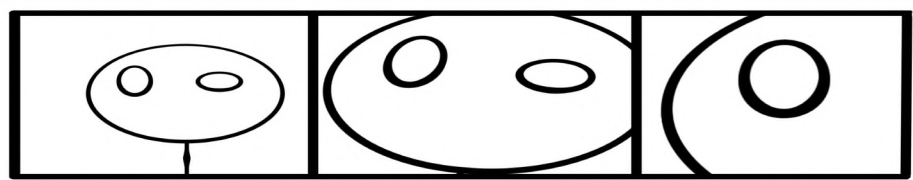


ACROSS

- 1. presidential candidate who recently visited Marquette
- 4. cartoon character with football shaped head
- 6. what Michigan citizens had a chance to vote in this week
- 7. object that appeared after Noah's covenant with God
- 8. ying and yang
- 9. name of NMU's gnome

DOWN

- 1. what every NMU student enjoyed this week
- 2. last name of "spoiler" in 2000 presidential election
- 3. economic system opposite capitalism
- 5. candidate who won Michigan's Republican presidential primary



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Clue:

Alpha Gamma Delta

Airband Competition:

1st Place: Alpha Sigma Phi
2nd Place: Van Antwerp Hall
3rd Place: Spalding Hall

Banner Competition:

1st Place: Magers Hall

Human Sled Dog Races:

1st Place: Gant Hall
2nd Place: Alpha Sigma Phi
3rd Place: Wonder Dogs of Spalding and Halverson Hall

Broomball Tournament:

1st Place: High Adventure Friends
2nd Place: Balls of Destruction

Snow Sculpture Competition:

1st Place: Magers Hall

On behalf of the Special Events Committee, thank you to all who participated and supported NMU's WinterFest 2012:

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Walter Niebauer
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West Hall
Women for Women

Students slip and slide down icy slope

Luge hill presents original opportunity to Marquette County

By Kristen Koehler
contributing writer

This spring break, Northern Michigan University students have the opportunity to be adventurous without traveling far by sledding or lugging down the icy track at the Lucy Hill Luge Track in Negaunee.

The hill is open to the public on Fridays from 6-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 12-4 p.m. Fridays are referred to as Friday Fun Night, where children ages 18 and under can luge for free. Adults are charged a \$10 fee, which includes equipment as well as basic instruction.

Jesse Renfors, president of Upper Peninsula Luge Club, has been lugging on the hill since he was eight years old.

"Looking back it's hard to believe I've been coming to this hill for so many years, but I just fell in love with it," Renfors said. "The track is unique in itself because it is the only natural luge track in the United States."

The slopes of the Lucy Hill

Luge Run twist down a half-mile long natural slope and includes 29 exciting curves. Unlike artificial tracks, the Lucy Hill track is unrefrigerated and bordered by only snow banks and wooden boards.

"This is the perfect opportunity for students to take advantage of something truly unique and it's right here in the middle of nowhere," Renfors said. "The more the merrier; I just want people to use the track."

Renfors only advice to students is to dress warm since all of the training and equipment is provided.

Joshua Graybiel, a resident of Marquette, went lugging for the first time Saturday afternoon.

"At first it was kind of awkward and really took me out of my comfort zone," Graybiel said. "Jesse gave great instructions which helped me feel more confident."

Graybiel said the most difficult part was learning how to steer the luge sled, which resembles an old-fashioned wooden sled, by using his feet and body. However,



Kristen Koehler/NW

Beginning luger Joshua Graybiel slides down the Lucy Hill Luge Run in Negaunee during public slide hours. New sledders typically start toward the bottom of the hill and gradually work their way up as they improve.

after only a few runs he was able to catch on.

"I was amazed that in one day I progressed in a such short amount of time and was able to move up higher on the hill to gain more speed," Graybiel said. "It was really fun to go so fast. I felt like a kid again and couldn't help smiling while going down the hill."

According to Renfors, the Upper Peninsula Luge Club has accumulated roughly 60 sleds over

the years and at one time had between 200 and 300 members.

Unfortunately, over the last 10 years, participation has decreased. Despite the decline in club mem-

bers, Renfors said he has high hopes for Lucy Luge Hill and would like to appeal to more people, especially the youth.

