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First shutout of the season precedes biggest loss to Tech since 1977.

Northern Michigan University's Independent Student Newspaper since 1972

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Zombie hoax investigation continues Public Safety looks into brains behind hack

By Amanda Montheil
news editor

The Marquette Police Department received at least 10 calls on Monday, Feb. 11 regarding a warning issued via an Emergency Alert System, in which an apparent hacker warned viewers of a potential zombie attack.

At 4 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 11 and later at around 8:36 p.m. — two local TV stations were hacked with a fabricated alert warning viewers that “the bodies of the dead are rising from the grave and attacking the living,” and the warning applied to all of those who were receiving the broadcast.

NMU’s public television station WNMU TV 13 was the first station to be hacked on Monday, according to WNMU General Manager Eric Smith. The glitch was quickly found to be a hoax, and was caught shortly after it aired on the station.

“Shortly before 4 p.m., in our TV master control, we had an Emergency Alert Message air that

was not legitimate,” said Smith. “So once we determined what was happening, we disconnected the equipment and then we had to begin the process of figuring out where it came from and how it took place.”

At 8:36 p.m., another, similar alert was broadcast on WBUP ABC 10 during an episode of “The Bachelor,” and resulted in calls from concerned citizens to not only the Marquette Police Department but also to the ABC 10 station itself, according to the station’s operations manager Ken Baynard.

“From what I understand, the phone was basically blowing up,” Baynard said. “We were getting emails, Facebook posts — it got crazy around here. I heard it about 10 minutes after it happened and I couldn’t believe it. It was an interesting night.”

The Marquette Police Department received calls from a handful of Upper Peninsula residents, who were more concerned with the hack than zombies themselves.

“The concern was safety of

course, people were just wondering what was going on,” said Lt. Mike Laurila, of Marquette Police Department. “So I don’t think they were concerned that zombies were coming, I think people were more concerned that there was an Emergency Alert Broadcast across the screen. They were curious to see what was going on.”

Josh Wright, a junior accounting major he was working on Tuesday night when he heard about the prank from another student.

“A lot of thought has to go into figuring out how to hack into a well-protected broadcasting system like the one that Marquette’s media probably has,” Wright said. “Kudos to whoever was



Kristen Koehler/NW
On Monday, Feb. 11 the Emergency Alert System was hacked and warned viewers of a possible zombie attack. Two TV stations in Marquette were hacked and a third one in Montana.

smart enough and evil enough to do that.”

For NMU authorities, the investigation into the hoax had already attained a potential suspect by 10 a.m. Tuesday Feb. 12, according to Smith. It was discovered that the hack had originated overseas, and fixing the vulnerability in the system was fairly easy.

“The origination was the (United Kingdom) and it was a simple fix for us,” said WNMU broadcast operation and IT supervisor Grant Guston. “We know it’s a vulnerability and it’s great that it was a good hacker out there who was trying to expose vulnerabilities like that, so essentially

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Students key to U.P. 200 events success

By Ellen Holmes
contributing writer

In a community event as large as the U.P. 200, many NMU organizations, students and community members find themselves volunteering for the 22nd annual race.

This year’s U.P. 200 will be made up of 21 mushing teams, as well as 17 teams in the JackPine 30 and 26 teams in the Midnight run.

While the U.P. 200 will begin at 6:50 p.m., the Midnight Run will start at 9:00 p.m. both on Friday, Feb. 15, in front of the Mining Journal in downtown Marquette. The JackPine 30 will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16 at Larry’s Family Foods in Gwinn.

Spectators will be able to hear from speakers at the opening ceremony



Justin Key/NW
The U.P. 200 will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 15 in downtown Marquette and continue to Grand Marais.

including Mayor DePetro, local politicians, and major sponsors of the race before the start of the Midnight Run.

One team racing in the JackPine 30 will be lead by musher

Kaci Murringer, an NMU senior majoring in entrepreneurship.

“I have been running sled dogs for 15 years and this year will be my fourth JackPine 30,” Murringer said. “I love being involved

with the sport of dog sledding and watching the dogs do what they love.”

After taking seventh in last year’s JackPine 30, Murringer is looking forward to racing as well

as volunteering at the Harvey station of the U.P. 200 with friend Kaylee Place.

Place, Harvey coordinator and board member of the Upper Peninsula Dog Sled Association (UPDSA), as well as NMU 2012 alumni, is another member of the community that takes pride in the upcoming race.

“I love the community engagement,” Place said. “Everyone bands together for an awesome event and brings new people into the area for one of the biggest events for the U.P.”

Place also said how much volunteering is necessary to make the race a possibility.

“From helping the teams leave Marquette to their span across the race, it’s really a huge community

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CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH



daughter of civil rights leader Malcolm X, will talk about her book "Growing Up X," which details her childhood with Malcolm X and the lessons she learned personally from the leader and her parents.

& Ta-Nehisi Coates

Ta-Nehisi Coates, author of "The American Dream" in "The Atlantic" and editor of "The Black Struggle" and editor of "The Black Monthly" magazine, will discuss what it means to be Black and the role of culture in America.



conversation \$2 for general public



Students get ready for April tax-filing deadline

By Amanda Monthel
news editor

With the IRS tax filing deadline looming on Monday, April 15, NMU students are searching for ways to file their taxes from the past year that is both easy on a student budget and compatible with a college schedule.

While some students either hire a professional or have their parents do their taxes for them, others are finding that the world of the IRS, tax forms and number crunching is a difficult thing to battle on your own.

"I'm from Illinois and so with my dad down there, it's just hard to get paperwork transferred," David Mancini, a senior biology major, said. "I'm probably just going to pick up the 1040 EZ or whatever the form is, I'll have to figure that out. I'll probably just follow the steps that it says, fill it out and hope that I do everything right."

"Hope to do everything right" seems to be a common thought among other students who plan on doing their own taxes. Junior social work major Carrie Grishaber said after battling taxes on her own in previous years, she finally started looking around for other resources to use in the community. That's how she stumbled upon the Beta Alpha Psi community tax help days.

"Making sense of the numbers on the page is the most difficult thing about it," Grishaber said. "Some people find it really easy, but for me it's just difficult to match everything up. It's really a big help when other people do it for me, but I don't have the money to pay someone to file them."

"I filed my taxes online before last year, and then they got kind of complicated. I took them down to the Peter White Library and the Beta Alpha Psi kids did it for me."

Grishaber said the process was simple, free and quick, and that she trusted the students she worked with.

"I just sat down and handed them my stuff and they all seemed pretty excited," she said. "Their professor was there and it only took about ten minutes. It was really fast."

The program not only provides valuable experience for accounting, finance and computer information systems majors in the Beta Alpha Psi organization, but also provides a free resource for community members and students, according to member and coordinator Joey Strong.

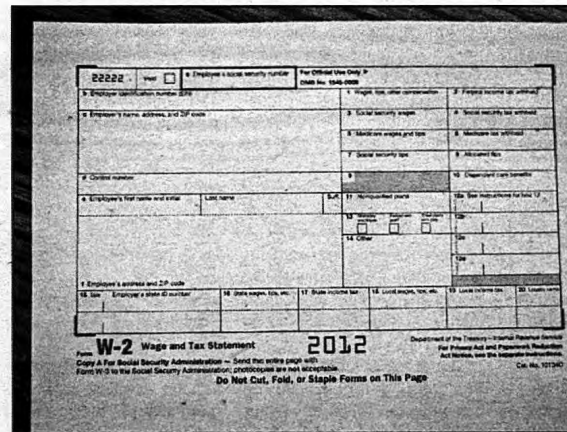
"The program that we do, which is by the Students for Volunteer Tax Assistance, is sponsored through the IRS, and it basically provides tax assistance for low to middle income workers in the community," Strong said. "So basically it helps people in the community and gives them a service that they would normally have to go to H & R Block or some tax professional for."

"They don't have to pay, which is a burden on them that doesn't have to take place."

However, the resource is not just for community members, Strong asserts. NMU students can and do use the service that his organization provides.

"We get a mixture of people from the community and people from campus too," he said. "It's also beneficial for our members — if they want to go into tax or are interested in going into tax — because it gives them some experience of one-on-one client interaction and actually getting a chance to work with the software program as well as the tax issues that most people will face."

Strong said there will be four to five tax preparers working every Sunday from now until Sunday, April 7, with the exception of Sunday, March 10 and Sunday, March 31. The program will take place in the Shiras Room in the upstairs of the Peter White Public Library, from 1 to 4 p.m.



Dan Marchky/NW

As students prepare their 2012 taxes, some are looking for alternatives to having to file themselves. Beta Alpha Psi helps by providing free tax filing on Sundays.

Briefs

State News

With an average at \$3.74 per gallon of gas on the morning of Monday, Feb. 11, Michigan is currently ranked as having the 11th highest gas prices in the country.

Statewide, Marquette is ranked as the lowest of all metro areas in the state, with an average price of \$3.70 per gallon. The highest prices statewide hovered around \$3.99 per gallon on Monday in the Cheboygan and Canton areas.

Nationwide, Wyoming is seeing the lowest prices for gasoline, paying only \$3.05 per gallon, while Hawaii is the highest at \$4.24 per gallon.

National News

Seventeen months after eliminating the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" ban on openly homosexual members of the U.S. military, the Pentagon has extended the rights of homosexual individuals to include more of the benefits enjoyed by heterosexual troops.

While it is not yet known what new benefits will come of the discussions in the Pentagon, it is known that some action is limited by federal law, including key benefits such as housing.

The Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as a union between a woman and a man, is the main barrier in establishing further benefits for all members of the military, regardless of sexual orientation.

International News

In a surprising statement made on Monday, Feb. 11, Pope Benedict abdicated his duties as Catholic pope, being the first in his office to do so in nearly 600 years.

Benedict, who is 85 years old, said on Monday that he does not have the strength to continue fulfilling his duties, and that he will be resigning on Thursday, Feb. 28, according to www.reuters.com.

With a following of 1.2 billion Roman Catholics and after having spent eight years in office, Benedict's reign in the Vatican was cut shorter than anticipated, according to many news sources. Still, it is expected that a successor will be chosen by Palm Sunday, or Sunday, March 24.

Weird News

A Pennsylvania man has been arrested and charged with stalking, possession of illegal body armor and a slew of other charges after he was found stalking his estranged wife on Thursday, Jan. 31.

Flint Andrew Stanton was in possession of a machete, a gun, knives, brass knuckles, duct tape and, among many other things, a Valentine's Day card for his wife, when police pulled him over for suspected stalking.

Stanton, who was not allowed to carry weapons, had already been court-ordered to stay away from his wife Anne Stanton.

Stanton's preliminary hearing is set for Thursday, Feb. 14.

Massachusetts resident Lawrence Ligocki has been arrested on drug possession charges after he received a Valentine's Day package containing a teddy bear stuffed with more than \$10,000 of crystal meth.

