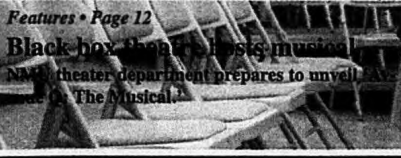


Boycotting the NFL this season

A professor's commentary on why watching football is no longer justifiable



Black box theater's thesis musical
NMU theater department prepares to unveil
The Musical

**Wildcats power through weekend**

Defense and power play performance help the hockey team make the playoffs



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Volume 86, Issue 16

Student drowning labeled accidental

By Shaina James
editor in chief

Autopsy results for the death of NMU freshman soccer player Arianna Alioto confirmed the cause of death was accidental drowning.

Alioto, of Columbia, Mo., was found unconscious in the PEIF pool on Friday, Nov. 30 after the soccer team had practice in the pool, which ended shortly before 5 p.m.

"The autopsy report did confirm what we stated earlier, that there was no physical trauma to the body," said director of NMU Public Safety and Police Services, Mike Bath in a news release. "However, it did not have any other conclusive findings related to the incident other than that Ms. Alioto's death was due to drowning and the nature of the incident was accidental."

According to the autopsy, Alioto drowned sometime between 4:45 and 5 p.m., Bath said. After several interviews with teammates, investigators concluded that Alioto never left the pool area. Several of Alioto's teammates looked for her around the facility after practice hoping to leave together, but could not find her, said Director of Communications and Marketing Cindy Paavola.

"The reality is several friends noticed she wasn't present," Paavola said. "People thought she was in different places."

A student in the second-story workout area, which overlooks the pool, spotted Alioto in the shallow end of the lap pool, near Lane 4 and reported it to the facility's information desk around 5:30 p.m. according to the police report.

No one in the pool or workout area saw any distress or struggle during the practice and even though Alioto was recovering with an ACL injury, she showed no sign of pain, according to the police report.

"There were a lot of different speculations," Paavola said.

Paavola also asserted the lifeguard on duty did follow protocol. She said the lifeguard on duty cleaned up and walked around the pool, turned off the lights and locked the doors. It is documented that the lifeguard turned in her key shortly after 5 p.m.

"We can't draw conclusions and there is no way to say 100 percent the time of the death," Paavola said. "If Arianna did drown around 4:45 p.m., there were a lot of people who didn't see her."

The autopsy report done by the Marquette County Medical Examiner's Office was received by NMU Public Safety and Police Service on Friday, Jan. 18, completing the police incident report.

"Arianna's drowning is a tragedy," said NMU President David Haynes in a news release. "The Alioto family, Arianna's friends, the Wildcat soccer team and the NMU campus continues to deal with shock of her death."

Editor's Note: Check out the north windonline.com for a more in-depth article of the drowning of Alioto.



ALIOTO



Arianna Alioto was found unconscious in the PEIF pool Friday, Nov. 30. Autopsy results confirmed that the cause of death was accidental drowning.

Flu vaccine causes controversy Students make vaccination decisions

By Amanda Monthei
news editor

It's a familiar story, and a conversation that many Northern students have been having as the flu virus continues to spread through Michigan and the United States: a friend or family member got a flu vaccination, but days later still came down with severe flu-like symptoms.

In recent weeks, amidst rising concern over the validity of flu vaccinations as well as over the near epidemic spread of the influenza virus nationwide, many students have been left to make their decisions based on conversations like the one above and their own research.

Still, a handful of students are vying to battle a potential flu bug by their own means instead of by vaccination.

"I prefer to eat healthy food, exercise and get enough sleep to support my immune system," said NMU student Zachary Schneider.

Aside from supporting his health in natural ways, Schneider also said because the vaccine only covers three strains of influenza, it is an unreasonable



Dan Marchky/NW

Target in Marquette is one of many facilities that provides flu vaccines for the public. However, with a flu season peak coming, area providers are struggling to keep up with the growing demand for the shot.

option for fighting the virus.

"Getting a vaccination for a single strain of a virus is illogical," he said. "There are hundreds of strains (of influenza) that can evolve rapidly."

As of yet, however, science has only allowed for three strains to be accounted for in the widely-distributed influenza vaccine. The vaccine protects recipients against the three most probable or common strains of the virus, based on world-wide patterns on a yearly basis, according to NMU Health Center physician Dave Luoma.

According to Luoma, worldwide epidemic flu patterns are examined immediately following the flu season to predict what strains will need to be included in the vaccination for the following year.

This may help to explain why many students still end up experiencing flu-like symptoms after having received the vaccine—they may have been unprotected against the strain that ultimately made them ill said Luoma.

"It is safe to say that these

See **VACCINE** • Page 4

First pair of "cold" days in 20 years

By Amanda Monthei
news editor

NMU Students and faculty got an additional two days off following Martin Luther King weekend because of a sub-zero wind chill.

As wind chill temperatures dipped into the the -25 range on Monday, Jan. 21, the potential for a "cold" day seemed likely.

However, on Tuesday, Jan. 22 as temperatures got even lower, many students wondered if the same procedure that had been used to gauge Tuesday's cold day would be used the following morning.

However, according to Director of Public Safety and Police Services Mike Bath, the two cancellations were simply

procedure, and were done with the safety of NMU students, staff and faculty in mind.

"We look at the National Weather Service when they start getting warnings of -25 to -35 sustained wind chill," Bath said. "(Tuesday morning) reached about that, and they predicted (Wednesday) morning would as well."

Bath guessed that the last double wind chill day was around 1993-'94, and said that temperatures during those "cold" days were around -40. He couldn't recall, however, if Northern had ever had two actual cold days in a row.

"The safety of the students faculty and staff is our priority, but it's easier (to decide on cancellations) when you've got two feet of snow on the ground because then you've got travel

issues and such," Bath said regarding the difference between calling in a snow day and calling in a wind chill day. "When it's cold out, we just try to keep as many people inside as possible and not walking across campus."

However, some students questioned the decision to cancel school for a second day, and feel that as college students, they can make the distinction as to whether or not it's safe to attend classes.

"It wasn't even that cold this morning, and even if it was, we are all mature enough to make the determination whether or not to attend class," senior photography major Mike Naddeo said. "I pay roughly \$75 a day to attend NMU and for two days they have not fulfilled their side of the deal."

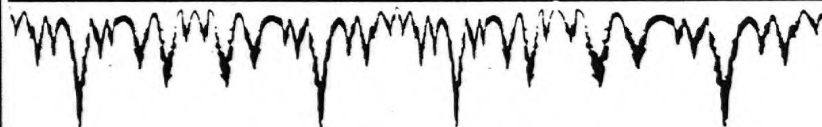
INTRAMURAL SPORT CHAMPIONS

Thank you to all of our Fall 2012 champions!

PURCHASE YOUR REC PASS AND JOIN US.

Student rec passes are \$70 each semester, or \$130 for two. Stop by the PEIF during open recreation hours and purchase your rec pass. You may also do so online by logging on to your mynmu account.

WINTER 2013 INTRAMURAL SCHEDULE



SPORT	DIVISION	ENTRY DEADLINE
Winterfest Broomball	Co-Rec	Jan. 23
Ice Hockey	Open	Jan. 23
Basketball	Men, Women, Co-Rec	Jan. 30
Volleyball	Co-Rec, Women	Jan. 30
Innertube Water Polo	Open	Feb. 6
Battleship Tournament	Co-Rec	Feb. 6
Indoor Soccer	Open	Mar. 13

Register a team online at www.nmu.edu/recreation or stop by PEIF 126 for an entry form.



Northern students make EarthKeepers II a reality

By Louis Justman
contributing writer

A U.P. organization is launching a two-year interfaith program that aims to promote energy conservation in houses of worship and establish community gardens throughout Upper Michigan.

Leaders of the "EarthKeepers II" announced the initiative during a press conference in Marquette on Friday, Jan. 18.

"This has to do with reconnecting with the earth and becoming more responsible and more creative stewards of the creation that we find ourselves living in," said Jon Magnuson, executive director of the Cedar Tree Institute.

EarthKeepers II will perform energy conservation audits at 40 Upper Peninsula churches and temples through partner organization Delta Green.

"This audit will serve as a blueprint for churches to look at ways to increase their energy efficiency," said Doug Russel, executive director of the organization. "And, in that way, save them money and contribution to less needless energy production and thus less pollution."

After the audits, EarthKeepers II will provide grants of up to \$1000 towards the cost of energy efficient changes, repairs and upgrades such as lighting and ventilation systems. The faiths and places of worship represented by the initiative are Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Judaism, Lutheran, Presbyterian, United Methodist, Baha'i, Unitarian Universalist and Zen Buddhism.

The other goal of the EarthKeeper's effort is to establish and maintain interfaith community gardens. The gardens will be designed to provide vegetables, herbs and fruits for food pantries and the wider community. They will also preserve native plants,

and work to eliminate invasive species.

"We are working with tribes to bring back the native plants," Magnuson said. "You cannot buy these at Wal-Mart; they're not available at Shopko. These are hand-harvested seeds."

Native plants will be apart of the community gardens thanks to the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Native Plant Greenhouse. The project includes about two community gardens per Upper Peninsula county, with about 30 gardens total.

Along with the Cedar Tree Institute, Delta Green, U.P. Ojibwa (Anishinaabe) communities and the 10 faith communities involved, project participants include the United States Environmental Protection Agency, The United States Forest Service and the NMU Student EarthKeepers. Those students are "at the heart of this work," according to Magnuson.

The student team is made up of Katelin Bingner, Tom Merkel and Tom's son Adam Magnuson.

Adam Magnuson, a senior environmental studies and sustainability major, is particularly excited to bring the different faith communities together to create the gardens.

"I am a big fan of native plants," he said. "The chance to promote them through this project is really exciting."

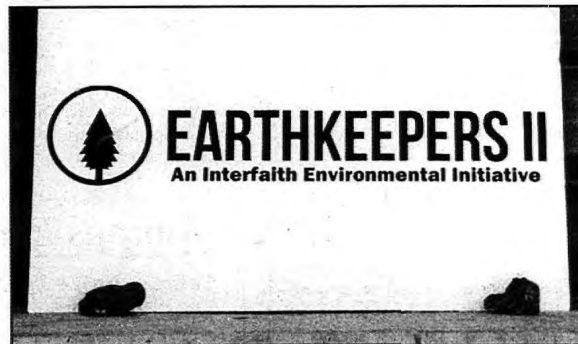
The NMU students are planning to write, record and air public service messages with energy conservation tips, information on protecting the Great Lakes, and information about the importance of native plant restoration. They plan to record the messages with assistance from U.P. radio stations, newspapers and television stations.

Alexander Sample, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Marquette, was among many denominational leaders in attendance who expressed their admiration for the students involved.

"What I am particularly impressed with and touched by is the involvement of young people," he said.

"Clearly the youth of our communities have a great concern and a great love of the beauty of creation and all of the rich natural resources that God has provided for us," he said.

"To see young people step forward and take leadership in helping us preserve all that has been given to us is a great encouragement and a sign of hope for the future."



Amanda Monthei/NW

EarthKeepers II is a community-driven organization in the Upper Peninsula.



State News

After a year of reduced collective bargaining rights on behalf of state unions, many unions assert that they saw a sharp decline in membership rates in 2012.

The decline can also be attributed to the large amount of state and local employees that were laid off by economically-strapped governments. The rate of union memberships in Michigan fell from its previous 11.8 percent to its new figure of 11.3 percent.

Around 234,000 of the more than 400,000 workers who lost their union memberships were government workers like firefighters, teachers and public administrators.

National News

The Republican-dominated House of Representatives passed a debt limit extension bill on Wednesday to allow the federal government to continue borrowing money until around the middle of May, according to www.reuters.com.

The decision, which was made by a 285-144 vote in the House, was made to avoid a similar situation as the 2011 debt ceiling standoff. The 2011 standoff resulted in shaken markets and a decrease in the country's credit rating.

The bill also helps to avoid the threat of U.S. default with its reversal of limits on the government's borrowing. This will allow borrowing as it is needed in the next four months, per federal obligations that must be paid on time.

The debt ceiling increase's dollar amount has not yet been specified by the House, which hopes to implement a longer-term deficit reduction plan come May.

International News

Having now been at civil war for 22 months, the Middle-Eastern country of Syria is now facing issues with infrastructure and it's most necessary crops, causing mass hunger and even more internal conflict.

In an article published in www.reuters.com, it is cited that since its onset in February of 2011, the civil war in Syria has killed over 60,000 people.