"It would be great to turn this area into a year-round recreational complex," Renfors said. "I would

like to work with the schools more and become involved with getting kids outdoors."

The Upper Peninsula Luge Club is always looking for new members at any age. The youngest luger at Lucy Luge Hill was almost two years old while the oldest was in their 80s, Renfors said.

The membership fee for a single is \$40 or \$75 for a family. Those interested in simply learning about luge or becoming an athlete are encouraged to partici-

ate. For more information and directions, visit the Lucy Luge Hill website at www.negauneeluge.freehomepage.com or call (906) 361-4843.

The more the merrier; I just want people to use the track.

— Jesse Renfors
president
Upper Peninsula Luge Club



Kristen Koehler/NW

President of the Upper Peninsula Luge Club Jesse Renfors (left) shows luger Joshua Graybiel a new sled donated by the U.S. Luge Association.



Kristen Koehler/NW

A rack holds several luge sleds available for public use on weekends in the winter. Equipment rental and instruction costs \$10 from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday and 12 to 4 p.m. on Saturday. Sunday is reserved for \$50 private lessons.

Volunteer trip an alternative break option

Students travel near and far not for tourism, but to help others

By Alisa Fox
staff writer

While some students are fantasizing about the sun and beaches they'll see over spring break, others are dreaming about the people they'll help when they participate in an alternative spring break.

"We were listening to students and they said they would love to do mission trips and they were interested in going abroad," said Rachel Harris, associate director for Student Enrichment and Superior Edge. "Going abroad gives you confidence and it's a great way to feel good about what you're doing."

The Center for Student Enrichment and the International Programs Office have collaborated to give students the chance to go abroad and participate in volunteer projects.

Over spring break, 10 students will be going to Belize. They also have plans to host a service trip to Ireland in May and to India over Christmas break.

"You really feel like you are a part of the culture when you're volunteering," Harris said. "Sometimes you don't experience the true culture of a place when you are a tourist. When you volunteer, you get to be immersed in the local customs."

They are also exploring other possible sites for volunteer trips, like Thailand.

These trips can cost up to \$3,000, but Harris said she finds the trips well worth the money spent.

"It is life-changing, in my experience," Harris said. "You

stretch yourself and put yourself out of your comfort zone, which I think is healthy to do. When you challenge yourself, you get the most personal growth."

Although it's not the traditional spring break trip to a stereotypical vacation destination, Harris said there are many opportunities to experience the tourist sites in these countries.

The itinerary usually includes about five hours of actual service projects each day, with the rest of the afternoon free for students to do whatever they want.

Then, the weekend before they go home, the students explore the tourist sites the country has to offer.

"We like to call these trips 'voluntourism,'" Harris said. "You still get that fun spring break feel because we have opportunities to go canoeing through a cave, swimming at the beach and visiting places like the Taj Mahal in India."

Harris said she'd like everyone to experience a meaningful service trip at least once in their college career.

"Start saving now so that you can go to Ireland in the summer or to India over Christmas break," Harris said.

Other groups also give students opportunities for an alternative spring break.

"Culturally, you definitely get to know people from different parts of the country or different parts of the world," said Lydia Stuef, assistant coordinator at the Volunteer Center.

In the past, groups have gone as close as Gwinn and as far away

as Belize during spring break.

"When you go somewhere, it's out of your comfort zone, you can't just go home," Stuef said.

Stuef said getting out of your element has the potential to teach a lot.

"If you're intentional about it and you give everything you have while you're away volunteering, it becomes a very unique experience," Stuef said.

Stuef said she volunteers because of her faith and because it is a very rewarding personal experience.

"I love people and I love Jesus very much," Stuef said. "Money is not the reason for life and volunteering is a great way to give back. It is also an incredible way to build deep meaningful relationships and to connect with people."

Stuef said volunteers overcome challenges, because they want to be there and are willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done.

"Volunteers just love it," Stuef said. "Sometimes physical challenges crop up and you end up working in a gross area or there's emotional stress, but the all-around good feeling outweigh those things. People are so grateful when you help them out."

For more information on volunteer opportunities at NMU, email the Volunteer Center at volctr@nmu.edu.

For more information on service trips abroad, email the International Programs office at ipo@nmu.edu or the Center for Student Enrichment at cse@nmu.edu.