Ligocki asserted to a postal investigator posing as a mail carrier that he was expecting the package, and a warrant was then placed to search his house.

— Compiled from news sources

Campus Crime Map

Map Key

- 1 A student was found in violation of the Controlled Substance Act at 7:39 p.m. on Feb. 6 at the Lincoln Apartments.
- 2 A student was reported for domestic violence at 3:16 a.m. on Feb. 6 at Van Antwerp Hall.
- 3 A student was found operating a vehicle while intoxicated at 11:40 p.m. on Feb. 9 on Kaye Avenue.
- 4 Larceny from a vehicle was reported at 7:00 a.m. on Feb. 11 at the Superior Dome.
- 5 A violation of the Controlled Substance Act was reported at 6:08 p.m. at Halverson Hall.



Students in their element



Kristen Koehler/NW
Junior biology major Jessica Barribeau reads a textbook while in the University Center.



Kristen Koehler/NW
Senior graphic design major Zach Vollink focuses while working on a coil pot in a class.

ZOMBIES

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it's an easy fix to fill that hole for that security issue, but it could have been potentially serious."

Both Smith and Laurila agreed that the hack could have been much more serious, had the threat been only slightly more believable.

"People think that there is some humor to this, and that it's not very serious," Smith said. "But we think that it is serious, and the reason is that if there had been a real emergency, we wouldn't have been able to air that emergency alert at that time. More importantly, if someone had used or created a message that sounded real, but was indeed false, that could have caused the public to do things they shouldn't do and that's a very serious thing."

Laurila also said while the hoax was humorous in nature, it should not allow us to overlook the significance of the situation.

"What people have to understand is that of any message that you can create, this was a message that can be interpreted as a joke," Laurila said. "However, had something a little more serious been put out there — I mean, we didn't think it was funny, and I'm sure the TV people didn't think it was funny either."

A Great Falls, Mont. station was also hacked on Monday, and it is assumed that all three instances were completely random, according to Smith. However, while the hack could have been potentially serious, most of those who were involved were thankful for the information and future security measures that may come from the hoax.

"There are many other stations around the country that air the same messages using the same equipment," Smith said. "So these stations are now talking to each other, sharing information, working with equip-

ment manufacturers to make sure that these security breaches are closed and that the integrity of the system is restored.

"At this point we believe it was just a random occurrence — we happened to be two that were targeted. It was just somebody going out on the Internet and scanning looking for these devices, found ours for some reason, and therefore we were the ones that were victimized."

The Emergency Alert System, which is controlled by local, state and national authorities to warn of impending danger, has just recently been switched from an analog system which rarely had such problems with hacking, to a digital system, according to Guston.

But with the new technology of the digital system, there were certain overlooked vulnerabilities that made Monday's prank possible for the overseas hackers.

"We now have a digital Emergency Alert System, whereas not so long ago it was analog and there was never an issue," he said. "Now this is new, it's an Internet appliance, and the installers bring it to us and we basically host it. As a result, there was a vulnerability there, where someone could go online and figure out how to access an admin account."

Smith said there is an ongoing investigation into the responsible parties involved in the hack, but assured that they've done all they can do to close the gaps in the system that made the hoax possible.

"The important thing now is that we've fixed the problem so that it can't happen again," Smith said. "We've turned over the forensic data that came from that machine and that went to Public Safety, who is conducting and investigating to see if they can determine who might have been responsible."

"We're back now to normal operations, but we still view this as being quite serious and it is still under investigation."

Valentine's Day is for lovers...and sexual health

By Louis Justman
contributing writer

With Valentine's and National Condom Day uniting people across the United States, it's time to get your sexual health on.

But for those that aren't in relationships, Thursday, Feb. 14 holds a little less importance than for those who are dating.

And while some students do see dating as a near-necessity of the college experience, there are others that hold alternative views on the matter.

Pre-nursing student James Van Eck said it all depends on how you view the point of your college career.

"If you're there to really focus on your studies then you should (be doing just that)," he said. "But [college] is not just about studying, it's also figuring out how to work with people on a more adult level — and that includes relationships."

Van Eck said his observations of college relationships are different depending on the student.

"Some people don't have a relationship at all," Van Eck said. "And some people do nothing but have a relationship."

According to Van Eck, relationships tend to have both good and bad qualities.

"The positive aspect is you feel really good about yourself — you found somebody that wants to spend time with you and makes you feel special," Van Eck said. "On the negative aspect, you can get so absorbed in the feelings you begin to forget the purpose for being in

college and your studies can start to take a hit."

Spalding Hall resident adviser Jenn Gorelick, a sophomore, said rushing into a college relationship can not only hurt your classwork, but your emotional state as well.

"It might feel like there's a lot of pressure to find a boyfriend or girlfriend when you get to college, but it's ok to be single until you're ready," Gorelick said.

"That's when relationships turn unhealthy, when people enter into them without enough self-respect or self-trust to know when they're in a bad situation."

Gorelick said if you are looking for a relationship, think outside the box.

"If you are looking for someone, expand your horizons," she said. "Get out of your comfort zone. NMU has so much to offer in terms of that, and the student population is so varied, you never know whom you might meet trying something new or through a friend of a friend."

One idea that is perpetuated by pop culture is that a relationship in college means one thing: sex. Lenny Shible, Health Promotion Specialist, said it's important to show respect for your partner in regards to the sexual aspects of your college relationship.

"Respect means engaging in open and honest communications about exactly what

a mutually consensual sexual relationship is, how it works and how to have one," Shible said. "One challenge that many college students have today is trying to match their abilities to comfortably talk about their sexual relationships with their abilities to have their sexual relationships."

Shible said no one should engage in any sexual relationships unless and until they are comfortable in engaging in open and honest, adult conversation about what it means to be in a sexual relationship.

Shible said respect in a healthy relationship goes further than just sex though.

"It is important that all people understand that it is necessary to communicate to existing or potential partners in very clear ways exactly what it is that they are looking for in their relationships, whether it be friendships, deeper emotional connections and/or mutually consensual physical connections," he said.

According to Gorelick, the important thing to do is what is best for your future before giving a relationship serious consideration.

"It really is all about taking care of yourself first," she said. "Everything else will fall into place. Being single won't make or break your time at college, but being in a relationship with the wrong person could."



Wildcat Night Across the Country unites alumni

By Jaymie Depew
contributing writer

Wildcat Night Across the Country will mark its 13th successful year on Saturday, Feb. 16.

According to Marina Dupler, assistant director of alumni relations, Wildcat Night Across the Country started in 2000.

The event was started under the direction of Martha Haynes, who was the director of alumni relations at the time.

"It started as a way to encourage alumni, family and friends to get together across the country to watch an NMU event," Dupler said.

During the event, the NMU hockey team will play against Michigan State, a game that will be broadcast live across the nation on Fox Sports Detroit. The puck drops at 7:30 p.m.

"We picked our Wildcat Night Across the Country date based on which hockey games will be broadcasted live on TV," Dupler said. "This year, we started promoting the game back in fall, letting alumni across the country know they could contact us and

host a watching party."

Both Dupler and Robyn Stille, executive director of alumni relations and annual giving, try to make hosting a party as easy as possible for alumni.

Dupler said once a host for the party picks out a venue in their community to air the game, the alumni office tries to help get the word out by sending invitations, posting information on NMU's social media channels and emailing other alumni.

Wildcat party packs are also available for hosting an alumni party, according to Dupler.

"We want to make sure that each watch party, Wildcats are equipped to show off their pride," Dupler said.

The party pack is mailed to each host. The packs contain pom poms, green and gold beads, license plate holders, pennants and other items.

The NMU bookstore also contributes by donating NMU T-shirts and sweatshirts that can be given away at the parties for friend, family and other alumni. After the packs are mailed, Dupler said the hard part is done.

"All that's left is for everyone to have a great time visit-

ing one another and cheering on the 'Cats!" she said. "We've had parties that have become a wonderful tradition over the years, such as the party in the North Pole, Alaska and in Nahma, Mich., for instance.

It's amazing to see how many NMU alumni are all over this country and the world. NMU is such a special place, and it never really leaves you."

According to Stille, some of the parties are brand new, beginning this Saturday. A new party in Mandeville, La., plan on playing euchre, a favorite U.P. card game, in addition to watching the hockey game.

Along with the parties across the country, Marquette is hosting its own Wildcat Night Across the Country party this Saturday.

The party will be held at Buffalo Wild Wings on Feb. 16.

"Last year a lot of people showed up for the event," said Jaylyn Martin, manager of Buffalo Wild Wings.

Martin said they're expecting a good turnout this year as well.

Dupler said if alumni or other Wildcat fans cannot attend an official party, they can watch the game Fox Sports.

U.P. 200

Continued from Page 1

involvement."

Dr. Carol Steinhaus, Management Professor at NMU said not only does volunteering in the race create an opportunity for her students in Event Management to gain hands on experience, but also gives them an upper hand on future employment.

"One man in my class that was a volunteer for the race ended up being offered a position with a construction management company," Steinhaus said. "After watching his effort being put into the event, the owner of the company handed the volunteer a business card

telling him to inquire if he was interested in a job."

According to volunteer coordinator for the U.P. 200, Anna Sanford, the race couldn't happen without the help of the NMU volunteers.

One company that also provided great help was Lowes.

"Lowes was a major contributor to the race by donating materials and putting its employees to work on a new dog box trailer for tired or injured dogs to be transported from the trail to the next checkpoint," said Pat Toreano, president of the UPSDA.

Those interested in volunteering call Anna Sanford at 906-(947)7850 or Kaylee Place at (906)250-6134. For details on the U.P. 200, visit www.UP200.org.



Justin Key/NW

The U.P. 200 is an annual sled dog race in the U.P. The race requires substantial volunteers, positions that are frequently filled by students.

Community Forum on

Conservation and Local Sustainability

Presented by the NMU Earth, Environmental and Geographical Sciences Department

Thursday, February 21



7-8:30 p.m. Mead Auditorium
2701 West Science Building

From Wild Lands to Working Lands to Urban Lands: Connecting Conservation Across the Landscape.

Presentation by Curt Meine, Aldo Leopold Foundation senior fellow, and author of *Aldo Leopold: His Life and Work*.

Friday, February 22



8:30-noon Mead Auditorium
2701 West Science Building

8:30-9 a.m. Light breakfast.

9-10:15 a.m. Screening of the Emmy award-winning documentary film *Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time*.

10:30-noon Community panel discussion on conservation and local sustainability.



All events are free and open to the public.
For more information call 906-227-2587.

ASNMU gains new ideas on programs at conference

By Jenean Zahran
staff writer

This past weekend, six members of ASNMU along with 13 other universities attended the Student Association of Michigan (SAM) conference at Oakland University in Auburn Hills, Mich.