Now, the country faces a severe lack of such staple crops as wheat and barley, which prior to the war provided substantial economic gain for the struggling country.

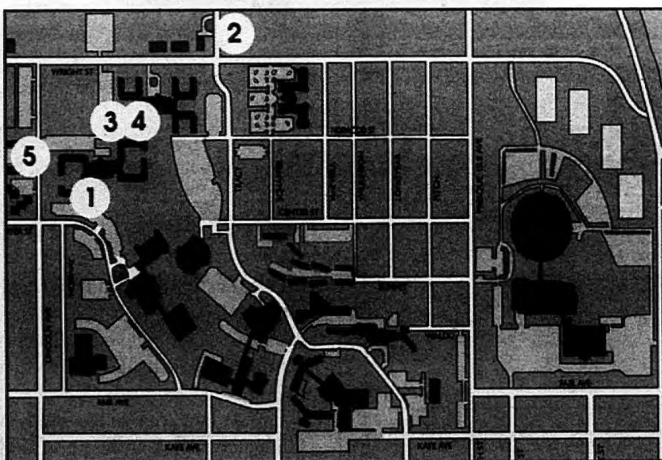
The new lack of domestic food products could force the Syrian government to rely on imported food products, putting even further strain on the country's agricultural and economic resources.

— Compiled from news sources

Map Key

1. Destruction of property was reported at 10:25 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 20 at Spalding Hall.
2. A parking permit was stolen at 2:28 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 21 from lot 37.
3. A violation of the Controlled Substance Act was reported at 7:03 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 21, at Van Antwerp Hall.
4. A violation of the Controlled Substance Act was reported at 10:27 p.m. on Monday, Jan 21 at Van Antwerp Hall.
5. An alcohol violation was reported at 1:56 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 23 at the Lincoln Apartments.

Campus Crime Map



Corrections

In the Jan. 17 issue, the date of Martin Luther King Jr.'s date of death in the article "Living the Dream at NMU" is incorrect in the timeline. He died on April 4, 1968.

In the Jan. 17 issue, the quote "We strongly encourage students, faculty and staff to also play a role..." in the article "NMU improves shooter response measures" was misattributed. The source was Cindy Paavola not Mike Bath.

Time to Get on the Snow



Dan Marchky/NW
Junior metalworking major Taylor Baermen (left) and junior human centered design major Hunter White (right) ski at Marquette Mountain on Sunday, Jan. 20 after two full nights of snowfall over the weekend.

Meth lab discovered on Presque Isle

By Shaina James
editor in chief

A methamphetamine lab was found in the City of Marquette by the Marquette City Police Department and the Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team (UPSET) at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 22 at 1950 Presque Isle Avenue.

Police received a call regarding a possible meth lab from maintenance workers who were working in a home

in the apartment complex at the time, according to a police press release.

Detectives confirmed that they found products that were part of a meth lab, which were collected by UPSET detectives. The meth lab was not active at the time.

UPSET detectives are trained in the handling and disposal process of the dangerous products used in lab cleanups.

The press release also said that possible suspects have been identified, and the case

is still under investigation.

The meth lab found on Tuesday was the second found in the Presque Isle Apartments since October, when deputies from MPD were called to the apartment complex to investigate a possible exposure of a military nerve agent.

Upon their investigation, detectives found components used in the production of meth.

No other information has been furnished in regards to Tuesday's incident.



Kristen Koehler/NW

In just four months, there have been two meth lab incidents in the apartments at 1950 Presque Isle Avenue. The most recent report came after maintenance workers discovered the possible lab while working on the apartment. Detectives later confirmed that the apartment did have meth lab components in it.

VACCINE

Continued from Page 1

students that are getting these flu like symptoms after getting the flu shot are getting strains that weren't covered by the flu shot," he said. "Either they didn't get a timely immune response or it's a different strain that's out there."

Luoma cites that it can take up to 14 days for our immune systems to respond to the vaccine, and in that time individuals can still come down with the strains of influenza that are protected by the vaccine. He said it really boils down to "bad luck."

"Most of what's around, or about 95 percent of vaccines, are a killed vaccine," he said, referring to the shot that most people receive when vaccinated. The other five percent would be the nasal spray vaccination, which is a live vaccine.

"There is no live ingredient (in the shot) that can actually infect people and that's one of the fallacies--there is nothing in the vaccine that can do anything bad to you," he added.

Yet many students are buying into the assumed safety of receiving the flu vaccination, as Luoma and other Health Center physicians have administered over 1200 flu shots since early December. Additionally, in just the last 12 days, the Health Center has run out of the vaccine three different times.

"This past week, we were giving probably 40 shots a day," he said. "We may be running out this week, we're not sure. There was such a big uptake--we've already gone through 1200 vaccines--and

we keep trying to order more, but our suppliers told us that they don't know if they'll be able to get us any more. Our suppliers are running out."

And while some students are streaming to the Health Center to get some of the last vaccines in stock, others continue to stick it out on their own terms.

Most opponents of the flu vaccination cite things like inefficiency, safety and moral beliefs as reasons why they choose to avoid the shot, but Luoma, having heard most opposing views, still feels it's a good idea.

"I think the biggest thing is the misconception that 'I just heard that so-and-so got a vaccine and got sick from it,'" he said. The other thing is fear of needles, and we often hear 'I never get sick, I don't need a shot because I've never had the flu and I never get sick.' None of us are immune. And actually, in a university-type setting, the risk is really really high."

Luoma said that the common thought is that, as college-aged students, we are young and healthy and don't need the intervention of a vaccine to protect ourselves. Still, he strongly recommended the shot, as the peak of the yearly influenza outbreak is expected in the next two weeks.

"We usually get a boom in the second and third week of school," he said. "Everyone is mixing, they're bringing those infections from all over the country, then they mix up and this is just a really, really huge breeding ground."

For more information on the flu virus or vaccine, visit the Center for Disease Control's website at www.cdc.gov.

Campus Events This Week:

Thursday, Jan. 24-26: "Avenue Q, The Musical," Black Box Theater at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$5.

Friday, Jan. 25: Robert Burns Supper, Great Lakes Rooms at 6:00 p.m.. The cost is \$45.

Saturday, Jan. 26: Young Dubliners, Celtic Rock and Roll concert, 7:30 p.m. in the Great Lakes Rooms. Cost is \$2 for students.

Monday, Jan. 28: Dog Whispering Workshop in the Back Room of the University Center from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 30: Intramural volleyball and basketball deadlines. Sign up in PEI office 126.

Local Events This Week:

Friday, Jan. 25-27: Annual Noquemanon Ski Marathon. Includes classic, freestyle, snowshoe, snow bike and ski joring events. Events take place all day Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday.

Saturday, Jan. 26: Bro Down Show Down - freestyle skiing and snowboarding event at Marquette Mountain.

Winter driving requires vigilance, preparation

By Jaymie Depew
contributing writer

When driving in the winter months, it's easy to forget that road conditions may not be ideal and that even hidden hazards do exist.

With this in mind, there are several things Northern students should consider while driving through different weather conditions to maintain their safety and the safety of others.

One of the most proactive ways to ensure that your driving will be safe is to give yourself enough time to get carefully to your destination, especially while commuting. Brooke Davis, a sophomore nursing major, commutes daily from L'Anse to Marquette, which is an hour and twenty minute drive in good weather.

"I always watch the news the night before and in the morning to decide what time I need to leave for class," Davis said. "If I know the roads will be bad, I'll leave at 7 a.m. just to be sure.

It's also essential to have a dependable and well-maintained vehicle in the winter.

According to Lt. Don Peterman of Public Safety's Crime Prevention unit, it only takes a quarter of an inch of snow for cars to lose control if the driver isn't cautious. He suggests reliable snow tires for your vehicle, and also asserts that clear windows and visible headlights are the key to driving safe.

"You need clean headlights so you can see and be seen by other drivers," Peterman said. Most new vehicles have automatic headlights, so it's important for vehicle owners who do not to remember to turn them on while driving in the winter, even if it's during the day."

According to Peterman, larger vehicles, such as trucks and SUVs, have the highest rollover rates. For high-wind and icy days, it's significant that owners of

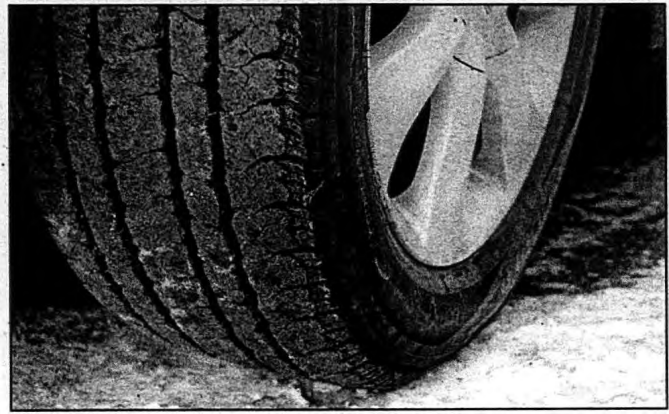
these vehicles have weights in the back of them, helping to maintain the stability of the vehicle.

Additionally, with a large amount of students and faculty who bike on campus during the winter months, Peterman asserted that drivers should keep in mind that bicyclists need enough room to avoid any possible collisions.

Peterman also warned against unseen dangers, which can creep up when conditions seem mild but are in fact ideal for the formation of black ice.

"With the nicer weather we've had lately, people forget that even when it's 40 degrees out, black ice can still form on the roads," Peterman said.

For the many drivers who panic if their vehicle hits a piece of ice and begins to skid, Peterman advises that you take your



Kristen Koehler/NW

Driving in winter conditions can be tough for those who are unfamiliar with the necessary skills, preparation and subsequent action required should there be an emergency or accident.

foot off both the brake and gas, and steer the direction that your vehicle is going, while also making sure not to over steer.

Perhaps the best measure to take prior to driving in winter conditions is to plan ahead in case of an accident, according to Peterman. A few items drivers should have available in the case of an accident would be a snow shovel, salt or cat litter, warm clothes, water and a cell phone. It's especially important for drivers to carry a phone in case of emergencies, especially when

off-campus. Having friends and tow truck numbers stored, in case your vehicle gets stuck, is also another way to plan ahead.

Peterman said that if students are involved in an accident on campus, Northern's Motorist Assistance Program (MAP) helps assist drivers if they run into a problem such as a flat tire, a locked vehicle or getting stuck in the ditch, among other things.

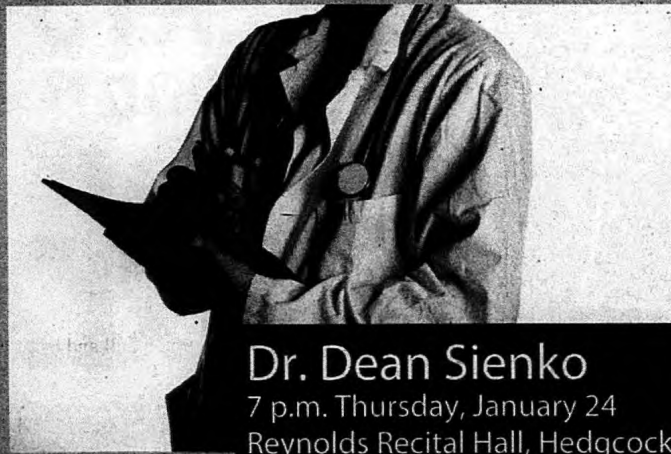
For more information, call (906) 227-2151. For emergencies only, including any injuries, call 911.

“With the nicer weather we've had lately, people forget that when it's 40 degrees out, black ice can still form on roads.”

— Lt. Don Peterman
NMU Crime Prevention &
Community Policing Specialist

YOUR HEALTH LECTURE SERIES

GOOD HEALTH: It's More Than Just Health Care



Dr. Dean Sienko
7 p.m. Thursday, January 24
Reynolds Recital Hall, Hedgcock
Free and open to the public.

It's an illusion that access to health care translates to a healthy population. While health care is necessary, it is often insufficient in leading to good health. Too many resources are devoted to treating versus preventing diseases. Should we just accept the fact that about half of the population will succumb to preventable diseases like diabetes, or is it time to rethink health care and focus resources on prevention?

Dean Sienko, M.D., M.S. is associate dean for Prevention and Public Health at Michigan State University's College of Human Medicine and acting director of CHM's Institute for Health Policy.