Photos courtesy of CSE

Volunteering students typically spend about five hours each day on service projects such as painting schoolhouses and playgrounds for children.



Photo courtesy of CSE

Northern Michigan University students volunteer by teaching children at a school in Belize. Trips can be as close to Marquette as Gwinn, but projects in other locations are being considered, such as Thailand, Ireland and India.



Photo courtesy of CSE

Although the primary reason for the trip abroad is to volunteer, students are given time on their own daily. They also get to explore tourist hotspots.

Restaurant Week offers good eats, prices

By Audrey Menninga
staff writer

Eastside Originals, with the help of Downtown Development Authority, are adding an event to their spring agenda — Restaurant Week, held March 5 through 10.

Restaurant Weeks are nationally recognized events, held in cities across the U.S. Eastside Originals is made up of 22 different restaurants, including Elizabeth's Chop House, Coco's, Babycakes, Sweet Water Café and Donkers. The idea behind a Restaurant Week is to promote locally owned restaurants and all of the food they have to offer.

This was one of the reasons that Tracy Wascom wanted to get behind the idea.

"It just reminds people that some of the best stuff you can eat in Marquette is basically done by businesses that can only be found in Marquette," Wascom said.

Wascom, the marketing coordinator for the Upfront & Company restaurant, is one of the people in charge of organizing the event.

According to her, the idea was presented to the group last summer, while they were preparing for their Food and Wine Festival.

"We all said, 'Yes, that's a fantastic idea,'" Wascom said. "It would be great to have a spring event."

Each restaurant will be having their own specials, but there is an underlying theme throughout all the locations — lunch will be offered at \$10 and dinners at \$25 per person. Regular menu items will still be available, though the specials allow for a wide variety of different deals.

"Whether that was a bundled group of things or a special that would normally cost more than that, we'll price down," Wascom said.

Upfront & Company will be rolling out all new menus featuring new items for Restaurant Week. Wascom said she hopes the

week of reduced prices will bring customers in to try out their new foods.

According to Michele Butler, co-owner of Vango's, they decided to participate in hopes that people will try a restaurant that perhaps they've never tried before.

"Our goal is to help people really become aware of what we have to offer," Butler said.

Vango's will be offering specials on their pizzas, sandwiches and more. Butler explained that their already-low prices would be reduced even more on certain items.

Both Butler and Wascom are hopeful that Marquette's Restaurant Week will become an annual event that will draw people from all over the state. Wascom said they're hoping to attract a lot of the tourists that are currently in Marquette for skiing, snowboarding and snowmobiling to come out and enjoy the specials being offered.

"We realize that yes, this is happening during spring break, so that there are students who will be leaving," Wascom said.

"People are coming up, specifically to Marquette because of the great opportunities. They're going to remember that this thing

happened in Marquette. It's one more draw to the community that we can offer."

Marquette's Restaurant Week will go through the weekend, and Wascom is hoping that students who left the area for spring break will be able to catch the tail end of



Kristen Koehler/NW

Vango's Cuisine and Lounge on Third Street will offer specials on their pizzas, sandwiches and more items during Marquette's Restaurant Week.



Kristen Koehler/NW

Co-owner of Vango's Michele Butler said the restaurant would like to use the promotional week to show customers all of the selection they offer.



Kristen Koehler/NW

Upfront & Company will offer several new menu items at reduced prices. Marketing coordinator for Upfront said she hopes Restaurant Week and their specials will draw in college students and tourists in the area.

Website promotes healthy lifestyle activities

By Joe Rubingh
contributing writer

It doesn't cost an arm and a leg to stay active and as the weather gets warmer, Marquette has a lot of different indoor and outdoor activities to offer.

According to a news release from the Michigan Association of Chiropractors (MAC), Michigan is the 10th most obese state in the U.S at 29.4 percent.

According to a study by North Carolina University, obesity contributes to lower back pain; something chiropractors have known for a long time. Public Relations consultant for MAC, Cole Bertso, said that staying active decreases obesity.

"Chiropractors do a lot more than work on people's spines.

They're concerned about a person's overall health," Bertso said.

MAC has launched a website called MyMACWellness.com. This site has the largest database of free and low-cost indoor and outdoor activities available to Michigan residents.

Whether you are athletic or more laid back, MyMACWellness.com will have an activity for you.