The purpose of the conference was to work with and hear other universities' ideas on how they run their legislation and programs and to also evaluate each other's objectives concerning student legislation.

"SAM is assembled by 12 of the 15 public universities that work together ensuring all students throughout the state have fair representation regarding all bodies of legislation in which affect their academic career," said Neil Martel, off-campus rep.

Among the topics discussed at the conference, ASNMU sponsored the Mackinac Bridge Resolution, which is a proposal working to reduce or eliminate the bridge toll fee for students statewide.

"This is a prime example that demonstrates the importance of SAM and its ability to reach out to a higher authority to make changes," Martel said. "The connections

to different groups within governments (state and local) make SAM the place to communicate concerns NMU students face that are too big for a ASNMU's budget."

Another area of concentration sponsored by ASNMU at the conference was the Safe Rides Home program to possibly run all year around. Currently, the service only runs on Halloween and St. Patrick's Day weekend at no charge.

"With the possibility of providing Safe Rides Home for students year around it was necessary to communicate with schools already possessing similar successful programs," Martel said.

On Wednesday, Feb. 27 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., ASNMU and NMU Dining Services will hold a "Let's Chat" session in the Wildcat Den. This is an opportunity for students to bring up concerns and ask questions to Dining Services.

"Although the session is held at the Wildcat Den, it does not limit the discussion to that venue," said Amber Lopota, vice president of ASNMU. "Any of the retail locations, such as Melted, Fieras or the Market Place can be discussed."

To allow Dining Services to prepare responses and potential resolutions to the proposed issues, ASNMU and Dining Services are asking students interested in par-

ticipating to get in touch with their ASNMU or hall representative to the Food Advisory Board to put their comments in writing, according to Lopota.

"This information will be given to Dining Services one week before the 'Lets Chat' session," Lopota said. "By using this method we hope to avoid lengthy wait times between sessions for students to get answers. Providing your input could help shape the future of NMU Dining Services."

Another proposal discussed in Monday's meeting was ASNMU's plan to form a collaboration with Career Services to provide the student body with internship opportunities that are more relevant to their degree.

"Building a relationship with the departments which deal with student internships will help NMU students gain more connections for future endeavors," said Amer Mansoor, College of Arts & Science rep. "As of right now, we are simply looking to gain the advice and input from several NMU departments before setting any intern projects in place."

These departments may include the Alumni Association, Several Academic Departments, Career Services and the work studies program.

Campus Events This Week:

All week: Phillip Phillips tickets are on sale. Cost is \$10 for students and tickets are available at any NMU EZ ticket outlets.

Monday, Feb. 18: "Emerging Trends in Higher Education" lecture. Begins at 3 p.m. in the Reynolds Recital Hall. The event is free.

Tuesday, Feb. 19: WinterFest Open Skate. Runs from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Berry Event Center. The cost for the event is free.

Wednesday, Feb. 20: Scuba Diving and Leadership workshop. Begins at 6 p.m. in the Back Room of the University Center. The cost is free.

Local Events This Week:

Thursday, Feb. 14: Valentine's Day Concert with Canzoniere Grecancio Salentio from Italy. Begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Ishpeming-Westwood High School gymnasium. Cost is \$20.

Saturday, Feb. 16 and Sunday, Feb. 17: NMU Alpine Skiing Club Regional Championships. Begins at 10 a.m. at Marquette Mountain.

Tuesday, Feb. 19: Black History Month speakers Ilyasah Shabazz and Ta-Nehisi Coates. Begins at 7 p.m. in the Great Lakes Room of the University Center.



A few minutes of your time can add many years to hers.

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VISIT BIOPLASMA.COM NOW TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT!

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www.thenorthwindonline.com

CATS
Connecting Alumni To Students
March 18-19, 2013

A new initiative that seeks to connect NMU alumni and students through classroom visits, skillbuilders, networking and more!
Information on campus events coming soon to www.nmu.edu/alumni

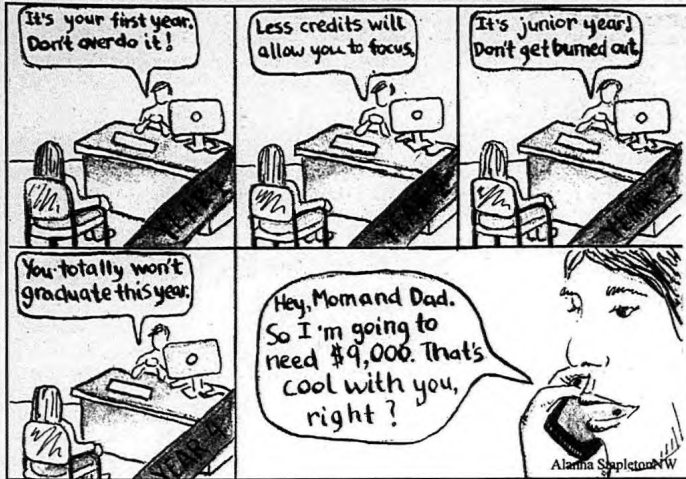


CONGRATULATIONS
to
KEVIN CORKIN

Congratulations to Kevin Corkin for completing 300 hours of community service for the Michigan Service Scholars program! Originally from Green Bay, WI, Kevin is an Outdoor Recreation Leadership and Management major and will be graduating May of 2013. He completed 300 hours of community service with the following projects/sites: Camp Hiawatha, the Boy Scouts of America in the Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturing youth programs, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Bay Cliff Health Camp, Lake Superior Village Center, and the Children's Museum. For his service to the community, Michigan Campus Compact will be giving Kevin a \$1,175 educational award.

Congratulations, Kevin, and thank you for all of your hard work!

EDITORIAL



Graduating in four years essential

A 2006 report from the Michigan House Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education compiled by Kyle I. Jen, a fiscal analyst, ranked NMU ninth out of the 15 public universities in Michigan in terms of bachelor's-degree student graduation rates.

Only 21.8 percent of NMU students graduated in four years, 42.4 percent in five years and 45.1 percent in six years.

More students are taking five or more years to complete a bachelor's degree at NMU, and the university should focus not only on retaining students but helping them to graduate in four years.

The average course load an undergraduate student took on in the 2012 fall semester was roughly 14 credits.

In order to complete all 124 required credits for an NMU bachelor's degree, a student would have to take 16 or more credits per semester to graduate in four years.

It is often the case that some required courses for a student's degree are offered infrequently, which impedes a student's ability to satisfy those classes for their major or mi-

nor. While advisers can help students create a plan for reaching graduation, the departments on campus must offer those courses required on a timely basis. Graduating in four years saves not only time but money.

The Parents of NMU Students page on NMU's website estimates the annual cost of each additional year of schooling is \$8,700 for the 2012-13 year, but that doesn't factor in the cost of books and other supplies needed for school.

During a time when student loans are overburdening recent graduates, NMU should take charge and initiate a campaign on campus educating students on the benefits of graduating in four years.

If students are given greater access to information and their advisers plan out a four-year degree with them, NMU graduates will reduce their overall debt during a time when graduates all over the country are facing financial hardships.

NMU should show the students some love this Valentine's Day, and start working towards a program to help students get on track to a four-year degree.

World in awe as pope steps down



Staff Column
Nolan Krebs

notorious sexual abuse scandals that seem to rock the organization every few years.

This remained an issue during Benedict's papacy, particularly in 2010.

It was revealed that Benedict had been made aware that a priest he had sent to therapy for pedophilia was returning to pastoral work and was later convicted of molesting boys.

While Benedict enacted a number of policies to prevent future abuse and to restore public opinion of the church, it remains a blight on his legacy.

Another widely-publicized gaffe of Benedict's papacy was in 2009, when the Vatican lifted the excommunication of British bishop Richard Williamson, who openly denied the Holocaust as being a historical fact.

Repealing Williamson's punishment was deeply upsetting for members of the Jewish community, who viewed the action as largely insensitive and obtuse.

As Benedict prepares to leave his post — should we care? Hell, George Harrison said, "And while the pope owns 51 percent of General Motors, and the stock exchange is the only thing he's qualified to quote us."

Undoubtedly, those who serve as pope are burdened with the massive responsibility of smoothing relations in the theological world.

Whether someone agrees with their teachings or not, molding the values of one of the oldest established religions around the issues of the 21st century is not a job for anyone with a less-than-iron will.

For those who prescribe to a particular faith, it may be a bigger deal than to the non-believers. The pope is not only a representative for the Catholic church, but a symbol of their ideas and a builder of bridges.

Individuals who choose to believe the scripture of the Bible are, or at least should be, aware of a constant struggle between traditional faith and the constantly shifting reality of the world around us.

As an 85-year-old man, Benedict's decision to resign seems perfectly reasonable.

Established religion is a dynamic entity, and the responsibility to preserve whatever is left of it is a tall glass of water.

Time will tell us both what lies in store for the Vatican, one of the oldest symbols of religion in history, and where the next pope will steer them.

On the morning of Monday, Feb. 11, Pope Benedict XVI announced he would be resigning from his position as the head of the Roman Catholic Church.

The decision will become effective on Thursday, Feb. 28, and will mark the first time in almost 600 years that someone has stepped down from the position.

As the church prepares for a successor — to be chosen by the appointed cardinals — Benedict's legacy and what lies ahead for the ancient organization has become a hot topic for discussion.

Benedict, born Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger, began his papacy on April 19, 2005 as the successor of Pope John Paul II.

Benedict is known by scholars for an ideology similar to that of the pope before him — conservative in his theological viewpoints and dedicated to the traditional doctrines and values of Catholicism.

During his papacy, Benedict saw both a resurgence in the Catholic faith and criticism of the religious institution. Many consider his 2009 encyclical, or letter to Roman Catholic bishops, to be one of the highpoints of his time as pope.

Entitled "Caritas in Veritate" or "Love (Charity) in Truth," the letter is said to be a condemnation of the contemporary system of economics, "where the pernicious effects of sin are evident." Benedict urged his followers and Catholics around the world to retain their values and ethics in a world shrouded in fiscal despair.

Herein lies a shining light for Catholicism's non-believers: a plea to the leaders of a historically-corrupt society to keep their heads above the rising tide of greed and financial disarray.

While many may disagree with some practices of the Roman Catholic Church, encyclicals such as "Caritas in Veritate" are a reminder of the importance of helping out your neighbor — especially in a time of economic recession and recovery.

For the seemingly righteous dictations of the church, there are scars that could not be hidden, and Benedict was unable to escape the

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

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Question military action in Middle East, North Africa



Weekly Take Away

Lee McClelland

American nationalism — the support of American interests with disregard for the detrimental effects on other nations — has grown widespread and fervent in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks.

The rhetoric following the Twin Towers' collapse carried significant weight toward any opposition to war as a response.