For more information go to:
WWW.NMU.EDU/YOURHEALTH

A Collaborative Series Sponsored By:



Rec sports department pushes new activities "Battleship" and ice climbing among the games being offered

By Ellen Holmes
contributing writer

The NMU Recreational Sports Department has a number of events planned this semester to help recreation pass members, as well as nonmembers, take full advantage of winter all over the Upper Peninsula.

Both indoor and outdoor activities are planned with various day trips hosted by the Outdoor Recreation Center (ORC) and intramurals hosted by NMU Recreational

Sports.

On Friday, Jan. 25, the ORC will be holding its annual Nighttime Madness, which will take place on the climbing wall in the PEIF from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. The wall will be open after climbing and bouldering hours, and those who are belay certified are welcome to climb as DJ Thaddeus Bloc plays music through the night. This event is free for rec pass holders and \$6 for visitors.

The ORC will also be partnering with Switchback Outfitters to hold backcountry cross-country ski-

ing and winter flyfishing lessons, which will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 27 and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 10, respectively.

The backcountry ski trip will take place at the Hairpin Turn near Big Bay, and will include tips on skiing in the backcountry as well as a winter picnic. Flyfishing will include the basics of the sport, such as insight on how to choose flies, cast and where to fish during the winter.

For those looking to explore the Eben ice caves, a snowshoeing trip will take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday Feb. 9 to explore the caves and hike along the top of the sandstone cliffs.

Those wishing to ice climb can take part in the ORC's trip to Munising

from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 16. With the help of Bill Thompson from Downwind Sports, participants will learn the basics of ice climbing and be

able to challenge themselves on the many frozen waterfalls that dot the Superior shoreline.

To wind up the winter season trips, the ORC will be hosting the Superior Climbing Competition on Saturday, April 13. This event will bring climbers from across the Midwest to compete at the PEIF's climbing wall.

Other activities put on by the ORC include belay certification classes from 4 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays, where climbers get the necessary certification to be able to climb freely at the wall.

Students will also have the opportunity to become a certified lead climber. Lead climbing is a style of climbing that is rarely offered and is done by climbers "leading" the rope up the wall, instead of the common top-rope style.

Along with the events at the ORC, Informal Recreation/Fitness Manager Katrina Theut urges students to try new classes and intramurals at the PEIF.

"The more people get involved, the more they will realize that this is a place where everyone comes to recreate and to get to know one another," she said. "It's a great release and break."

A Battleship tournament is one of the newest additions to the Intramural Sports program, as it is in its second semester in the pro-

gram. According to Tricia Bush, programming manager of the recreational sports department, Battleship takes place in the pool. Four canoes holding four people each are given buckets to throw water into other canoes to make them sink. The last canoe floating wins, and several rounds are played each game. There are no shields in this style of Battleship, but goggles are recommended protection.

Innertube Water Polo is another popular intramural sport that follows the same rules as basic water polo, except each player sits in an innertube and paddles their way around the pool.

The deadline to sign up for Battleship and Innertube Water Polo is Feb. 6. Intramural basketball and volleyball deadlines are on Wednesday, Jan. 30, while soccer is on March 13.

"Run around and get a little competition in," Bush said. "Most intramurals are (co-ed) and are a great way to socialize, not to mention the exercise you're getting in while you're doing it."

To sign up for events and intramurals through the recreational sports department, call (906) 227-2519 at least 48 hours in advance. To sign up for events through the ORC, call (906) 227-1369 or stop by the ORC desk.

More info can be found at NMU.edu/recreation



Photo courtesy of High Adventure Club

Participation in a broomball tournament at Winterfest is one of the many options that students have when selecting an intramural to take part in during the winter months at NMU.

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EDITORIAL

Winterfest 2013



Showcase campus environment

Northern Michigan University is one of the most beautiful campuses in Michigan. Situated next to Lake Superior, minutes away from outdoor recreation and seclusion, the university has the unique opportunity to benefit from the surrounding environment.

When it comes right down to it, NMU does little to take advantage of the unique climate and geography to advertise beyond using the motto, "Northern Naturally."

Michigan Tech is another Upper Peninsula university whose environment-centered model has proven successful. MTU's annual "Winter Carnival" draws in a large crowd every year.

NMU's WinterFest is lacking in comparison. The snow sculpture competition is usually emphasized in the dorms, but the majority of NMU students are commuters. Aside from listing the U.P. 200 as an NMU WinterFest event, there is little done to use the surrounding environment during WinterFest.

NMU's Roadmap to 2015 emphasizes "the attractiveness of the NMU campus in the beautiful natural environment of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan," and describes it as a "unique asset that should play a promi-

nent role in our portfolio of academic programs, our research agenda and the efficiency with which the campus operates."

More can be done to unify the campus environment and culture. During WinterFest this February, NMU should start to explore new ways to tie in the winter weather with the festival's events.

Instead of so many card and board game tournaments, there could be an increase in outdoor events beyond broomball and human dogsled races.

NMU could encourage student organizations to start a new tradition: the annual NMU Outhouse Races.

Taking an existing event from the U.P. culture and making it uniquely Northern's would be a fun way to advertise student organizations while increasing human connection within the student body.

Most students and faculty came to NMU because of its beautiful location. It is a shame that more is not done to include the environment in campus activities that celebrate Wildcat pride.

Reintroduce the Wildcat back into nature. Help Northern become more natural during WinterFest this February.

Poor economy, poor choices



Staff Column

Amanda Monthei

As human beings, we need a couple of things to continue living on this giant home of ours.

We've all learned this in elementary school, but I'll do a quick recap: we die without water, we're exposed to the elements without shelter and we starve (or eventually grow sick) without (nutritious) food.

While I feel this is fairly universal knowledge, I continue to be sorely mistaken.

It seems that, despite having the grade-school knowledge of what we need to stay alive, humans continue to exploit the very things that entails and at the expense of fragile and finite local environments.

We continue to dig for gold and oil and any number of what we consider precious minerals. We use unethical human labor to make our clothes, electronics and most of our diets possible.

This is our current societal paradigm, one of unsustainable practices for the benefit of few and the promise of economic gain for many, and it's frankly not going to last much longer at the rate we're going.

In an article published earlier this week, New York Times writer Suzanne Daley examined a town in northeast Greece that is, along with the rest of the country, facing its sixth year of dire economic recession. This town, however, is built on gold—gold that Alexander the Great himself once mined for.

If you're a cynic like me, you can probably imagine the rest of the story: a mining company, which does not hail from Greece, nor even Europe, but Canada, is taking the reigns on a mining operation in the seaside town of Lerissos, where they expect to create 1,500 short-term jobs that will provide perhaps 10 years of employment.

This, of course, is at the expense of the prototypical Greek livelihood—olive trees, honey bees, plants that thrive only in a Mediterranean environment—which will all be subjected, along with the inhabitants of northern Greece, to the dust of the mining operations in the region.

But the narrative of economic gain over sustainability and humanity is not limited to the shores of Greece and the sweatshops of Bangladesh.

Marquette County residents have recently been characters in a very similar account.

Up until the beginning of January, when the permits necessary for the construction of County Road 595 were not filed by the Environmental Protection Agency, we too were facing the seemingly inevitable threat of corporate interests trampling environmental protection.

The road, which would have been funded entirely by corporate mining giant Rio Tinto, would have created a 21-mile stretch of pavement from Rio Tinto's Eagle mine in the Yellow Dog Plains, southwest of Big Bay, to the Humboldt Mill in Ishpeming.

The proposed roadway would have intersected forested wetlands in some of the most untouched—and fragile—wilderness in the Upper Peninsula and, arguably, the United States.

While alternative routes for hauling nickel and copper from the mine to the mill have been present from the beginning, the proposed roadway was still alarmingly close to becoming a reality.

I do, however, understand the supposed benefits of such practices as mining and such rationale as economy over environment.

It can be argued that the sacrifices we make environmentally are in the best interests of the working class, the families that rely on mining and similar operations to put food on the table. I can't argue with that. I also know that my own lifestyle as a middle-class college student who owns a laptop and drives a car requires mining to a certain extent.

However, at some point humans (including myself) have to realize that these lifestyles are not compatible with the finite resources we have to work with.

We must work toward a future of localization, of longer lasting products, of decreased consumption and consumerism.

The promise of 10, 20 or 2,000 jobs is certainly going to provide sustenance to families in the Upper Peninsula and Greece and any number of other places, but at what cost?

The yellow-stained water in Greece, a result of the gold mine runoff, is a consequence they now have to work to mitigate.

This enormous lake on which we live, the largest body of freshwater in a world where thousands of people die daily with no access to clean water, is a resource that we continually have to fight to keep unpoisoned in an era of hydraulic fracturing, mine runoff and little to no care on behalf of the corporations that are responsible for this degradation.

This planet has only so many resources, and the outdated ideology that we should be allowed to degrade the environment for the economic benefit of few needs to be addressed.

Only we, as individuals, can help to change this paradigm. Small but consistent steps are still steps, whether it's walking to class a couple days of the week instead of driving, shopping locally when possible or simply becoming more informed of the environmental issues in our area and the world.

The earth's well-being is dependent on all of us—but we need to begin respecting it, and each other, first.

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Simplified view of race dangerous

Weekly Take Away



Lee McClelland

A person's identity is a complex, multifaceted thing yet is often viewed through a very simple, shallow lens. Identity is one of humanity's great conundrums.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines identity as "who or what a person or thing is; a distinct impression of a single person or thing presented to or perceived by others; a set of characteristics or a description that distinguishes a person or thing from others."

Using that definition, I have many characteristics that define me—a gender, sexual, political, national, regional, religious, intellectual, physical and ethnic identity, and that is not including the little things.

That makes me a complex rubber-band ball of characteristics, though, as human beings, complexity often confuses us. Throughout history, people have been organizing, labeling and simplifying the way they interact with the world, so it isn't very surprising the same is done in regards to human identity.

The process of labeling a person as one identity—oversimplification—makes the world easier to navigate, but it is also a dangerous habit to fall into. With regard to race, humans have made numerous mistakes since the conception of biological and genetic differences between humans in the eighteenth century.

Carolus Linnaeus, a Swedish naturalist, was the creator of binomial nomenclature, the system of classification for biological ranking and species.

Linnaeus also classified human beings as Homo sapiens, with four subdivisions of that

species. In the same century, Johann Frederich Blumenbach introduced his classification of the human races, a study that divided mankind into five races: American, Malay, Ethiopian, Mongolian and Caucasian.

These were men of science, and their work was taken very seriously. Individuals who wanted to show that one race was far superior over the others—many Caucasians during European colonialism—cited these studies as proof that the Caucasian race was better than the others.

The premise that the Ethiopian race, referred to as Negro by many, was inferior was the justification for the slave trade.

Now, it is known that Blumenbach's study observed the physical differences between human beings (namely, cranial size), and that race is cultural creation, usually constructed when one group wants to disenfranchise another group for a one-sided benefit.

Now skip forward in history, from the eighteenth to the nineteenth century. In the United States, the landmark case Plessy v. Ferguson came before the Supreme Court.

Homer Plessy, a man who was seven-eighths white and one-eighth black, sat on a white train car and was arrested for violating the law.

Plessy was considered black because he looked black, no matter what his heritage was. The year was 1892.

In 1896, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of Ferguson using the separate-but-equal logic that would dictate the law until Brown v. Board of Education changed the legal precedence.

Justice Henry Billings Brown wrote in the majority opinion for Plessy v. Ferguson that "in the nature of things [the fourteenth amendment] could not have been intended to abolish distinctions based upon color, or to enforce social, as distinguished from political equality, or a commingling

of the two races unsatisfactory to either."

What is most unsettling about this history? It is fueled by a simplified view of a whole class of human beings based solely on physical appearance. It doesn't say much for the integrity of mankind when much of our unsightly decisions in history are done so because of a narrow view of the world, of each other.

Race, a social construct, is only one defining characteristic of personal identity. According to the United States' definition, I am white, though I would say baked salmon is more apt a descriptor of my color.

Once a person looks at the absurdity of oversimplification, at the horrific effects it has had upon past societies, it become a little easier to understand what people mean when they say, "I'm trying to discover myself."

Identity is important. For most students, college is a time of self-discovery. You are asked to pick a career and propel yourself into the job market, into the future. Figuring out where you fit into the grand scheme of things gives a feeling of stability and comfort, but identifying too strongly with one or more identities can be a harmful decision as well.

In the coming weeks, as Black History month kicks off, I will be delving further into the historical consequences resulting from the simplified view of identity within society.