It also includes links to websites on creating your own wellness plan, information on the chiropractic approach to health, how to find a doctor near you, how to get your activity posted on MyMACWellness.com and how to receive email alerts on activity updates.

For those residing in Mar-

quette, MyMACWellness.com has plenty of suggestions for fun activities and links to websites with more information on the locations and costs of those activities.

One of the suggestions on the site is the Upper Peninsula Road Runners Club (UPRRC). This club has resources for anyone interested in running, swimming or biking, but focuses mainly on running.

Being a member of UPRRC only costs \$20 a year, and it gets you discounts at a few different sporting goods stores in the area, a discount on entry fees to most races in the Upper Peninsula, a bi-monthly newsletter and access to all the entry forms for races and other competitions related to running.

Jesse Haavisto, a graduate student studying biology at Northern, is the vice president of the club.

"If you do a few races a year you basically get your money back," Haavisto said.

According to the club's website, www.uprrc.org, they have over 600 members, and it is dedicated to promoting physical activity and a healthy lifestyle.

"I feel better if I'm active," Haavisto said. "It's good for your general health and you feel better about yourself."

Another resource with a plethora of activities is the YMCA of Marquette.

According to Adam Huss, a Membership Service Coordinator at the YMCA and senior at NMU studying accounting and corpo-

rate finance, there are activities that range from karate classes to art classes.

Anyone can sign up for a program at the YMCA for a reasonable price, but there is a discounted member rate.

YMCA memberships vary in cost according to age and there are also different rates for families. For more information visit www.ymcamqt.org.

"YMCA is a non-profit organization so our prices are based on covering the costs, not to make money," Huss said.

Staying active is important to Huss because it keeps him in shape physically and mentally. It also gives him energy for the rest of the day.

"Without your health, what do you have?" Huss said.

Hockey teams compete for state title

Lakeview Arena hosts championships

By Heidi Robitaille
contributing writer

The Michigan Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA) Girls U19 House/Rec State Championship will be held in Marquette this weekend.

The tournament will start at 4 p.m. on Friday, March 2 and run all weekend, with face-off for the championship game at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 4 at Lakeview Arena in Marquette.

Teams come from all over the state to participate, including Mackinaw City, Manistique, Gladwin, Alpena and Chelsea. The Copper Country Junior Hockey Association will also have teams playing.

"Everyone is encouraged to attend," said Mike Martin, tournament planning board member. "Players, parents, coaches and Marquette Junior Hockey board members have worked very hard to build a successful program."

The girls playing in the tournament range in age from 15 to 19 years old and are part of the Girls U19 League.

"Students from Northern are from some of these towns, and they can come out and cheer for their teams," Martin said. "They

might even know some of the girls who play."

The tournament is free to attend, and there will be fundraising in the form of 50/50 raffle drawings. Local businesses are supporting Marquette girls' hockey by donating products, which can be won in the 50/50 raffles.

A pancake breakfast fundraiser for Marquette girls' hockey program will be held from 8:15 to 11:15 a.m. on Saturday, March 3 at the Elks Lodge in Marquette. Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased by calling Mike Martin at (906) 362-8212.

"The girls' program is volunteer-built; people do it because they care about it," Martin said. "It helps Marquette. It helps the girls."

Marquette Senior High School has two teams playing in the tournament this weekend.

"For the two years I've been involved with girls' hockey, I've seen the program grow and our players are getting better every year," Martin said.

NMU senior surgical technology major Sarah Simmons plays on Northern Michigan's women's club hockey team and used to participate in the State Championship when she played Mar-

quette Junior Hockey.

"The state tournament is something teams look forward to all year," Simmons said. "In states, you meet the teams you love to hate and that you love to compete against."

Simmons said the most exciting and challenging hockey is played on Sunday during the championships.

"I always enjoyed playing in the state tournament, because it's where you got to show what your

team had," Simmons said. "It's where you had the chance to gain the title of being the best hockey team in Michigan."

For a complete schedule of the tournament and more information, visit www.mqthockey.org.



Kristen Koehler/NW

The State Championships will be held in Lakeview Arena in Marquette from Friday, March 2 to Sunday, March 4. Teams from different parts of Michigan will travel to Marquette to compete for the title of best in the state.

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