"This nation is now at war. And in such an environment, domestic political dissent is immoral without a prior statement of national solidarity, a choosing of sides," said Peter Beinart, editor of *The New Republic*.

When the House of Representatives voted on the "Post-9/11 Use of Force Act," Rep. Barbara J. Lee D-Calif. was the only one to vote in opposition.

"Nor can we let our justified anger over these outrageous acts by vicious murderers inflame prejudice against all Arab Americans, Muslim, Southeast Asians and any other people because of their race, religion or ethnicity...As we act, let us not become the evil we deplore," said Lee.

This attack on the United States was one of the few instances in American history that an attack took place on American soil.

Despite Lee's heeding, America launched a war in both Afghanistan and Iraq without considerable debate; Congress passed Bush's Patriot Act, further eroding American freedoms and President Obama renewed the act in 2011.

A 2012 study from Brown University estimated between 152,280 to 192,550 civilians have died in Iraq and Afghanistan due to military combat; indirect deaths due to "malnutrition, damaged health infrastructure and environmental degradation" push the number of war-related civilian deaths to 965,000.

Yet, a 2013 Gallup Poll found

that 67 percent of Americans were satisfied with the nation's security from terrorism, despite the recent release of a Department of Justice memo on Monday, Feb. 4, defending the killing of Americans linked to al-Qa-da in Yemen has brought up a much needed debate.

How can the American people tolerate a conflict with no identifiable enemy, with no definite war-zone boundaries?

The Afghanistan war-zone is almost 3,000 miles from the border of Yemen where the Obama administration carried out the drone strike that killed Anwar al-Awlaki and Samir Khan, both of whom were American citizens with ties to al-Qaida and allegedly plotting against the United States.

The Bush Administration and Obama Administration have carried out drone strikes in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen and Iraq.

The New America Foundation's report stated that of the 350 drone strikes carried out between 2004 and 2013 in Pakistan alone, an estimated 1,956 to 3,284 people were killed, "of which 1,526 [to] 2,649

were reported to be militants."

These numbers are alarming when one thinks about national security. American drone strikes are an imperfect science that is further corrupted by deficient intelligence. Killing civilians in countries like Yemen, Pakistan, Afghanistan and, recently, areas in North Africa further alienates foreign nationals.

The American military is killing innocent men, women and children abroad.

Our government has become "the evil we deplore," and has killed more civilians in the war on terror than were lost in the Sept. 11 attacks.

These acts of unjust violence are further polarizing those who do not align themselves with radical Islam, pushing them further towards Islamic terrorists.

President Obama cannot justify his drone strikes in the name of the war on terror if he claims "the inherent right of the United States to national self-defense" against an enemy "who poses an imminent threat of violent attack to the United States."

The term "imminent threat" implies the U.S. government knows these individuals have planned and are close to facilitating an attack against the United States, yet this is not often the case.

With so many civilians dying, Americans have to ask themselves if killing innocent civilians as well as al-Qaida members makes America a safer place, or if we are planting the seeds of future conflicts that will arise in the Middle East or North Africa.

During wartime, a strong sense of nationalism has caused our country to make tragic mistakes in the past — the American-Japanese internment camps in American during World War II come to mind.

Do not fall prey to the pitfalls of nationalism: voice dissent. Our government is only as credible as the people who advocate for its just practices.

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

United States, Vietnam: all fair in love, war and economics



Professor's Corner

Dr. Gary McDonnell

Recently, I was on my hands and knees at home putting together some chairs that my wife ordered through Amazon.com. Each chair displayed a sticker that said, "Made in Vietnam."

How ironic, I thought: 40 years after the end of the war in Vietnam, where the United States suffered a humiliating defeat to the communists in a vain attempt to support democracy, capitalism and a corrupt government, and here I am assembling chairs manufactured in Vietnam by a company perhaps financed by U.S. investors and sold (presumably for a profit) to a U.S. citizen.

Most people would take this for granted and not give it much thought, but not I. Is Vietnam now capitalist or communist? I did a little investigating, and it appears to me that it is neither.

After the war, the Vietnamese communists instituted strict controls on property and commerce, with the result of increased poverty and suffering for the Vietnamese people. "A bowl of rice had to last a week," according to one account.

The well-educated fled the country. Not until the 1990s did the authorities begin to invite foreign investment and move toward some market liberalization.

Politically, the country is still communist, with restrictions on speech and the press and with large sectors of the economy state-owned. But, like China, the government now allows private ownership of some businesses.

Due to a trade agreement in 2001, the U.S. is one of Vietnam's

largest export markets — hence my chairs. However, economic problems abound today.

Access to "free-flowing credit" has caused a rash of construction and real estate speculation. Now there is unsustainable debt in many sectors of the Vietnamese economy and numerous unfinished and deteriorating construction projects.

While the increased tolerance of private ownership and entrepreneurship has surely benefited the Vietnamese people — economic growth has been high — resources are yet largely under the control of an inept and corrupt government. Government owned enterprises are inefficient, kept on life support by the government.

Because of arbitrary enforcement of laws, foreign investors are becoming reluctant to invest. Younger people are finding it increasingly difficult to find employment.

This story, it seems, sounds

rather familiar. Malinvestment — evidenced by unfinished, deteriorating construction projects — due to artificially low interest rates and credit expansion, bailouts and the subsequent effects on employment and investment mirrors appear to mirror what we've experienced in the United States in recent years.

The *New York Times* describes the situation this way: "Vietnam's problems could be described as crony capitalism with a communist twist. State owned enterprises are stacked with friends and allies of the communist party."

To call it a "communist twist" is to make a distinction without a difference, in my view. "Cronyism" occurs when individuals use connections with political authorities to leverage special privilege. Granting of privilege is more likely whenever government is heavily involved in deciding what gets produced, how goods are produced and who has access to markets. To para-

phrase the humorist P.J. O'Rourke, when politicians decide what is to be bought and sold, it is politicians who will be bought and sold.

The late economist Milton Friedman pointed out that capitalism was in its essence a system of profit and loss. The prospect for profit induces individuals to take risks, while the possibility of loss disciplines decision-makers and provides an incentive to carefully calculate the risks.

Governments can, and almost universally do, subvert this process. The consequences are often benefits for the few at the expense of the many.

The irony is that, in many ways, in spite of being "victorious," the Vietnamese ended up with an economic system that is not unlike our own.

Editor's note: Dr. Gary McDonnell is an associate professor of economics at NMU.

Sound Off

Do students have school spirit?

Compiled by Dan Marchky



Sabrina Wheeler
senior, art education

"I don't think there's a lot. It's a smaller school and it revolves around the events the school has."



Matt Topp
senior, criminal justice

"Yes. We have school spirit. I'm on the sailing team, and I see it in the team."



Havah Cohn-Mitchell
senior, anthropology

"I think so. The community as a whole has spirit."



Michael Bennett
senior, electronic engineering

"It does at times, but mostly when the sports are good."



Kelly Wendles
senior, graphic design/marketing

"No. School spirit is based on sports, and everyone that goes to them just hangs out."

Jihad, terror in English translation



Guest Column

Robert Thomas

Any given word is followed by certain connotative definitions that are often more powerful than the denotative meaning.

Associations provide the basis for the ideas, opinions and emotions that a word provokes.

It is possible, and done all too frequently, for people to hijack words in order to create certain meanings in the public eye that are more suitable for their cause.

For example, the simple utterance of Islam, for some, arouses feelings of terror. In truth, Islam is nothing more than a monotheistic religion with a core set of beliefs closely related to those of Christianity or Judaism.

However, it is often categorized as a religion typified by hate based solely on irrational emotions drummed up by a fear-mongering elite, many who have it in their own self-interest to incite such feelings.

These people create innumerable negative connotations behind Islam's most essential and fundamentally nonviolent pillar.

In this respect, the term "jihad" has undergone an alteration in meaning for Western individuals

as it is taken out of the religious context from which it originates. "Jihad," as denoted in the all-knowing lexicon of the English language, Merriam-Webster's Dictionary, is "a holy war waged on behalf of Islam as a religious duty."

For many in the Western world, this scary word recalls horrific images of Sept. 11 or of extremists hanging off of humvees wielding RPGs in a remote desert somewhere in the Middle East or al-Qaeda members covered by traditional dress.

These are the connotations that have been instilled in many in regards to the religion of Islam and the term "jihad." Stereotypes such as those above are promulgated through falsehoods in the media as well general everyday understanding in America and other Western countries.

Just as radical groups such as the Ku Klux Klan have hijacked Christian values to use as justification for their own acts of terror, various off-shoots of Islam have commandeered fundamental ideals of the religion and suggested principles aggression rather than peace.

An increasing number of Muslims believe, however, that a shroud of zealous, religious warfare hides the true, spiritual meaning of "jihad."

Jihad does indeed entail waging war in the name of Islam, but it is a war within each believer's own self. It calls upon all Muslims to

fight the oppressive forces that can consequently torment believers, in turn keeping them from entering Jannah, the Islamic perception of paradise after death. At its root, the association that "jihad" entails waging holy war against non-believers is simply propaganda to recruit and promote the idea of Islam being an evil, oppressive religion.

MyJihad, a public education campaign bearing the slogan "Taking back Islam from Muslim & non-Muslim extremists alike," describes jihad in a much more befitting manner: "Jihad is a central tenet of the Islamic creed which means 'struggling in the way of God'...As Muslims, we are taught to put forth a concerted and noble effort against injustice, hate, misunderstanding, war, violence, poverty, hunger, abuse or whatever challenge big or small we face in daily life, with the purpose of getting to a better place."

It is with this association that we are able to truly see the peaceful intentions behind the religion practiced by nearly 25 percent of the world's population.

And it is also with this alternate connotation of "jihad" that Americans are able to understand the ability for eloquence and language manipulation to affect public opinion.

MyJihad's major objective is to enlighten people about the misconceptions perpetrated by those with influence that run afoul with the basic principles of Islam.

Gerrymandering unjust Political move hurts Americans



Guest Column

Ellen Lindholm

According to the Constitution of the United States, the census has one fundamental purpose: to ensure that the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives reflects the relative size of each state's population.

Each congressional district is to be equal in population to all other congressional districts in the State, based on the decennial census counts.

The number and geographic placement of congressional districts in each state often change after the census depending on population shifts.

After, the number of seats assigned to the individual states is determined.

This is called apportionment. The task of drawing the new congressional districts is generally given to each state legislature.

Currently there are 435 representatives divided among the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Each representative is elected by the voters of a congressional district and defined as an area established by law for the election of representatives to the U.S. Congress.

For the 222 years America has been counting its citizens, the political party in power has had the power to redraw districts in a way that favors their candidates in an election.

Insiders have known how powerful redistricting can be for elected officials.

It can protect friends of the legislature and undermine those who oppose their views.