In the spirit of civil rights and equality, I will be probing past and present issues that Americans have and continue to struggle with.

As a straight-white-liberal-deist-American man, I ask you to try and identify with me for the next month.

Editor's Note: This column is the first in a month-long series discussing human identity and how it pertains to conflicts within and between cultures.

Entertainment at what cost?

Professor's Corner



Dr. Zac Cogley

I decided I could no longer watch football with a clear conscience right before what some call the best divisional playoff weekend ever.

Following Joe Flacco's long bomb to Jacoby Jones that tied the game and sent it to overtime, Peyton Manning threw a dubious pass that was intercepted.

The Ravens snuck by on a field goal. Colin Kaepernick ran right over the Packers in an extraordinary playoff debut for the 49ers. And the Falcons beat the Seahawks by only two points after a hair-raising series right at the end of the game.

Only the Patriots-Texans game was relatively uninteresting.

I've never been a raving football fan, but my family has rooted for the Steelers since before I was born.

After I moved to Marquette, chatting with my brother about Pittsburgh's ups and downs helped me feel connected over such a long distance. And I've had a blast watching games with other new friends at NMU (even when they root for teams as vile as the Patriots).

So it was a really hard decision to stop watching football altogether. But I realized I just couldn't square my ethical commitments with football any longer. Many know—but some people still don't—that playing football puts an athlete at significant risk for chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE).

This condition results from repeated head traumas, which are endemic to football (as well as boxing, hockey, rugby and wrestling—soccer may even be implicated).

You don't need to have a concussion to get CTE, but if you do, you can expect to suffer confusion, memory loss, aggression, insomnia and/or depression.

Unfortunately, you can't find out you have the beginnings of CTE and then stop playing. For doctors to diagnose it, your brain has to be examined after your death.

An increasing roster of NFL stars have killed themselves in

ways that are clearly related to their condition.

The most recent was Junior Seau, who shot himself in the chest, suggesting that he wanted to ensure his brain could be examined for CTE after his death.

Almost without exception, I think it's wrong to gain significant enjoyment from major misfortunes of others. And that's what I see football as more and more—a great game to watch that you'd be really unlucky to play.

When people hear of my decision not to watch football, I get asked a lot of questions, the most common being, isn't it significant that athletes play football willingly?

They've made the decision to play, knowing the risks, so we can watch with clear consciences.

Sure, it's true that no one puts a gun to football players heads to make them play. Most play for honor, the love of the game, a potential future paycheck and a whole host of other reasons. But no one starts playing football with a clear sense of the dangers.

Most professional football players started playing when they're still children, long before they're fully able to make decisions for themselves. People also ask, what's the point of not watching football when my abstaining doesn't hurt the NFL at all?

That's certainly right, but—still—it's wrong to enjoy something that entails significant future suffering for the participants. And the idea that my decision doesn't matter ignores the complicated reality of society.

Just like no football game is won or lost on any one play, any socially or politically significant action relies on the assistance of many others, some of whom might be spurred to act by my own example.

I believe that what I do matters—whether big or small. And not only does it matter, but choosing not to watch football matters in a way that hits close to home.

As a professor, I try really hard to help my students be better thinkers, reasoners, writers and arguers.

But I can't feel true to that commitment while enjoying a sport—especially college and professional football—that jeopardizes the ability of other students to do those very same things.

Editor's Note: Dr. Zac Cogley is an assistant professor of philosophy at NMU.

Letter Policy

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

All letters may be edited for grammar and length. Letters should be mailed to The North Wind, 2310 University Center, 1401 Presque Isle Ave., Marquette, MI 49855; submitted via email to editor.northwind@gmail.com, or through a website submission on www.thenorthwindonline.com by noon the Monday before the paper is to be published.

Republicans champion Civil Rights legislation



Guest Column

Justin Bis

This week we honor the legacy of a great civil rights activist—Martin Luther King Jr.

While America has often fallen short of the dream—of Dr. King’s dream—our country has certainly made better on that promise as time has gone on.

This is something we can take great pride in as Americans. We can do better. Americans are still divided by race. When looking at demographic data, race can usually determine a person’s outcome in life.

This is unacceptable. Is there anything less American than determinism, or your life’s outcome being determined by fate?

To paraphrase Dr. King, we want a society that allows individuals to be judged by their merits and their actions, not by the circumstance of their birth. It means individuals being allowed to rise and fall by their own merits creates real freedom. To realize equal citizenship, we need to make sure that the same rules govern everyone.

This requires political action. It requires us to take a step back, re-

assess the realities of civil rights in this country, and discard our incorrect notions.

One agent of progress that is often forgotten is the Republican Party. In fact, the Republican Party, founded as an anti-slavery party, has always been advocating equal citizenship.

What is it that makes the Republicans good for civil rights issues? It’s the different viewpoint about government’s role in people’s lives.

When rugged individualism is encouraged, when people are free to rise and free to fall, the arbitrary bonds of race, sex and political pull are minimized. When government designates a race to protect, the protection often times becomes a form of hostage.

It’s about empowering people, not nurturing them.

Some of the most well intentioned poverty programs end up keeping people from acting boldly and becoming productive.

Historically, when Republicans were in power of Congress and the White House, there was a greater independence and freedom among African Americans, especially in the South.

Up until the late 1960s, it was the Democratic Party that tried to block, overturn and weaken civil rights reform. This might be a surprise to some of you.

Take a look at American legis-

lative history: virtually all of the major civil rights achievements were championed by the Republican Party.

Republicans freed the slaves with the Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th Amendment.

Republicans resolved to use federal power to protect the rights of all citizens by passing the 14th Amendment, which also gave African American citizens the vote. Republicans gave woman the vote with the 20th Amendment.

Republicans tried to pass the Civil Rights Act 3 times: the Civil Rights Act of 1866, which was basically nullified by the Southern states, the Civil Rights Act of 1875, which was defeated by the Democratic Congress and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which was originally written and passed earlier by the Republicans, but stalled by Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson.

Johnson rewrote the bill, watering it down substantially.

Republicans worked hard to pass the measure (voting with higher margins for it than the Democrats), finally overturning a filibuster of Democratic senators.

When it was finally passed, President Lyndon Johnson took all the credit.

But what has the Republican Party been doing in the present?

Looking at the exit polls, more than nine out of 10 African Ameri-

cans voted against Mitt Romney.

Surely, the Republicans are no longer the party of Lincoln? Well think again.

Across the states, the Republican Party is becoming more and more diverse. Respected governors such as Bobby Jindal, Nikki Haley, Susana Martinez, Brian Sandoval and Senators like Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz are taking leadership posts.

Democrats can’t rest with the assurance that their overwhelming approval of minority voters will last forever.

In the next couple elections, I predict it will start to crack because minorities are not doing well with Democratic welfare state policies.

The old ideas behind Democratic racial equality programs, such as The Great Society, Affirmative Action and Minimum Wage, are simply not working.

The Great Society was a series of initiative to expand welfare cash transfers, Affirmative Action is policy that puts preference on race for things like job hiring and school acceptance, and Minimum Wage places a price floor on entry level wages.

None of these initiatives brought African Americans and other minorities into prosperity. Most economists agree that minimum wage hurts minority and youth employees by artificially keeping unemployment high. It

betrays the very principles of equal citizenship to try to achieve prosperity through discriminatory policies like Affirmative Action.

Look at the Bureau of Labor Statistics: unemployment among African Americans has been around five percent in the 1920s, 10 percent in the 1960s and now about 15 percent in 2013.

When looking at youth, that number is an astonishing 40.5 percent. Voters must realize they gave the Democrats over 50 years of loyalty, with very little to show for it.

I’m not naïve enough to think that the Republicans can change everything for the better. They have made many mistakes before (the worst being the premature withdrawal from Reconstruction).

Still, they have always been on the right and just side of the civil rights debate against the Democrats. Americans need to acknowledge that and question the history of ideas behind both major parties.

While there were some ups and downs in Republican history, we have never wavered as the party of Lincoln. Republicans will never renounce our pledge to treat all equally.

By continuing to pursue policies that encourage economic individualism and protect equal citizenship, we will be able to build the kind of tolerant society of which Martin Luther King dreamed.

Superior Edge

ORIENTATION
DATES
for
WINTER
2013

Wednesday, JANUARY 30	4-5 P.M.
Friday, FEBRUARY 1	NOON-1 P.M.
Monday, FEBRUARY 4	6-7 P.M.
Thursday, FEBRUARY 7	8-9 P.M.
Friday, FEBRUARY 15	11 A.M.- NOON
Tuesday, MARCH 12	6-7 P.M.

Strapping In: Exploring the Backcountry on a Budget

By Nolan Krebs
features editor

Just as it was starting to look like another disappointing year for snow, Heikki Lunta seems to have stepped in and graced the U.P. with some decent accumulation.

A fresh, white blanket of snow opens the door for a number of things to do outside that are unique to the winter months. Buying equipment or season passes to hit the slopes isn't always in the budget, but there are a number of alternatives that are just as fun and don't break the bank.

Renting gear for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing or even winter camping offers an affordable and fun way to get into the woods said Lindsay Bean, the self-proclaimed gear guru at

Switchback Gear Exchange and Outfitter.

"Cross-country skis are a very popular item for rentals," Bean said. "We also offer different types of skis for backcountry or cross-country."

In addition to standard Alpina cross-country skis, students are also able to rent a particularly interesting and locally-inspired variation, Bean said.

"The Marquette Backcountry skis are sort of locally-invented," Bean said. "They're made with fiberglass and are shorter, wider and heavier. A lot of people call them a 'sliding snowshoe.'"

Students aiming for a more leisurely pastime often go with the Marquette Backcountry skis or regular snowshoes, Bean said.

"With the backcountry skis or with snowshoes, you have more control over both

your speed and descent," Bean said.

While both activities can be performed at an intensity of your choosing, Bean said classic cross-country skiing tends to be the most demanding.

Junior jewelry making major Madison Hampton, who rents skis from outfitters in Marquette, said cross-country skiing is a great way to stay active and try out something new.

"It takes a second to get the hang of it," Hampton said. "But it's definitely worth trying. It got me hooked."

Hampton skis at the Blueberry Ridge Pathways near the junction of County Roads 480 and 553. Visitors can choose from three DNR-maintained loops, each at 2.5, 5 and 8 miles long.

"Blueberry Ridge is a good spot to start because

you can choose the difficulty," Hampton said. "I typically choose the flatter surfaces that you can sort of glide on, but some of the trails have hills that make it a decent workout."

The Al Quaal Recreation Area, which is located several miles east of Ishpeming, is another popular spot to ski. While it's a little further away from Marquette, Al Quaal boasts four cross-country courses at lengths of 2.5, 5, 7 and 10 kilometers. Located near the National Ski Hall of Fame, this spot is also sponsored and maintained by the Ishpeming Ski Club.

Whether it's a relaxing day outside or a means to get the blood flowing, trying out a new hobby in the snow is another bonus to living in the U.P. For more information on gear rentals at Switchback, call (906) 362-4327.

Equipment Rental (Switchback Gear Exchange and Outfitter):

XC Ski Package: \$12 for 1 to 2 days, \$9 for 3 to 6 days and \$8 for more than 7 days.
Backcountry Ski Package: \$12 for 1 to 2 days, \$9 for 3 to 6 days and \$8 for more than 7 days.
Snowshoes: \$10 for 1-2 days, \$7 for 3 to 6 days and \$6 for more than 7 days.

For a greater list of equipment rental options, see www.goswitchback.com.



Kristen Koehler/NW
Switchback Gear Exchange and Outfitters, located at 209 S. Front St. in Marquette offers equipment rentals for skiing and winter camping.



Kristen Koehler/NW
Down Wind Sports, located at 514 3rd St., offers equipment rentals.



Kristen Koehler/NW
Most rentals for cross country or backcountry skiing include the skis, boots and poles.



Kristen Koehler/NW
Snowshoeing can be a leisurely alternative to cross-country or backcountry skiing.



Kristen Koehler/NW
Senior art and design major Kate Hertler hits the trail network in Munising on cross-country skis.



Kristen Koehler/NW
Cross-country skiing is an great way to explore the woods and depending on the trail, can prove to be a difficult workout.

'Avenue Q' brings puppets, music to NMU

By Crystal Nutt
contributing writer

The NMU Student Performing Arts Association and theater department will be showing "Avenue Q: The Musical" Thursday, Jan. 24 through 26 at the James A. Panowski Black Box Theatre.