It's a blood sport, and both parties are guilty of joining in the laceration of our sacred tradition of representative democracy and, therefore, minimizing the role of voters in the political process.

By gerrymandering districts, legislators and their political peers have used redistricting to choose who will win the election before voters have had the opportunity to choose a candidate from either party.

The results of the 2012 election were directly affected by the redistricting in the 30 states with total Republican control.

The politicians who have the privilege of drawing a district's boundaries decide how they can cause the results to favor their party, even if it means putting the majority of voters

on the losing side in elections. Democrats running for seats in the House of Representatives in the 2012 election received 1.4 million more votes than Republicans.

The result, however, was the Republican control of 234 seats to the 201 seats held by Democrats.

When someone plays a game and keeps losing, they want to change the rules. This is what is happening in politics across the nation.

Sore losers in Virginia, Ohio, Florida, Illinois, Texas, Arizona, Michigan, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin have introduced legislation that uses these gerrymandered districts to decide how the electoral college votes could be divided between candidates.

If this idea gains popularity across the nation, electoral college votes would be distributed to the candidate relative to the number of districts they won in that state.

According to the results of the 2012 election, if this practice had been used in Virginia during the 2012 election, nine of Virginia's electoral votes would have been given to Romney and four would be given to Obama.

Even though Obama won the majority vote in that state by 150,000 votes, he would not receive the full support of that state in the electoral college.

If this had been implemented nationwide, Obama would have ended up losing the election to Romney by a margin of 11 electoral votes.

This takes gerrymandering to an extreme.

It is accepted and, in many ways, shameless for politicians to use these tactics, but using them to undermine our electoral college is going to far.

These gerrymandered districts have even become so visually distorted that they look more like islands of the South Pacific than a region of the United States.

These redrawn districts would leave about 50 seats in the house up for grabs for the next seven years.

The apportionment of congressional districts should not be determined by partisan politics. Our politicians should play by the rules.

If one politician's ideas really are better than another's the people of this great nation will be able to see that.

Cheating never makes anyone feel like they've won.

Our politicians should play fair for the sake of democracy, their constituents and America's future.

Black History Month celebrates social progress



Guest Column

Jessica Sattler

the establishment of the month was a hard-fought battle of black activists against the United States government.

Black History Month serves as a vessel through which we can both reflect back upon our nation's dark history and recognize how far we've come in terms of racial equality.

White Americans have never faced the struggles of discrimination and racial violence of minority groups such as blacks, Hispanics and Asians. There is little in white history that can even remotely relate to the problems racial minorities face in America and other predominantly-white countries every day, and absolutely nothing in white history can compare with the many years of slavery and oppression of the black race in America.

However far we have come as a nation, there is still a long road ahead of us and ignoring the problem of racism will not make it go away. To tell a person of color that you are "colorblind" or that you "don't see race" is to say you refuse to acknowledge a people's cultural identity and ignore the repression of those people.

"Colorblindness" is inherently problematic and merely another form of racism designed to strip the identity of our fellow Americans. Clearly, this is not the solution.

As Carter G. Woodson, the father of Black History Month, said "If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world and it stands in danger of being exterminated."

The only way to combat racism in the United States is to learn from our past mistakes. Black History Month brings this history to the forefront of national attention, forcing the white majority of our country to acknowledge the racial issues of our past and the issues that we still face today. Americans have to recognize our differences in cultural background and histories and work with them, not against them.

Black history is American history. This nation was built from the backs of immigrants, whether in the form of slaves or indentured workers. However irksome this thought may be, especially to those white Americans who feel guilty of the crimes of their ancestors, Americans must realize that discrimination still happens every day in this country and casual disregard will not solve these problems.

Black History Month is here not only as a time of reflection but of action. Ignoring slavery did not free an entire race from incarceration. Ignoring inequalities did not win the fight for civil rights. Ignoring racism will not make it go away.

There is no White History Month and there never should be. Dedicating certain months to celebrate the historic figures and events of minorities does not reinforce racism.

In 1776, Thomas Jefferson first penned the phrase "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal" in the Declaration of Independence, setting down the principles that would guide the newly born American nation.

Martin Luther King Jr. echoed these words, the creed of the United States, in his famous "I Have a Dream" speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963, 100 years after Abraham Lincoln himself spoke the same words in his Gettysburg Address.

Black History Month was created to acknowledge and bring awareness to the importance of Black Americans in our country's history, emphasize contributions to our society today and recognize the struggles of the black people - even

MALCOLM X TO BARACK OBAMA: *Celebrating America's Black Culture*

By Crystal Nutt
staff writer

In celebration of Black History Month, two very important guests will be speaking at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 19 in the Great Lakes Room of the University Center.

The daughter of Malcolm X, Ilyasah Shabazz will be speaking about her memoir "Growing Up X: A Memoir by the Daughter of Malcolm X" and what her life was like growing up in the shadow of her father's legacy.

Ta-Nehisi Coates, a senior editor for *The Atlantic*, will also be giving a presentation about race in America and the future of black culture.

The Black Student Union, Platform Personalities, Student Finance Committee and Multicultural Education Resource Center are sponsoring this event.

This is the Black Student Union's first successful year at bringing this and the other Black History Month events to campus said Taylor Johnson, co-president of the Black Student Union.

Johnson said the Black Student Union has been around for 10 to 15 years, but this is the first time they have had sponsored events. "We started planning towards the end of November and we got the budget from the student finance committee in December," Johnson said. "I'm extremely excited."

Platform Personalities faculty adviser Rachel Harris said Platform Personalities and the Black Student Union decided to partner together last semester.

"We wanted to bring speakers for Black History Month, and we had similar goals," Harris said. "It's been great, this collaboration; it's great for both

groups and the community." The second co-president of the Black Student Union Liddia Wells said she is also excited.

"It took a long time to find the perfect person (Shabazz)," Wells said. She said she expects a good turn-out for the event.

"I expect a fair crowd, not super big because it's new," Wells said.

Johnson and Wells said the Tuesday, Feb. 19 event and the other events taking place are important to go to because they raise awareness.

"It brings awareness to our culture, to what we do and what we stand for," Wells said. "It brings awareness to campus and community. Our main focus is to educate."

Harris said events like this help the community, especially one that is isolated in the Upper Peninsula.

"It helps you relate to

different cultural backgrounds," Harris said. "Not everyone has had a lot of exposure...The more you learn about others, the more self-aware you are."

Johnson said the group received funding from the Student Finance Committee, the Multicultural Resource Center and NMU President David Haynes. Haynes is a strong advocate for diversity, according to Wells and Harris.

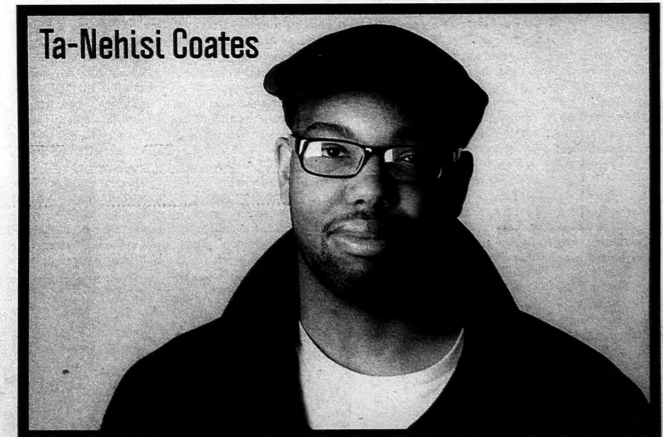
The presentation is free for students and \$2 for the general public, Harris said. "We want people to be exposed to this too; we need the community to get the experiences," Harris said.

"I think both speakers are wonderful and exciting and it's an important topic. [Students should] take an advantage of these opportunities on campus."

For more information, visit www.nmu.edu/BlackHistory.



Ilyasah Shabazz



Ta-Nehisi Coates



All Nations Club cooks up tastes of the globe

By Nolan Krebs
features editor

From the Third St. Village to downtown Washington Street, Marquette has a number of options for grabbing a bite.

Local staples can make finding good food quick and easy, but those looking to diversify their palates may find it at the All Nations Club International Food Fest on Saturday, Feb. 16.

The annual event is in its 23rd year, bringing together national dishes from countries around the world. Sharing a culture's food can be the first step to discovering something new, said All Nations Club president Young Seuk Cho.

"Food is an easy way to introduce someone to another culture or country," Cho said. "Trying different cuisines from a different world makes people want to un-

derstand their culture more."

In 2012, the All Nations Club served around 250 people with 16 different dishes, Cho said. According to the NMU student organizations website, the All Nations Club is a conglomerate of international students attending NMU.

With nearly 110 students from 34 different countries, the group aims to "create cultural understanding among the Marquette community by organizing the International Food Fest, giving presentations about different countries, and uniting students together to make them feel more comfortable in a different cultural environment."

Part of the festival's intent, Cho said, is introducing the community to the cultures of international students on campus.

Cho said he noticed something interesting when students from

Spain gave a presentation earlier this year and brought in food samples for people to try: sharing food opened the group up to immediate conversation.

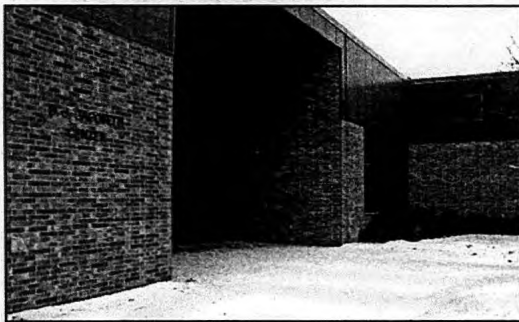
"In All Nations Club, we meet people from a lot of different backgrounds," Cho said. "One of the most interesting things about it is how happy talking about their food makes people."

Among the dishes being served are currywurst from Germany, hummus from Arabic countries, Chinese Coke chicken, Japanese pork cutlets, Bulgogi from South Korea and fried rice noodles with beef and bean sprouts from China. For dessert, Basbousa from Egypt and the Latin American dish flan will be served.

Senior photography major Andrew Jensen, who attended the festival last year, said the event is a great way to try international foods that may have previously been of your radar.



Photo courtesy of Center for Student Enrichment
The All Nations Club organizes events throughout the year for both international students and members of the community to promote different cultures around the NMU campus.



Kristen Koehler/NW

The annual International Food Fest will be held in the Jacobetti building.

"A lot of people have had Americanized versions of different foods, but that's pretty much a shām," Jensen said. "You have to dig a little deeper for the real deal."

Jensen said his favorite dishes from previous years have typically been Asian recipes.

"There's a lot of diversity among the foods but the Asian [dishes] pretty much rule," Jensen said. "It's great to learn about the cultures around campus that you

might have not gotten to hang out with before."

The All Nations International Food Fest will be held from 4 to 6:30 p.m. at the Jacobetti Center.

Tickets in advance are \$5 for students and \$11 for the public, and \$8 for students and \$14 for the public at the door.

For more information about the International Food Festival or other All Nations Club events, call Tony Tollefson at (906) 227-2509 or email tollefs@nmu.edu.

Grammy Awards offer both live performances and competition

By Jordan Beck
staff writer

What makes for a truly great night at the Grammys may vary from person to person.

Some say what defines the ceremony is the competition between artists to win the top prize in music. Others insist that the live acts truly make or break the show.

Fortunately, both sides were better than average at the 2013 Grammy Awards, with surprising nominees on the ballot and stunning performances on the main stage.

One of the reasons that the 2013 Grammys stood out from the pack was the competitive, varied list of artists nominated for Album of the Year. Candidates included Frank Ocean's downtempo odyssey "Channel Orange," the pure pop of fun.'s blockbuster "Some Nights," the hook-heavy rock offered by the Black Keys' "El Camino" and Jack White's "Blunderbuss."

However, the night's big winner was British folk-rock band Mumford and Sons, who took home the gold for sophomore album "Babel."

The smaller categories weren't without competition either. In the race for Best Pop Vocal Album,

Kelly Clarkson's "Stronger" beat out the likes of Florence + the Machine and P!nk. Breakthrough artists fun. and Gotye picked up two and three Grammys respectively. While the Black Keys missed out on winning Album of the Year, they still walked away with four trophies — more than any other artist this year.

When it comes to the Grammys, however, the prizes are only half the story. For many viewers, the real attraction was the night's profusion of performances by established acts and up-and-comers — and this year delivered some seriously memorable live moments. On the pop side of things, fun.'s debut Grammy performance was a standout, thanks to an unexpected song choice.

"I was really excited when fun. did their song 'Carry On,' because it wasn't 'Some Nights' or 'We Are Young' like most people thought it would be," said freshman English major Kendra Klein.

The Black Keys provided one of the show's greatest highlights with a version of their biggest hit to date, "Lonely Boy." In an inspired move, the band brought New Orleans blues legend Dr. John and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band along for the ride, putting a fresh twist on a beloved single.

Another artist who attracted attention for rearranging his own material was Frank Ocean, who played a stripped-down take of "Forrest Gump" on electric piano near the end of the show.

Justin Timberlake also made a live comeback, playing "Suit & Tie," complete with a Jay-Z cameo and the previously-unreleased track "Pusher Love Girl." In keeping with the retro vibe of "Suit & Tie," the first section of JT's set was broadcast in sepia.

It just wouldn't be a Grammy show without a tribute performance or two. One of this year's

biggest was in honor of Bob Marley, which featured Bruno Mars, Sting, Rihanna and Damien and Ziggy Marley.

Along with late-career Bob Marley favorite "Could You Be Loved," the tribute featured two songs indebted to reggae: "Walking on the Moon" by The Police and "Locked Out of Heaven" by Bruno Mars.

This wasn't the only time that the 2013 Grammys honored legends of the past. While an all-star tribute to The Band's Levon Helm was lower-key than the energetic Bob Marley segment, it was no

less powerful for fans. The performance, which featured Elton John, was also one of the night's highlights, said senior English major Olivia Koepf.

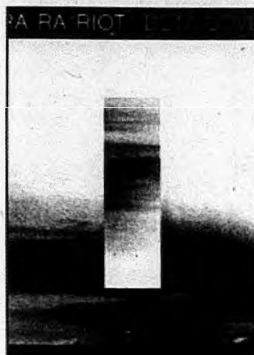
"That was a really cool performance," Koepf said.

In addition, Jack White's massive "Blunderbuss" medley, the birth of Taylor Swift's Gaga phase and Carrie Underwood's bizarre projector-dress are sure to have people talking. Whether tuned in for live performances or the awards themselves, the Grammys seem able to deliver something for everyone.



Photo courtesy of Warner Bros. Records
Blues rockers The Black Keys from Ohio took home four Grammy Awards, including Best Rock Performance.

Ra Ra Riot moves forward with concept album



Album: Beta Love

Artist: Ra Ra Riot

Release Date: January 22

Label: Barsuk Records

Runtime: 30:15



By John LaPine
contributing writer

After the 2012 departure of founding member and cellist Alexandra Lawn, Ra Ra Riot fans and music media outlets alike questioned the future of the Syracuse, N.Y.-based group.

However, as guitarist Milo Bonacci would accurately predict, Lawn leaving did not mark the end of the band's '80s-inspired indie pop.

Ra Ra Riot's third studio album, "Beta Love," is the first release since Lawn left the band nearly one year ago. However, the album features the same catchy

electronic beats, falsetto vocals from lead singer Wes Miles and deep new-wave roots that listeners have come to expect from the band.

Despite the sugary sweet pop melodies, the concept album's content reaches beyond the superficial: an android who has fallen in love—and with a human, of all love interests—and the emotional strife that comes along with the feelings.

"Dance With Me" opens with a piano riff and soaring vocals reminiscent of fellow baroque pop band fun. before breaking into a terribly danceable chorus. "Come and dance with me, bitter-sweet fool," Miles sings, alluding to the prevalent motif of dark lyrics over upbeat tunes.

"Binary Mind" explores the intricate mechanics of a robot in love. "Tell me why I wanna read you with this binary mind," wonders the android. "Cause if I do/I'm sure that we'll be complete...so I can forget how lonely feels."

The titular track continues the unrequited, hopeless romantic musings of the hero of "Beta Love": "I might be a prototype but we're both real inside/In this city of robot hearts/ours were meant to beat."

Miles' auto-tuned crooning in "Is It Too Much" introduces the slower side to the album.

In "For Once," Ra Ra Riot seems to channel Daft Punk with a two-word chorus. In fact, the track takes inspiration from a number of pop and electronic artists before it; the bridge features a Vampire Weekend-esque guitar, and the track calls back to the melancholy-pop mood created by The Postal Service on their 2003 album "Give Up."

The head-bobbing synth returns—this time interlaced with violin—in "Angel, Please," the track that has the most chance of becoming a surprise hit single with its simple lyrics and ultra-catchy chorus.

While performing "What I Do for U," Miles must feel some nostalgia for Discovery—his side project with Vampire Weekend's

Rostam Batmanglij—as its distorted and incomprehensible Vocoder vocals and synthetic noise-pop beats could easily be a B-side to the 2009's "LP."

Miles gives voice to the robotic hero again in the synth-laden ballad "When I Dream," surrendering to the fact that robot-human relationships don't work out: "When I dream, it's not of you/I run but you follow/drop to my knees but you haunt me more."

During the album's climax, the down-tempo "Wilderness" evokes a feeling of emotional despair.

"You will share your best/I will do the same through this wilderness/Oh, why, friend/Don't

share the pain," Miles sings.

The final track, "I Shut Off," marks the return of the dance sound and ambiguously dark lyrics: "Who wants a human love/A death trap/A suicide club/I do," Miles sings over upbeat music.

Any naysayers who predicted the departure of Ra Ra Riot's founding member to be the harbinger of the band's dissolution were certainly wrong in their expectations.

While it might be a fallacy to expect any track from "Beta Love" to crop up on a list by "Billboard" or Ryan Seacrest, Ra Ra Riot has definitely not lost their knack for crafting catchy indie pop tracks.



Photo courtesy of Ra Ra Riot
Ra Ra Riot is an indie pop foursome formed in Syracuse, N.Y. in 2006.

Tim Harris

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My Bloody Valentine returns after 22 years



Album: m b v

Artist: My Bloody Valentine

Release Date: February 2

Label: Pickpocket Records

Runtime: 46:37



By Jordan Beck
staff writer

For a few hours on Saturday, Feb. 2, an indie band called My Bloody Valentine was a bigger deal than the Super Bowl.

It sounds crazy, but it's true. On Twitter's list of the most popular trending topics that evening, "#MBV" was number one with a bullet. Meanwhile, on the band's Facebook page, fans posted dozens of comments per minute.

Once the new album that caused all this discussion was uploaded to MBV's official website, the sheer amount of people trying to access the page caused a near-instantaneous server crash.

So, how did a group that hadn't released anything since the early '90s throw the Internet into complete and utter chaos? Well, that's just it: the release of My Bloody Valentine's new album marked the end of a decades-long wait for fans.

Back in 1991, the group released their classic, genre-defining second LP "Loveless," which put the noisily ethereal style of rock known as "shoegaze" on the map. But lead vocalist/guitarist/producer Kevin Shields' chronic perfectionism kept MBV from releasing anything else — that is, until last Saturday night.

After 22 years, My Bloody Valentine is back, with an album simply titled "m b v." Yes, it's supposed to be in lowercase. So are the track titles. However, now

that the social media circus surrounding the release of "m b v" has become a thing of the past, one question remains: is the actual album any good?

Fortunately, the answer is "yes." It might take awhile to get used to "m b v," though. It's an oddly-structured record, kicking off with its sleepest tracks before building towards a psychotically energetic coda. Taken in one sitting, "m b v" is a slow-motion sucker punch that'll leave you dazed, confused and wanting to relive the experience immediately.

And it really does start slowly. In fact, gorgeous opener "she found now" might be one of the most muted tracks in My Bloody Valentine's entire discography, consisting entirely of whispering guitars and hushed singing. While subsequent songs "only tomorrow" and "who sees you" bring the intensity level up a few notches, they still have a tranquil vibe.

That sense of peace lasts until would-be single "new you," which was known as "Rough Song" when it was played live a week before the album's release.

The tune transforms murmured vocals (courtesy of the band's other singer, Bilinda Butcher), a synth bassline and a few unpredictable chord changes into bubblegum gold.

If you're looking for an introduction to My Bloody Valentine's music, this song is a fantastic place to start.

However, "new you" isn't the highlight of "m b v." That honor is shared by the final three tracks: "in another way," "nothing is" and "wonder 2." Together, they form a drum-and-bass suite of sorts, sacrificing the atmospheric bliss which defines the rest of the album on the altar of pure, brutal rhythm.

"Suite" is the operative word here, as these songs are so closely linked that it's almost impossible to make sense of one without the context the other two provide. While this section isn't anything

like the rest of "m b v," it's a mind-obliterating ending to a tremendous record.

Before "m b v" was unleashed, the consensus among some fans was that nothing the band put out could possibly live up to "Loveless." And, in a sense, "m b v" doesn't — it's not going to change the music world like that album did. Taken on its own merits, though, it delivers.

It's an audacious, exploratory work that captures not how "Loveless" sounds, but how it makes you feel. The result is one of 2013's first essential albums, made by a band many listeners thought would never record another note. Your move, Bowie.



Photo courtesy of My Bloody Valentine
My Bloody Valentine is recognized as one of the first "shoegaze" bands.