The play, directed by post-baccalaureate theater major Susan Boyle, follows a recent college graduate named Princeton after he moves to New York City and into an apartment on Avenue Q, where he meets new friends.

The characters face real adult problems they must solve for themselves, because life is not as easy after college as they thought it would be, Boyle said.

Boyle and the cast of 13 other students have been rehearsing the musical since October. It is part

of her senior capstone project and her second full-length production. Boyle was offered the position of director after coming to the opening auditions earlier this year.

While she also participated in "The 25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee," "1776" and "Bears," this is her first production incorporating human and puppet characters together.

"Puppetry is a big challenge," Boyle said. "Being able to manipulate and communicate with the puppets took some time...the puppets are handmade, everything was made in the prop shop."

According to theater and media production double major Jalina Olgren, working on the production has been a unique experience.

"It's been interesting working with puppets," Olgren said.

"Having a set in the Black Box was a challenge."

Olgren, who is the production and stage manager for the musical, petitioned for "Avenue Q" last winter and helped with the program's budget.

"We had to find funding," Olgren said. "We went to the Student Finance Committee and the Students Performing Arts Association."

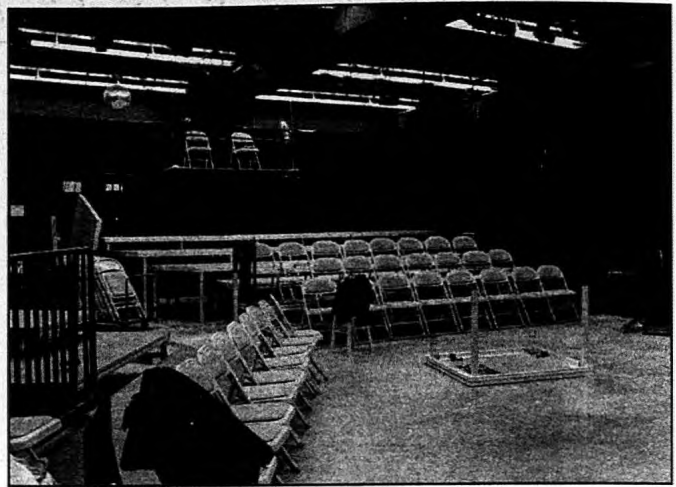
Although there was help with the budget, all of the props and the set were created by the students working on the production.

"The entire production is made by students," Olgren said. "Everything is run by the students, except the lighting."

The cast is expecting a large turnout, but the adult musical comedy is for mature audiences only, Boyle said.

"It is most suited for college-aged students, between the ages of 16 to 30...we are expecting a lot of students."

The format is similar to Sesame Street with its set design and



Kristen Koehler/NW

"Avenue Q" will be held in the James A. Panowski Black Box Theater from Thursday, Jan. 24 to Saturday, Jan. 26. The production is the capstone project of NMU student Susan Boyle.

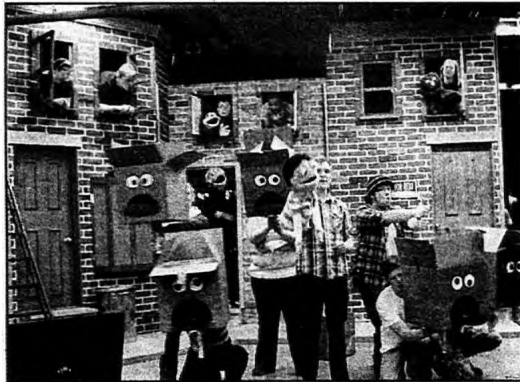


Photo courtesy of Natalie Berger

Production members rehearse on the set of "Avenue Q: The Musical."

human and puppet characters that interact together as well as with the audience, said graphics communications major Dorsey Sprouls.

"I like that I get to communicate with the audience," said Sprouls, who plays a character named Bad Idea Bear in the musical. "It's a very interesting role and it's a great show...it's an even mix between story and presentation."

Written by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx, the production has been performed on Broadway numerous times and won the 2004 Tony Award for Best Musical.

This is the first time that it will appear at NMU.

"I'm really excited for [the cast] to have an audience, and to see how people will react," Boyle said.

"Avenue Q: The Musical" will be shown at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 24 through Saturday, Jan. 26 and at midnight on Friday, Jan. 26 and Saturday, Jan. 26.

Tickets for NMU students and general public are \$5 and can be purchased at any NMU EZ Ticket Outlets or at www.nmu.edu/tickets. For more information, call the Forest Roberts Theatre at (906) 227-2553.

Robert Burns Supper raises money for 'Folk in Schools'

By Nolan Krebs
features editor

The Beaumier Upper Peninsula Heritage Center will be hosting the annual Robert Burns Supper on Friday, Jan. 25 as a fundraiser for the Folk in Schools Initiative.

The event is held each year to celebrate the national poet of Scotland, Robert Burns. The events were originally an all-male event, and full of speeches, poems and music, said director of the Heritage Center Dan Truckey.

"In the early 19th century, Robert Burns societies throughout Scotland began holding memorial dinners for the great poet on his birthday," Truckey said. "They came to be known simply as Burns Suppers and are now held all over the world on January 25, wherever there are Scots and lovers of Burns' poetry."

Burns, who lived from 1759 to 1796, is known for his poetry that both pioneered the Romantic movement and helped preserve the Scots language at a time when British culture threatened to overcome the Scottish people.

While they were once a solemn tradition, most contemporary Burns Suppers are much

more jovial, Truckey said.

"Today, [Burns Suppers] combine both serious poems and speeches with the completely hilarious," Truckey said. "They were once defined as being 'ribald literary soirees,' and that would definitely describe our event."

The event, which will feature music, readings and speeches, is also being held to raise money for the Beaumier Center's Folk in Schools Initiative, Truckey said.

The program provides funding for folk musicians and artists to visit schools, conduct workshops and perform in the Upper Peninsula.

"We are planning in the next few months to have several folk artists visit schools, and the funds raised at this event will go to that effort," Truckey said. "The idea is that the best way to preserve traditional arts is for the artists to interact with young people and this program, we hope, will help to get a new generation of people involved in folk arts."

According to local musician Ty Dettloff, bringing folk art into a classroom can be great for kids' creativity.

"It's great to see traditional music in schools," Dettloff said.

"Discovering music that might seem simple and gaining appreciation for the preservation of music's roots at a young age can spark some great innovation."

A particularly unique part of the Burns Supper is dedicated to the ceremonial cutting of the Scottish delicacy haggis, which is a pudding made of sheep's pluck,

or the heart, liver and lungs.

"The haggis is paraded through the banquet hall by the chef and a bagpiper, and then brought to the head of the table," Truckey said. "A person then recites Burns' poem, 'An Address to a Haggis,' and at a certain point sticks a dagger into the haggis' skin to allow the stuffing to spill out. Many

people are scared to try haggis[...], but it is truly delicious."

The Robert Burns Supper will begin at 6 p.m. in the Great Lakes Rooms of the UC and reservations are required for entry.

For more information about the event or the Folk in Schools program, email Truckey at dtruckey@nmu.edu.



Kristen Koehler/NW

The Robert Burns Supper will be hosted by the Beaumier Upper Peninsula Heritage Center on the NMU campus.

Tune In Part II: The North Wind guide to upcoming releases

Justin Timberlake, Phoenix, Yeah Yeah Yeahs and the Strokes announce new albums

By Jordan Beck
staff writer

Over the past week, a slew of newly announced releases by both pop juggernauts and indie rock royalty have created substantial buzz in the musicsphere. Take a look in the North Wind's second installment of "Tune In."

"The 20/20 Experience" — Justin Timberlake

To say that it's been awhile since we've heard new songs from Justin Timberlake would be an understatement - his music

career has been dormant since 2006's "FutureSex/LoveSounds."

While he was never truly out of the public eye, he also seemed to have no interest in returning to his day job.

That changed on January 10, when the singer posted a countdown clock to his official website. Fan speculation ran wild for the next three days, until the countdown hit zero and the first new J.T. album in years, "The 20/20 Experience," was announced.

While info on the album is still thin on the ground, lead single "Suit & Tie" is an ambitious, tem-

po-shifting tune that sounds both retro and futuristic. If the rest of "20/20" lives up to that, it could just be worth the wait. "The 20/20 Experience" will be released by RCA Records in 2013.

"Bankrupt!" — Phoenix

To promote their new LP, "Bankrupt!," French indie-pop band Phoenix uploaded a short teaser video to their Facebook page.

This would be a normal way to announce a new album; however, the video consists of nothing more than the words "PHOENIX BANKRUPT!" on a rapidly-flashing multicolor background. It's so headache-inducing that the link had to be preceded by an epilepsy warning.

But not even potential seizures have been enough to stop enthusiasm for "Bankrupt!," Phoenix's first album since 2009's "Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix."

At press time, no singles from the album have been released, but the band has described "Bankrupt!" as sounding "nostalgic, experimental and minimal" in a 2011 interview with Pedestrian. tv. "Bankrupt!" will be released by Glassnote Records in April.

[TBA] — The Strokes

Usually, the announcement of new albums by major bands is a big deal. That's why it was such a shock when the existence of a fifth Strokes album was revealed by a simple Facebook post — by Seattle radio station 107.7 The

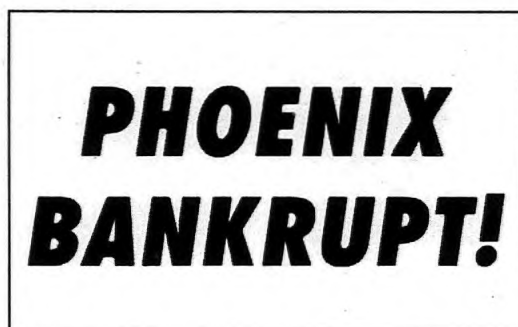


Photo courtesy of Glassnote Records
French pop outfit Phoenix will release their album "Bankrupt!" in April.

End, no less.

Since not even the band's closest fans had any idea that a new LP was in the works, the post exploded in popularity.

One day after the initial announcement, The End gave out a few tidbits of information about the upcoming album. They had heard two songs from the project: "All The Time," which boasted a "classic Strokes sound," and an unnamed "synth-driven track."

The station went on to claim that fans will be "hearing new music from the band sooner than later." We can only hope. The Strokes' fifth album will be released by RCA Records in 2013.

"Mosquito" — Yeah Yeah Yeahs

2013 is still young, but there's still a good chance that "Mosquito" will have one of the most divisive front covers of the year.

Designed by animator Beom-

shik Shimbe Shim, the image features a huge, stylized mosquito attacking a creepy CGI baby while feeding it lime-green baby food. This description doesn't really do it justice, though; it's one of those things you really need to see for yourself. So far, fans seem to either think it's absolutely brilliant or absolutely terrible.

Despite the art-related controversy, the album itself sounds extremely promising. On the day of the LP's announcement, Pitchfork Media posted an interview with YYY's lead singer, Karen O. In the interview, she revealed that the LP sounded "extremely lo-fi" and "uplifting and cheerful."

With production by the indie dream team of Dave Sitek (TV on the Radio) and James Murphy (LCD Soundsystem), there's no way this "Mosquito" will suck. "Mosquito" will be released by Interscope on April 16.

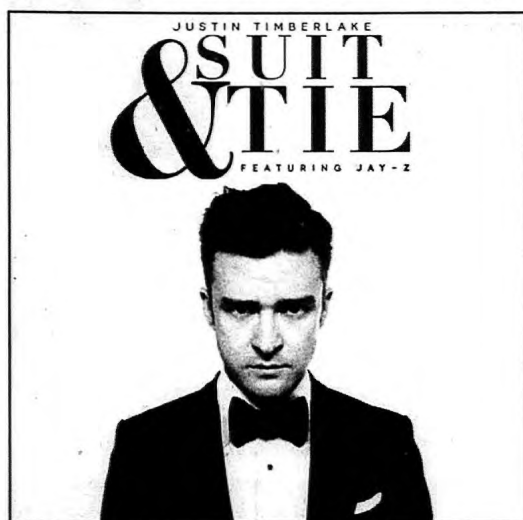
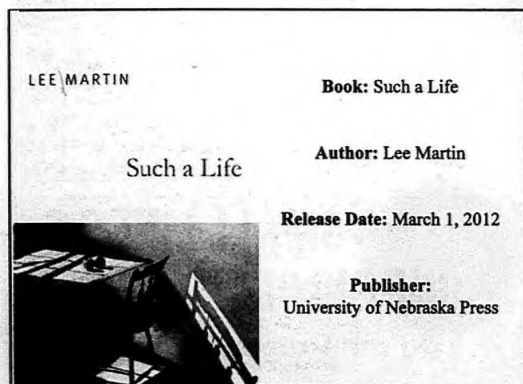


Photo courtesy of RCA Records

Justin Timberlake will release "The 20/20 Experience" sometime this year. "20/20" is Timberlake's first album since 2006's "FutureSex/LoveSounds."

Memoir captures Midwestern life in deft, skillful prose



LEE MARTIN

Book: Such a Life

Such a Life

Author: Lee Martin

Release Date: March 1, 2012

Publisher: University of Nebraska Press



By Lee McClelland
opinion editor

Many children are not planned for, but few will inquire as to whether or not their father wanted to get rid of them while they were growing in the womb.

In Lee Martin's newest memoir "Such a Life," Martin discusses his father's wish to have

him aborted, how his father grew to love him and the anger his father had after a terrible accident on their Illinois farmland, which took both of his hands.

Martin writes both fiction — "The Least You Need to Know" (1996), "The Bright Forever" (2006), "River of Heaven" (2009) and "Break the Skin" (2011) — and nonfiction — "Turning Bones" (2003) and "From Our House" (2009). He teaches at Ohio State University as a profes-

sor of creative writing.

The book takes an honest look at the life of a Midwestern child growing up in a farming community where politics clash and lives collide.

Martin's prose is beautiful and poignant as he navigates through memories of adolescence and adulthood, his mother's aging and his life as a writer and teacher.

"Such a Life" is a collection of 15 essays that span the whole of Martin's 58 years. The topics are broad, with no continuity between all of the essays.

The major topics include Martin's childhood in rural Illinois, life as writer, marriage, mother's aging, medical ailments and relationship with his father: an angry, God-fearing man.

All of the essays were published in other journals, magazines and collections; "Such a Life" is simply a reprinting of all of the essays together in one volume that is wholly Martin's work.

While they can be found elsewhere, each essay is a wonderful rendering of life, captured in such rich sentences and a joy to have bound together in one text.

"Collander," the first essay, delves into Martin's relationship with his mother while providing a good description of his small town in Illinois.

"It was 1962," Martin writes, "and I was seven years old. Progress had come to our sleepy, backwoods part of southern Illinois in the form of telephones you dialed instead of cranked and seven-digit numbers instead of long rings and shorts."

Through these descriptions, the author places the reader inside of his memories, provide enough detail to be within the scene and enough context to know why the scene is important.

Each essay provides a different perspective into Martin's life, and, as a whole work, I felt that I knew Martin on a personal level by the time I had read the last sentence of "Such a Life."

This is the mark of a talented author, gifted in the art of nonfiction.

Essays like "The Fat Man Skinny" and "Who Causes This Sickness?" evoke both compassion and pity. In "Who Causes This Sickness," Martin describes

suffering from corneal erosion: "Imagine a grain of sand in your eye and then magnify that sensation a thousand times. Imagine someone rubbing sandpaper or an emery board over your eyeball. Imagine rust, salt, mud when it's dried and cracked and flaked. Imagine all of this in your eye and no way to wash it out."

Sentences like this make you cringe, grab your own eye and develop a real understanding of Martin's pain; the author has described the indescribable.

Whether he is describing the experience of a first kiss in "Never Thirteen" or juxtaposing the life of industrialist Henry Clay Frick over that of his father's life and of his own in the essay the collection is named for, "Such a Life," Martin demonstrates his artful creation of sentences, ones that have purpose and grace, moving carefully over each topic and theme leaving nothing untouched.

If you are looking for a contemporary book to pick up, this is the one. Lee Martin captures the Midwestern experience in "Such a Life" and breathes life into every sentence.

'Anything in Return' shimmers with pop sensibility



Album: Anything in Return
Artist: Toro y Moi
Release Date: January 22
Label: Carpark
Runtime: 52:17



By Jordan Beck
 staff writer

The phrase Toro Y Moi (real name: Chaz Bundick) used to unveil his third album, "Anything in Return," to the world was simple enough: "I was trying to make a pop record."

Don't get him wrong — this isn't "pop" in either the "Top 40 pop" or "indie pop" senses of the word.

The best way to think of it would be as the former filtered through the sensibility of the latter — an interesting combination which allows "Anything in Return" to be the best of both

worlds.

But first, a bit of history: Toro Y Moi's 2010 debut LP, "Causers of This," was one of the most influential albums in the then-nascent genre of "chillwave."

Defined primarily by '80s synths, near-freeform songwriting and enough reverb to shake a stick at, chillwave was one of the defining musical trends of 2009-10.

However, it's far less popular these days, forcing artists to shake things up to remain relevant. And that's where "Anything in Return" comes in.

While "Anything In Return" doesn't sound a million miles away from Toro Y Moi's previous two albums, it's certainly different enough to have its own identity.

Most notably, there's a newfound sense of focus here. While there are still a few atmospheric tracks here and there, the focus of the LP is primarily on upbeat synth-pop. A prime example of that new sound is the first track on the album, "Harm In Change."

Previous Toro Y Moi albums have started slowly, but that isn't the case here — "Harm" is a clear, energetic statement of intent.

Over jazzy piano chords, spacey vocal samples, and driving beats, Bundick delivers a surprisingly smooth vocal about "[leaving] this state." It's unique, attention-grabbing, and almost certainly the album's highlight.

On the other hand, lead single "So Many Details" demonstrates the benefits of adapting chillwave sounds to fit this new style.

It's not quite as "drifty" as that genre can get at its most abstract, though, as the emphasis is still on tightly-crafted songwriting (actually, it wouldn't be inaccurate to call the song a "slow jam").

While "So Many Details" probably won't be a bona fide radio hit anytime soon, it wouldn't be entirely out of place on the mainstream airwaves, either.

Those are two of the most immediately rewarding songs, but "Return" is chock-full of smaller pop pleasures. "High Living" takes the album's template and adds a reggae rhythm, to surpris-

ingly effective results. "Never Matter" is probably the closest Toro Y Moi has come to actual house music, though the song's excellent production ensures it's equally enjoyable in a club or over headphones. And "Cake" isn't a single yet, but it almost certainly will be.

This is all well and good, but the thing about "Anything In Return" is that it's one of those albums best enjoyed in small doses.

The songs themselves are great; it's the album's length that causes problems. At 13 tracks and 52 minutes, things start to blur together after the halfway mark.

While the individual tracks that make up "Anything in Return" aren't hypnotic enough to be classified as "chillwave," the album itself strangely starts to resemble the

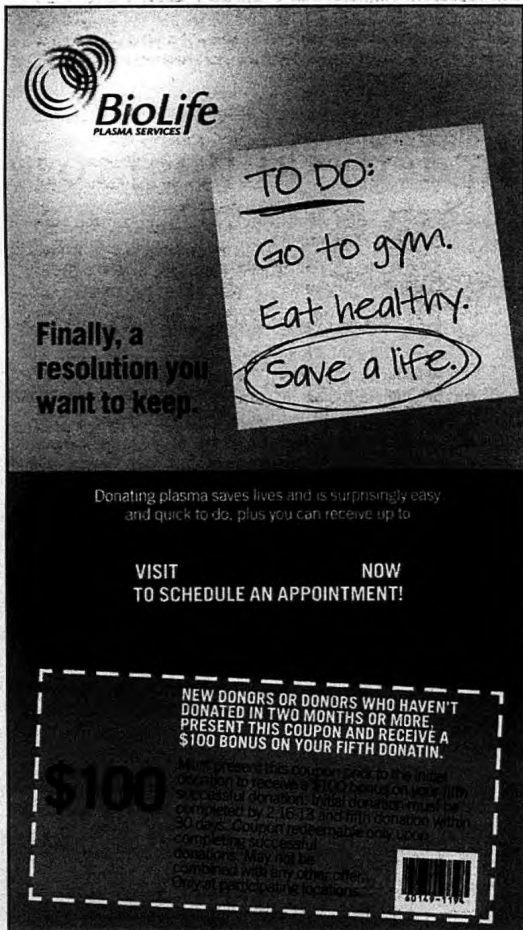
genre after a while. The fact that it's somewhat front-loaded doesn't help matters, either.

While the sequencing might be a bit spotty, the good aspects of "Anything in Return" still outweigh the bad.

Whether you're looking for an interesting, skewed take on mainstream pop or just something new after the December doldrums, this is one of 2013's best offerings so far.



Photo courtesy of Carpark Records
 Toro y Moi is the project of Chaz Bundick, who is best known for pioneering the musical genre "chillwave."



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'Cats grab first season sweep at home NMU takes first half of series, 4-2, against Ohio State in Marquette

By Cody Boyer
sports editor

The NMU men's hockey team returned home once again to take on OSU, skating away with a swept weekend to continue their six game undefeated streak.

The Wildcats took on Buckeyes on Friday, Jan. 18 and Saturday, Jan. 19, defeating them 4-2 on Friday and 3-2 on Saturday. The series against the Buckeyes marks the 'Cats first CCHA sweep of the season.

Following the weekend's victories, the Wildcats are now 5-9-4-1 in the CCHA and 11-10-4 overall.

NMU head coach Walt Kyle said the team had been a completely different team earlier in the season when the Buckeyes swept the Wildcats away from home.



KYLE

"We had a totally different lineup last time we faced them," Kyle said. "We went down there before and they fed us good. They were fairly close games, but we ended up not getting the job done and we all think that was the start of the downfall for us. Our guys were able to get the job done tonight, and we could have big series to close out the rest of the season."

The 'Cats closed the weekend sweep with a game of 3-2 against the Buckeyes on Saturday. Sophomore forward Reed Seckel flipped the first goal of the game past Buckeye goalie Brady Hjelle in the first period.

Prior to the games, Hjelle was ranked as the nation's leading goaltender in the CCHA.

Seckel's shot was assisted by junior forward Erik Higby and senior forward Matt Thurber, who leads the nation in assists with 19.

Seckel said the redemption to start off the year of 2013 is a wel-



Junior goaltender Jared Coreau (31) fights to work around a Michigan Tech forward as senior defenseman and captain Scott Macaulay (4) leads the defensive wall. Coreau saved a combined 55 shots on goal over the weekend, while Buckeye goalie Brady Hjelle stopped a combined total of 46 shots.

come boon to the whole team.

"We started off before the break with a lot of losses for the first half," Seckel said. "We got some time off, we regrouped, and we came back at it. We are making up for the mistakes we made in the first half, and it feels good to be winning."

The second period opened up the game to penalties, with OSU scoring a power-play goal to tie up the game.

Buckeye Max McCormick shot the puck underneath junior goaltender Jared Coreau, with Sam Jardine and Ryan Dzingel getting the assist.

NMU junior defenseman CJ Ludwig and freshman forward Ryan Aynsley brought the 'Cats ahead further into the second and third.

Aynsley's shot went unassisted, while Ludwig's goal was assisted by senior forward Brian Nugent and junior forward Stephan Vigier.

Ludwig was also named CCHA Defenseman of the Week following the weekend's performances.

OSU managed another power-play goal 6:52 left in the third period, with Buckeye Curtis Gedig getting the goal and the assist by

Tanner Fritz and Dzingel.

Although OSU pulled their goalie for an additional player on the ice, NMU held out to maintain the final score of 3-2.

Coreau ended the night with 30 stopped shots, while Hjelle held the crease with 18 saves.

Coreau said the team will be using the past victories as they travel northward to Alaska to keep up the chemistry.

"The way things are going right now, I believe in the team 100 percent," Coreau said. "We knew they would come out hard. They didn't want to get swept and we didn't want to split. It makes me feel a little bit safer in the net, and it all feels pretty good."

On Friday night, the 'Cats started the weekend against the Buckeyes with a scoreless first period.

In each of the final two periods, NMU contributed two goals, winning the game 4-2.

Kyle said the first one was a big one, with their last Buckeye encounter being less fruitful.

"They handled us pretty easily

down there last time," Kyle said. "We had an opportunity here to play well and to show them we are a better team than we were down there, and I thought the guys responded."

Senior forward Kory Kaunisto scored at 11:19 into the second period, with assists from freshman forward Cohen Adair and junior defenseman Wade Epp.

Four minutes later, Higby pocketed a goal assisted by Adair and Thurber, bringing the score to 2-0.

Freshman forward Darren Nowick scored the third Wildcat goal following a goal from the Buckeyes, bringing the score to 3-1. Ludwig assisted.