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Big loss to Tech follows Bulldog split

Penalties bring defeat for 'Cats after first season shutout at home

By Cody Boyer
sports editor

The NMU hockey team travelled to Houghton, Mich. this week to face-off in a non-conference game against the Huskies after splitting their weekend at home against Ferris State, losing to Michigan Tech with the largest scoring difference since 1997.

The Wildcats hit the road on Tuesday, Feb. 12 to take on the Huskies, falling to a record score of 8-2. Over the weekend, the 'Cats stayed home to take on the Ferris State Bulldogs, splitting the series with a 3-1 loss on Friday, Feb. 8 and a 3-0 victory on Saturday, Feb. 9. The team is now 6-12-4-1 in the CCHA and 12-13-4 overall.

NMU head coach Walt Kyle said the weekend leading up to the game against Tech was a better show of the Wildcats' abilities.

"I thought it was a good weekend," Kyle said. "We had a number of great opportunities on Friday night, but we weren't able to score. On Saturday, the pucks went in for us. I thought we were tighter defensively on the second night, as well. The guys brought forth a lot of energy on Saturday. I'm never happy at losing at home, but there was a good quality of play."

On Tuesday, the Wildcats started from behind during the first two periods as they gave

up four goals in each. The game marked the first time since Oct. 18, 1997 in which NMU gave up eight goals to MTU.

Junior forward Erik Higby put one past Husky goaltender Phoenix Copley at 8:59 into the first period. Assisting Higby's shot was senior defenseman Scott Macaulay. Junior forward Jake Johnson scored his goal with 50 seconds left in the game, tallying the final goal of the game. Johnson's goal was assisted by sophomore defensemen Jake Baker and Nathan Taurence.

Junior goaltender Jared Coreau tallied 14 saves between the pipes. Freshman goaltender Michael Doan replaced Coreau during the first period following three consecutive Husky goals, saving nine more shots. Coreau replaced Doan to close out the game.

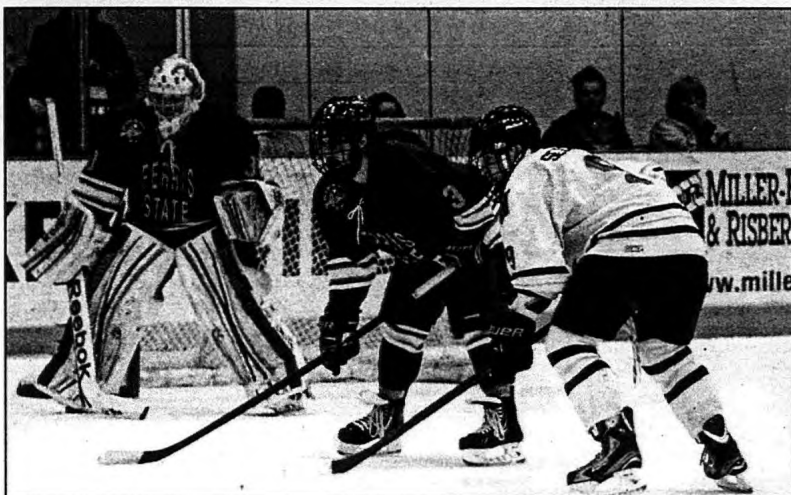
NMU tallied nine penalties versus Tech for a total of 29 minutes, while Tech tallied five.

On Saturday, Feb. 9, the Wildcats earned their first shutout of the season against Ferris with a score of 3-0. Coreau said the first shutout was a welcome change after a three-game losing streak.

"This is something that you work for every night," Coreau said. "It's only my second shutout in my college career, so they don't happen very often."

Sophomore forward Mitch Jones put the 'Cats on the scoreboard 8:09 into the game with a shot from senior forward Kory Kaunisto and junior defenseman CJ Ludwig. The goal was Jones' first of the season.

Jones said changing up the lines and trying new tactics played a big factor in the week-



Kristen Kochler/NW
Sophomore forward Reed Seckel (9) earned his eighteenth career goal during the first game against Ferris State University on Friday, Feb. 8. Seckel tallied a personal season-high of eight shots in one game on Saturday, Feb. 9.

end's series.

"We have been trying some different players in new places," Jones said. "We have been hoping that would pay off and it finally did. We are all confident, but, in the back of your mind, when you are not producing, it takes a toll on you. I think we did better on the powerplays, as well."

Sophomore forward Reed Seckel scored the second goal during the second period of the game, assisted by senior forward Matt Thurber and freshman forward Darren Nowick. Junior forward Stephan Vigier closed out the night's scoring with his fifth of the season. Assisting the shot was Jones and Thurber.

The Wildcats outshot the Bulldogs 33-19, with Ferris goaltender CJ Motte saving 30 shots in

the crease. According to NMU Press Box, Coreau's only other shutout in his CCHA career was at Bowling Green on Feb. 11, 2012.

On Friday, Feb. 8, the 'Cats took a loss of 3-1 away from the Berry in their opening game against Ferris.

Kyle said while the 'Cats could not capitalize on opportunities during the first night, the actual game was a good match-up.

"I thought it was a good effort," Kyle said. "It is easy to get mad when you lose, but I always try to judge quality of play. We gave them seven shots in the last two periods and one of them was the empty-net goal. We had some opportunities. We just didn't capitalize on them."

The Bulldogs started off the

game with a two goal lead going into the second, clinching the game with a third goal in an open net. During the third period, freshman forward Ryan Ansley earned the Wildcats' only goal of the night and his third of the season. Vigier assisted Ansley's goal.

Motte stopped 24 shots in the Ferris crease, while Coreau stopped 18 for NMU.

The Wildcats return to CCHA gameplay next week when they travel to East Lansing to play Michigan State University. On Friday, Feb. 15, the game will be broadcasted on the Big Ten Network at 6:35 p.m. On Saturday, Feb. 16, the game will be televised on Fox Sports Detroit at 7:35 p.m. in commemoration of Wildcat Night Across the County.

Men's club team makes NMU history

By Georgette Breen-Naylor
contributing writer

A win, a loss and a game that had to be decided in extra periods kept the 'Cats with their hands full this weekend.

The men's club hockey team played three games this past weekend in the WCCHA Tournament starting with a game against UW Eau Claire on Friday, Feb. 8. While the 'Cats will have a chance to play in the upcoming regional tournament, they still have two regular season games left to finish.

With goals from senior forward Kellen Michalak, sophomore forward Wolff Belanger, freshman Karsten Heppler and freshman forward Brock Francis, the 'Cats beat UW Eau Claire 6-1. However, the 'Cats only managed to score one goal in the second game against St. Cloud State, losing 4-1.

Sophomore goaltender Jeff

Ryan said he saw, first hand, how the offense did in the first game and what went wrong in the second.

"I think we just found a way to score in the first game," Ryan said. "For some reason, we just couldn't find the back of the net as much as we would've liked in the second game."

The final game of the 'Cats' three game weekend was played shortly after their game against St. Cloud State, against Waldorf State on Saturday, Feb. 9 at 9:45 p.m.

Waldorf State took the 'Cats into overtime, but a goal from senior defense Shane Feehery gave the 'Cats a win with a score of 3-2.

After losing to St. Cloud State, the 'Cats came back to get a win against Waldorf State. NMU head coach Carl Trosien said he had a much better effort from his team in the third game.

"We made Waldorf play the

game how we wanted it played," Trosien said. "We played hard in game two, but we lacked the team effort we had in game three."

After winning two games out of three, the 'Cats earned a spot in the regional tournament.

Trosien said he is impressed with the improvements the team has made throughout the season. For the first time in school history, the 'Cats have qualified for the regional tournament.

"We are one of 32 teams left in over four regions," Trosien said. "This is huge for us."

On Sunday, Feb. 10, Trosien said that the 'Cats will be playing the program's first regional tournament.

"I think the way the team has become a family has been huge for us," Trosien said. "It's an improvement people don't know about unless they are with us."

Sophomore right wing Ben Hughes said because the 'Cats do not play three games in one week-

end often, it does wear the team down.

"It's one more game for injuries to occur," Hughes said. "If that's what we have to do to get to regionals, than that's what we have to do."

Although the 'Cats' only loss of the weekend was in the Conference Semi-Final against St. Cloud State, Trosien said he was still very proud of the team.

"We came back that evening and played a very good Waldorf team," said Trosien. "We had a solid bounce back game and really played the best hockey of the weekend."

Ryan leads the ACHA in wins and Trosien said he has proven to everyone that he is one of the best goalies in the conference.

"He has been a huge part of our success," Trosien said. "We are so proud of him."

We made Waldorf play the game how we wanted it played. We played hard in game two, but we lacked the team effort we had in game three.

— Carl Trosien
NMU head coach

Before the 'Cats pack up for their regional tournament, they have a few games of their regular season to finish.

With the Regional Tournament starting in two weeks, the 'Cats will have a limited amount of time to prepare.

They have to win two games at regionals and five games at nationals to win the National Championship.

The 'Cats will finish their season Friday, Feb. 15 and Saturday, Feb. 16 against Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Mich.

Runners compete in GVSU Big Meet

Wildcats earn Top-50 finishes against 84 universities in Allendale

By William Burns
staff writer

The Northern Michigan University track and field team was

in Allendale, Mich., competing in the GVSU Big Meet on Friday, Feb. 8 and Saturday, Feb. 9, where the 'Cats had 20 athletes make Top-50 finishes during the

two-day event.

Northern arrived at the Kelly Family Sports Center to compete along with 84 other schools and about 1,700 athletes taking part in the event. Among the schools competing were No. 1 Grand Valley State, No. 10 Saginaw Valley State and No. 20 Ferris State.

Senior captain Delaney Lovett said the team is coming together and hitting their stride at the right time and is happy with how the season is shaping up before they take part in the conference championship.

"Overall, we are all really proud of how each girl did," Lovett said. "We are hoping that this positive energy will transfer over to how we perform at the GLIAC."

In the one-mile run, sophomore Larissa Halonen placed 13th with a time of 5:16.64. Sophomore Kelsey Noah took 42nd place with a time of 5:50.49. Freshman Catherine Swiderski followed up right behind Noah in 43rd place after running for a time of 5:51.36.

In the 3,000-meter run, five Wildcats took part in the event. Junior Mallory Celaya ran for a time of 10:37.92 and took 16th, while junior Chelsea Farquhar took 20th with a time of 10:47.64.

Senior Rita Woitas finished 29th with a time of 11:02.87, while sophomore Emily Allen finished just behind her in 30th

after running for a time of 11:03.46. Senior Brittany Loomis placed 45th with a time of 11:38.06. Farquhar also competed in the 5,000-meter on Friday, Feb. 8 and took 54th in the event after finishing with a time of 18:36.75. She said it was interesting that she took part in both the 3,000-meter run and the 5,000-meter run at the same meet.