NMU closed out the first game of the series with an open-net goal after the Buckeyes pulled Hjelle to add a player for the third time over the weekend.

Thurber scored with his second of the year on an assist from sophomore defenseman Mitch Jones.

With only 11 regular season games left, the Wildcats are gearing up to travel to Alaska this weekend.

Leading up to the game, Alaska swept Notre Dame last weekend.

The puck drops in Alaska at 11 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 25 and Saturday, Jan. 26.



COREAU

2012-13 CCHA Conference Standings

	GP	W	L	T	SW	Pts.	GF	GA
1 Notre Dame	16	11	5	0	0	33	51	31
Western Michigan	16	10	4	2	1	33	35	31
3 Miami	16	8	4	4	4	32	41	30
4 Ferris State	18	10	7	1	0	31	49	38
5 Alaska	18	8	7	3	1	28	50	50
6 Lake Superior	18	8	9	1	1	26	40	44
7 Ohio State	16	7	6	3	1	25	32	29
8 Northern Michigan	18	5	9	4	1	20	39	52
9 Bowling Green	16	5	8	3	1	19	33	41
10 Michigan State	18	5	11	2	2	19	46	63
11 Michigan Tech	18	5	12	1	0	16	36	43

'Cats split weekend with Saginaw Valley

By Katie Bultman
staff writer

The NMU women's basketball team faced a couple of aggressive teams this last weekend that were dependent upon free throws, proving the importance of accuracy at the line.

The Wildcats earned a win and also took a loss for the books on Thursday, Jan. 17 and Saturday, Jan. 19 as they faced Saginaw Valley University at home.

The lady 'Cats stepped up their game on Thursday, Jan. 17 with a 67-57 win over Saginaw Valley State University. The teams made it to the charity stripe a combined 39 times, where NMU shot 86 percent from the line for the win.

Coach Mattson said halftime during Thursday's game brought about changes that helped the team achieve success.

"We made the decision to let change the defense and not let them take over," Mattson said. "We decided to double team."

The game kicked off and Saginaw Valley took an early lead. By halfway into the first period, NMU was down 20-9. The 'Cats also got into foul trouble early on, giving the Cardinals 10 chances at the foul line, where they were 90 percent in the first half.

The Wildcats could not muster the energy to take the lead, and

went into the locker room with a 24-30 deficit after the first period.

The Wildcats started off the second half with an inbounding play that opened up the backside for a wide open layup from sophomore guard Alyssa Colla.

From there, sophomore guard Lauren Gruber picked up a steal, and the 'Cats defensive change at half proved to be working. With 10:20 left in the game, NMU was only down by two after Colla put in a couple of free throws. Less than a minute later, sophomore forward Abbey DeBruin went up for a layup to tie the game at 45 and drew a foul. DeBruin sunk the free throw to put the Wildcats up by one, giving the girls an added fire to nab the win.

"We needed a little spark and an and-one is always good," DeBruin said. "It was good news that we could play with them and grind out the tough game. I'm really proud of us."

The game continued to go back and forth until the six minute mark when sophomore guard Sarah Miller sunk a three to take the lead by two. The Wildcats held the lead for the rest of the game, to finish with the 67-57 victory.

The girls took the floor again on Saturday, Jan. 19 to face Wayne State, the No. 3 team in the conference.

The Warriors opened the game with the first bucket at 16:52 on the clock, taking the first lead of the night 3-0. Gruber answered at 16:25 to tie the game at three. The game continued to go back and forth, and NMU left the court at half with a 25-22 lead.

The second half brought an aggressive game with some tough calls for the referees, and the 'Cats began to lose the intensity they had earlier.

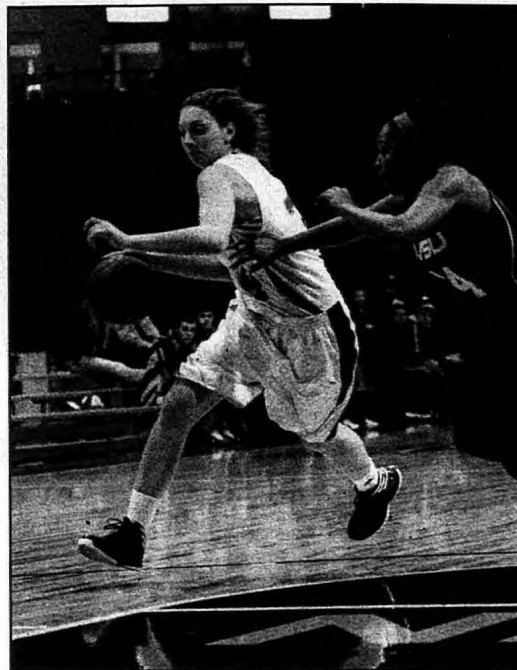
Gruber said the competition was tough, and the calls were something they were going to have to get over in games.

"Wayne State is top of the conference, with good athletes and a smart coach," Gruber said. "The refing is sometimes hard to overcome when there are calls we disagree with, but that's more of a mental thing and if we don't get over that we won't win any games."

The Wildcats found themselves in some foul trouble with eight minutes to go, and Wayne State picked up twelve points off of free throws.

Mattson said the foul trouble, however, was not what hurt the team.

"We have a lot of bodies so it helps us that we have some depth," Mattson said. "We just missed too many layups and free throws. You make those layups



Justin Key/NW
Sophomore Abbey DeBruin (34) dashes down the court earlier this season. DeBruin played 25 minutes during Saturday's game, earning three points.

and free throws and there's our game."

In the end, Wayne State pulled ahead with a 63-59 victory over the 'Cats.

The girls travel at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 24 to face Lake Superior State. They are back on the court at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26 to play Northwood.

Women's hockey team falls on the road

By Dustin Anand
contributing writer

The women's club hockey team faced a back-to-back loss over the weekend after travelling south to face Ohio State.

The 'Cats traveled to Columbus, Ohio to square off against OSU in back to back games start-

ing Saturday, Jan. 19. The 'Cats were defeated 8-2 on Saturday against OSU.

"We played really well, we just couldn't finish," said sophomore winger Elle Fitzgerald. "I think the team overall performed as one. We worked hard together and kept trying. I would say it's two of the best games we've

played this season."

The team has won two of their 14 games thus far.

"I don't think there's as much chemistry this season, but I do feel we have stronger players this season which helps us a lot," Fitzgerald said. "I think we just need to focus on the game and leave all of the drama for off the ice and the 'W' will come."

On Sunday, the 'Cats held OSU to scoring only two goals leading into the third period.

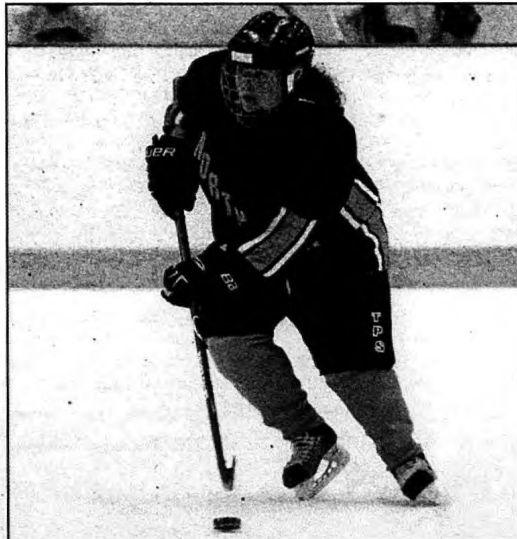
"We played good offensively; our shots just weren't going in," said freshman winger Loren Holfeld. "Although we ended up losing both games, we all played pretty well. Our first game was tough knowing we had only one practice from our month long break."

Holfeld said the weekend was a learning experience for all.

"Overall, our team played our hardest," Holfeld said. "In my opinion, what set us back is the organization of the lines being switched up from all the penalties we had and power play lines."

The 'Cats were charged with penalties throughout the game, which led them to give up five goals in the third period, ending the game with a 7-1 loss.

"It was hard to go a month without practicing together and jump right into games with OSU,



Justin Key/NW
Senior defenseman Britt Shand sails down the ice earlier in the season. Shand hails from Highland, Mich. and has 18 years of hockey experience.

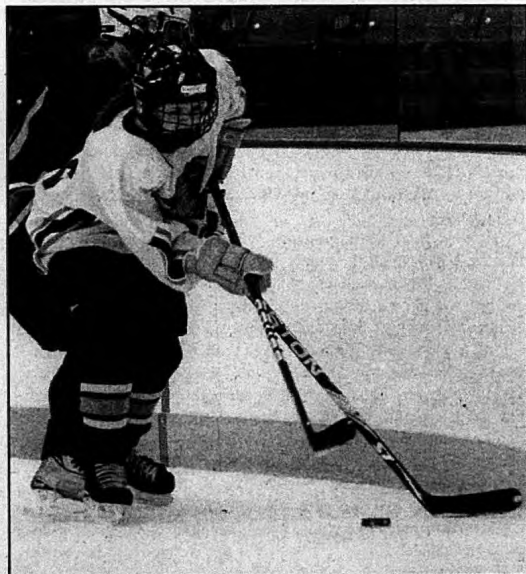
I think," said junior defenseman Nikki Balkum. "Our key plays came from battling hard in front of their net. Our penalty kills and breakouts are what really hurt us this weekend."

The 'Cats averaged about 60 shots this last weekend and OSU averaged about 100.

"It wasn't our worst weekend but it definitely wasn't our best,"

Balkum said. "Ohio State is a very good team. Overall, I think we have a lot of things that we need to work on in practice so we can be ready for the weeks ahead."

The 'Cats will be practicing this week for their matchup against Michigan Tech on Saturday, Jan. 26 and Sunday, Jan. 27 at the Berry Events Center.



Justin Key/NW
Sophomore winger Elle Fitzgerald hugs the boards as she steals the puck away from her opponent. The 'Cats were defeated in both weekend games.

Club hockey 'Cats keep up win streak

By William Burns
contributing writer

The Northern Michigan University men's club hockey team returned to Illinois this weekend to play a two game series against DePaul University.

On Friday, Jan. 18 and Saturday, Jan. 19 the Wildcats were in Chicago, Illinois to play against the No. 10 DePaul Blue Demons.

Northern came out on top of both matches, sweeping the Blue Demons 4-1 in the first game and 5-3 in the second game.

NMU head coach Carl Trosien said the wins were the best two games of hockey he had seen his team play.

"It's the way you want to see your team play," Trosien said. "We had the intensity and the focus. We spread the puck the around."

Senior right wing Kellen Michalak scored an unassisted goal less than a minute into regulation. DePaul responded with a score in the first period, but they did not find the back of the net again.

Michalak scored another un-

assisted goal and senior forward Neeco Belanger scored a pair of goals to put the Wildcats up 4-1. Sophomore goaltender Jeff Ryan was in net for the Wildcats and made 26 saves in route to the win.

The Wildcats jumped out first again when sophomore Wolff Belanger scored a goal. Belanger's goal was assisted by Michalak.

Neeco Belanger, freshman left wing Anders Carlson and Michalak would all score goals during the third. Ryan made 31 saves and was able to hang on to the 5-3 win.

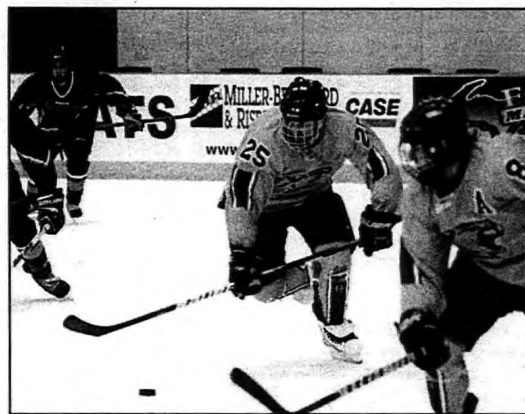
The Wildcats still have eight games remaining in the regular season with six of them being away from home.

Wolff Belanger said while the trips can be tiring, they are always a lot of fun.

"People don't really realize how tiring it is," Belanger said. "It's tough trying to get rid of your bus legs and really get your feet back. It really takes time to adjust. We have a lot of fun with it though and that is the most important thing."

Trosien said the team is well adjusted to playing on the road as often as they do while the regular travel helps them stay in good form.

"Were pretty use to it," Trosien said. "We have been doing it a lot. It's just the way our sched-



Justin Key/NW

Senior right-wing Kellen Michalak maneuvers the puck against the St. Norbert Green Knights. Michalak scored the first goal at Friday's game.

ule works out. On the flip side we have more control of what goes on when we are on the road versus when we are at home. In the end, we're not worried about being on the road so much."

Wolff Belanger has contributed 29 goals and 32 assists this season.

Wolff Belanger said he gives a lot of credit to his teammates and feels that being on the same line with his brother, Neeco Belanger, has provided him with the best opportunity to play well.

"Playing with my brother has probably made the biggest differ-

ence I have had playing hockey," Belanger said. "I can't begin to explain how much of an impact that has had on me. It can really only go uphill from here."

The Blue Demons are now 8-10-4 on the year while the Wildcats are 27-2-1.

The Wildcat's will be in Minnesota for three matches over the weekend.

They will face off against St. Cloud State on Jan. 25 and Jan. 26. The Wildcats will then face off against the University of St. Thomas on Jan. 27 in Minneapolis, Minn.



Justin Key/NW

Freshman left-wing Anders Carlson takes aim against the St. Norbert Green Knights. The 'Cats took on St. Norbert on Friday, Oct. 19 last year.

Swimmers set school records at PEIF

By Georgette Breen-Naylor
contributing writer

Although it was a competition between teammates, the goal of this weekend's swimming and diving meet was to prepare for the upcoming GLIAC conference championship.

The NMU swimming and diving team competed in the PEIF pool against their own teammates for a friendly, yet competitive meet that set pool records along the way for the 'Cats.

On Saturday, Jan. 19, the team had a meet to see which Wildcat competitors were ready for the GLIAC Championship and who needed to improve. I

t was also a chance for the team to learn from each other before the GLIAC Conference Championship arrives on Feb. 6.

"I feel like you're getting more help from people," Olga Budiansky said. "You learn more from people because you're getting to know them better."

The team's seniors were hon-

ored at this event for their help in guiding and leading the 'Cats swimming and diving team this year. Captain Gabby Alzaga, one of the seniors honored, said she thought the team improved in some aspects.

"Since freshman, every year we just got better and better," Alzaga said. "This year I am just so excited to see how they swim in conference because we're so ready to swim fast and do amazing."

Other seniors Olga Budiansky

and Lauren Cockles were also honored for their hard work and dedication to the team.

The 'Cats senior group has had much support from their underclassmen throughout the season as the younger teammates showed their talent at the meet.

The team did not take the meet lightly, and the 'Cats had swimmers that broke both school and pool records.

Freshman Crystal Bennet was able to show her skills Saturday against some of the upperclassmen, winning several races.

Bennet also set both pool and school records in the 50-yard breaststroke and a new school record in the 50-yard butterfly.

There were 14 events held at Saturday's meet. Support was shown in the stands by family, friends and NMU students were there to cheer on their classmates.

While the meet was about highlighting the senior's success, some of the underclassman showed off their skills by winning a few races of their own.

"If you're asking me, we are ready as a team," Budiansky said. "We don't need to prepare anymore for anything. We are ready."

The 'Cats will be looking for

I feel like there are so many things to remember. Just meeting new people and meeting friends that will be forever is amazing.

— Gabby Alzaga
Senior captain

leadership on all levels during their conference meets.

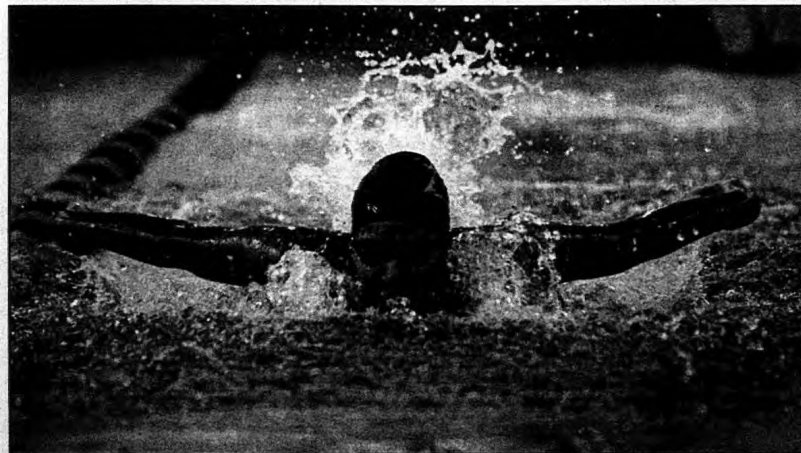
Alzaga said she is excited about the team's opportunity to swim in the GLIAC Championship and feels confident about the Wildcats' chances.

"We just need to keep focusing on training and on other things we might not be doing as well with," Alzaga said. "I think we're all ready."

As a senior, Alzaga said it is hard to walk away from something you have been a part of for so long but they are ready to go out with a bang in this upcoming GLIAC meet.

"I feel like there is so many things to remember," Alzaga said. "Just meeting new people and meeting those friends that will be forever, is amazing."

The 'Cats will be looking to make a splash on Feb. 6, in Canton, Ohio as they prepare to hit the road to the GLIAC Championship later this season.



Justin Key/NW

Sophomore Taylor Grimm races down her lane earlier this season. Grimm won the 200-meter butterfly at UW-Oshkosh last season, took seventh at the Calvin Invite, and finished tenth at the 2011-12 GLIAC Championship.

Wildcats lose two games in weekend

By Katie Bultman
staff writer

The home court did not prove to be an advantage for the men's basketball team last weekend when the Wildcats were defeated in two well-played games.

The team lost their first game against Saginaw Valley State University on Thursday, Jan. 17, and then lost a close game to the No. 1 team in the conference, Wayne State, on Saturday, Jan. 19.

On Thursday, Saginaw Valley came out strong with the tip-off. The Cardinals sunk the first shot at 19:07 on the clock.

Down by six early on, the 'Cats were the first to call a time-out.

With time to regroup, NMU was able to come within two points of the Cardinals, but throughout the period SVSU spread the lead by as much as 12 points.

With 7:00 left in the first half, sophomore guard Quinten Calloway assisted junior forward Matt Craggs for two points.

Craggs drew the foul and the free throw was good, leaving the Wildcats down by only a nine point margin.

The 'Cats remained down by nine going into the second half, 24-33.

Several fast breaks killed the Wildcats down the stretch, but

NMU brought the fire towards the halfway mark in the final period. Defense contributed with steals from Craggs, Calloway, senior forward TJ Cameron, and sophomore forward Kendall Jackson.

However, NMU could not catch up and Saginaw Valley left the court with a 56-51 victory over the 'Cats.

Head coach Doug Lewis said he noticed a lapse in the performance throughout the night.

"We had no energy," Lewis said. "I don't want to make excuses but we pretty much sleep walked the first eight minutes of the game. We wanted to win the last seven minutes, and we played with urgency."

On Saturday morning, NMU was back on the court to face Wayne State.

The Warriors are the only team in the GLIAC with an undefeated conference record.

The Wildcats took the court with an urgency that carried over from the previous night's game.

Five minutes into the game, Craggs put up a shot from behind the arc that was good for three.

Jackson sunk another three at 13:56, and freshman guard Stephen Pelkofer was good for an additional three with 11:52 in the first period, giving the 'Cats their first lead of the game, up 12-11.

NMU shot 71 percent from the free throw line to improve their

lead, and the Wildcats were up 25-22 at the half.

TJ Cameron said that the Wildcats worked well as a team to match Wayne State step-for-step.

"The first half we tried to get our chemistry going," Cameron said. "Now we just need to find a way to pull out the close games."

Cameron opened the second half with a three-point shot that was good for a six-point Wildcat lead.

With 15:31 left in the game, Wayne State tied up the score at 30, and from there the two teams went back and forth until the final buzzer.

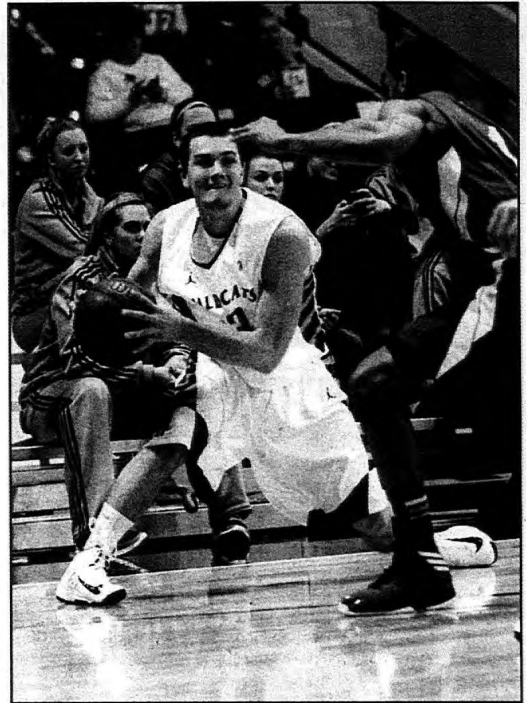
The Wildcats were down by two with under one minute left. In the end, Wayne State pulled ahead for the 65-59 win.

Cameron said the team has come close to too many victories without being able to finish in the tough games.

"We're right there," Cameron said. "We just got to find a way to pull the close games out. We played hard. The only thing you want is to come out, play hard and keep fighting. They were just better than us tonight."

Lewis said the 'Cats put up a good fight against the No. 1-ranked team.

"Our kids fought for 40 minutes and just got beat by a good team," Lewis said. "We have to make the plays when it's crunch



Justin Key/NW

Freshman guard Stephen Pelkofer (23) works to find a teammate earlier this season. Pelkofer scored first in the first quarter for the 'Cats at 11:52.

time. You either win or you lose and I can't be mad at my squad. Games like these come down to experience. Being a young team, we don't have that yet."

The Wildcats will hit the road this weekend to play at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 24 at Lake Superior State and at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26 at Northwood.

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Shout Outs

Shaina and Salge — Stay warm, we all miss you (brothers too). Wings and mug! Love you! — **Mom and Dad**

Old Man Winter — Thanks for the days off. — **Chem Mike**

NMU Students — You sure are a mother! — **Nature**

Pythons — I've got you wrapped around my extended digestive tract. Why can't you just learn all I want to do is hug you? — **Florida**

Chimps — Thanks for deciding to let us retire. The whole "wearing-make-up-pharmaceutical-experimentation" stuff was getting really old. — **National Institute of Health**

Penguins — Why can we never escape your black-tie dinners? You are worse than vampire bears! — **Prey**

Jacob — I can not wait to come visit you in Washington! It's going to be so much fun and so awesome! I love you and miss you! Chutes and Ladders. — **Shaina**

OE — Congratulations on breaking the record and leaving the office by 4:30 p.m. You should be proud. — **EIC**

NW Staff — Awesome job this week. You guys rocked those "cold days". — **EIC**

Pumpkin Seeds — More pumpkin, less salt. Come on now. — **NE**

Rhino — Iowa and Tennessee? Oh, the places we'll go! — **TV Viewer**

Sponsler — I had to explain why a monkey is called a monkey to yet another new editor last week. Your legacy lives on. — **Sport-O**

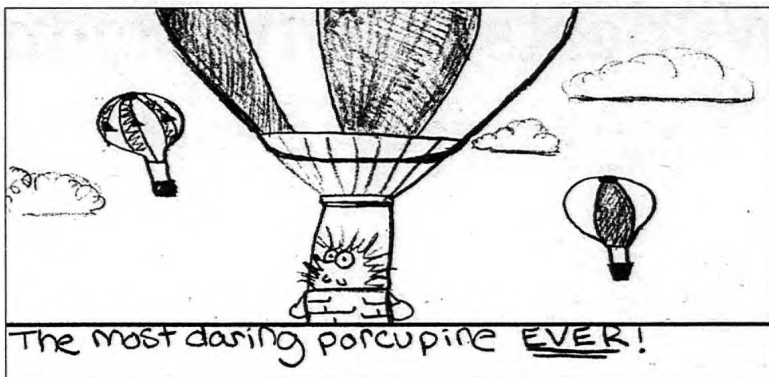
Jon and Brady — Come visit more. I miss you guys! — **Your old EIC**

Cold — Thanks for the days off, but the frostbite is not appreciated. — **NMU students**

Mom and Dad — I miss you guys. Come visit us when dad's leg gets better. And bring Gaga. — **Shaina**

- Inspirations**
Double cold day
Boy bands
Emo
Highschool friends
Fog machine
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PEZ — Amanda Buck



FLOYD THE DAWG — Devin Beattie



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