"A few of us weren't planning on running in the 5,000-meter run," Farquhar said. "Coach Hicks threw a few more of us in the event and it was a bit of a challenge to see if we could recover in time for the 3,000-meter run."

In the field events, junior Cheyenne Stewart took ninth place in the high jump with a leap of five feet, three inches. Stewart also placed 22nd in the long jump with leap of 4.90 meters. Lovett placed 12th in the triple jump with a jump of 10.65 meters.

The distance medley team earned 19th after racing for a time of 12:58.62. Halonen, sophomore Katie Granquist, freshman Jaylee Brown and junior Evelyne Ruiz were representing Northern for the event.

In the 200-meter dash, senior Colby West placed 31st with a time of 26.44 seconds. Sophomore

"We enjoy every second of competing, traveling on the road and making great memories with friends."

— Larissa Halonen
sophomore long-distance runner

Brittini Wirtz finished 32nd with a time of 26.46 seconds. West also took 26th place in 400-meter dash with a time of 59.96 seconds, and Wirtz earned herself a 19th place finish in the 60-meter dash after running a time of 7.83 seconds. In the 800-meter run, Katie Granquist took 28th after running for a time of 2:22.47. Sophomore Abby Roche placed 48th with a time of 2:27.58, and sophomore Caitlin Keskey was 50th after running a time of 2:28.06.

The Wildcats will return home this weekend to host their one and only home meet at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16 at the Superior Dome.

Halonen said while a break would be nice, it is the girls' love for the sport that keeps them motivated throughout the busy season.

"We do what we do because we know it is worth it and we love it," Halonen said. "We enjoy every second of competing, traveling on the road and making some great memories with friends."



Justin Key/NW

Junior Mandy Dye (left) placed first in the one-mile run at last year's Northern Challenge. Sophomore Larissa Halonen (right) placed second.

'Cats take third place at GLIAC finals

By Cody Boyer
sports editor

After four days of competing on the road, the NMU swimming and diving team concluded their appearance at the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship with a third-place finish against nine other teams.

The Wildcats travelled to Canton, Ohio on Wednesday, Feb. 6 to compete in the 2013 GLIAC Championship.

The 'Cats accumulated 512

points during the four-day event, defeating seven other teams, such as Grand Valley State University (465.5), Hillsdale College (359.5) and Ashland University (338.5).

NMU head coach Heidi Voigt also claimed the title of "Dewey Newsome" Coach of the Year following Saturday's finals.

Voigt said her team performed better than they have in recent championships to take third place and capitalized on their performances at the end of the week.

"We finished in our highest

place in a long time," Voigt said. "As the events went on, we just kept getting better and better. The girls swam great."

The 'Cats competed in 42 events during the competition, taking third behind second-place Indianapolis (554.5) and first-place Wayne State (861.5). The team also acquired two GLIAC champions after the third day.

"We were placing highly in a lot of different events," Voigt said. "We had four athletes who finished in the top 16 in the breaststroke, and (sophomore) Madisen Sechena had the meet of her life in the 400-yard medley."

On Friday, Feb. 8, Sechena took first place in the 400-yard individual medley, breaking a school record with a time of 4:27.61 and becoming a GLIAC Champion. Sechena's performance qualified for an NCAA B cut time.

"I did a lot better than I did last year," Sechena said. "Still, everyone contributed throughout the team. We faced a lot of good teams."

Freshman Crystal Bennet earned a first place finish in the 100-meter butterfly with a time of 55.57 seconds, breaking a school record. She also placed fifth in

the 100-yard breaststroke. Both events earned Bennet two NCAA B cut times.

Another school record was broken in Friday's 400-yard medley relay, as senior Gabby Alzaga, Sechena, Bennet and sophomore Debbie Lawrence earned a B qualifying time of 3:49.01.

On Saturday, sophomore Molly Kearney took second place in the three-meter dive with a score of 447.85.

Sechena competed in the 200-meter breaststroke, taking third place with a time of 2:18.92.

Sechena said she came into all of her events focused, and everyone on the team did their part to prepare for the championship.

"The team, as a whole, did extremely well," Sechena said. "A lot of people had some of their best times, and everyone came together really well. I don't think I could have asked for that much more last week."

Several athletes earned NCAA B cut times as they passed a certain time or requirement in order to make it into the possible invite list for the NCAA Championship.

Alzaga contributed another second-place finish in the 200-yard backstroke, earning a time of 2:02.41 and an NCAA B cut time.

Sophomore Emily Bourguignon took seventh in the same event, followed by sophomore Taylor Grimm (10th). Grimm also competed in the 200-yard butterfly, placing 11th. Lawrence, Bourguignon, sophomore Tara Dowling and Bennet competed in the 400-yard freestyle relay, placing fourth with a time of 3:29.88.

Lawrence also competed in the 200-meter breaststroke, along with freshman Caitlyn Brendan. Both athletes earned NCAA B cut times.

Sophomore Jordan Iverson earned a B cut time when she finished fifth in the 1650-yard freestyle (17:36.27).

Voigt said many members of the team are waiting to see if they qualify for the NCAA Championship.

"After all of those performances, we are just playing a waiting game," Voigt said. "We should know in about 10 days. Kearney is already qualified, and we are looking at a few more who have great chances."

The Wildcats are awaiting final word on which athletes qualify for the NCAA Championships.

Athletes who qualify will hit the road on Tuesday, March 5 to travel to Cleveland, Ohio.



Justin Key/NW

Senior Gabby Alzaga took second place with her teammates in Friday's 400-yard medley relay. She also took seventh in the 200-yard backstroke.

Overtime struggle leads to home loss

By Katie Bultman
staff writer

The crowd was roaring in the final minutes of the women's basketball game between Northern Michigan and Ferris State as the teams went into overtime, leading to a loss for the 'Cats.

The Wildcats were down 70-73 when the final buzzer rang after an additional five minutes of playing time. They are currently tied with Saginaw for sixth in the GLIAC North Conference with a record of 8-9. The 'Cats are one game behind Northwood, who is currently 9-8.

Head coach Troy Mattson said it was a big game that proved to be just that, and, despite the youth of the team, the girls fought to the finish.

"It was a great game," Mattson said. "The people who came saw one heck of a ball game. There was a lot at stake here tonight, and (Ferris State's junior guard) Sarah DeShone stuck it in our back with those two threes and that's why she's one of the best. We made some incredibly tough plays in the second quarter and we're all freshman and sophomores. We're going in the right direction and playing tough ball for how young we are."

On Saturday, Feb. 9, the Wildcats trailed the Bulldogs throughout the first period. NMU went

into the locker room at the half with a six point deficit, 24-30.

In the second period, sophomore forward Brooke Coenen made a layup at 18:15 to tie the game at 30. From that point on, neither team led by no more than five points.

With 15 minutes left in the game, Ferris State's Sarah DeShone dropped a three-point shot to cut the Bulldog deficit down to two. The Wildcats held the lead 37-35. Sophomore guard Alyssa Colla made a run for the 'Cats by drawing several fouls and finishing at the line. Colla had 10 points in the second half and finished with a team high of 18 points.

Both teams continued to rack up points, and at the three-minute mark NMU was up 55-51.

The Wildcats made it to the line eight more times, and the remainder of the game the Wildcat's points came from free throws. Sophomore guard Lauren Gruber, sophomore forward Abbey DeBruin and Colla all contributed at the line.

Within the last minute of play, DeShone hit two three pointers to put the Bulldogs up 61-60 at 24 seconds.

DeBruin made a free throw with seven seconds left to tie the game. The ball was in possession of the Bulldogs for the last seconds of the game, and Ferris State

sent up a three-point shot at the

final buzzer. Gruber blocked the shot to leave the 'Cats tied with Ferris at 61, putting the teams into overtime.

Colla said the Wildcats needed to focus on defending the guards during those last few minutes of play if they wanted to leave with the win.

"We can't let their best player get three three-pointers off that," Colla said. "We should know better. Our defense was good up to that point, and it sucks, but we still have a chance at the tournament."

The teams went into a five minute overtime, and tied the score at 66 with 1:57 left on the clock. However, a three-point shot by Ferris State's Kylie Muntz put the Bulldogs up by one with 1:20 to play.

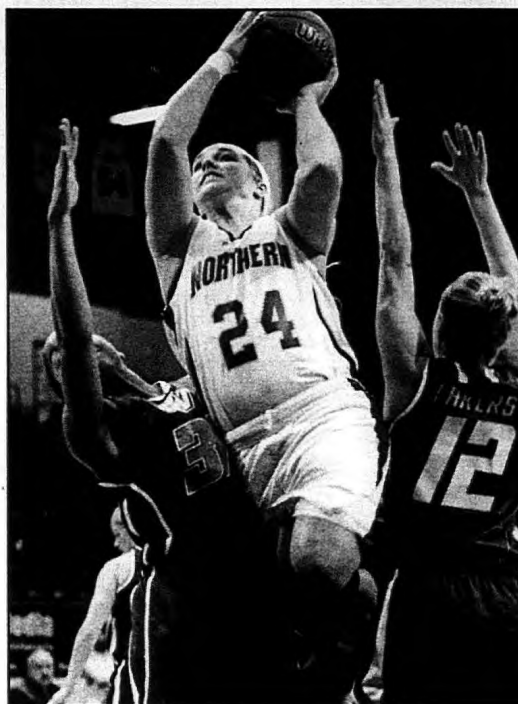
Colla put in a lay-up with six seconds left, but the game ended with a Wildcat loss, 70-73.

On Thursday, Feb. 7 the 'Cats lost 56-67 to Grand Valley State.

Colla scored a team-high 22 points and took down seven rebounds. Freshman guard Anna Liewen added 11 points and four rebounds. Gruber and DeBruin contributed an additional 10 points each.

DeBruin said the team faced a difficult stretch this weekend, but is prepared for future games.

"It's tough," DeBruin said. "We know we've got to get



Justin Key/NW
Freshman guard Anna Liewen contributed 11 points for the Wildcats on Thursday, Feb. 7. Liewen also tallied four rebounds against Ferris State.

tougher and get some wins no matter what it takes."

The Wildcats play at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 14 at Saginaw Valley State. They continue their

trek on the road at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16 at Wayne State.

"We stuck with it until the end," Gruber said. "You can't deny the effort."

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Bulldogs and Lakers thwart Wildcats

By Katie Bultman
staff writer

Injuries left the men's basketball team with a shortage of guards in games against top-ranked conference teams Grand Valley State and Ferris State.

On Saturday, Feb. 9, the Wildcat record sunk to 4-13 in conference play in a 63-69 loss to Ferris State University.

The 'Cats have faced injuries for a majority of the season. Most recently, the guard position has suffered, as sophomore Quinten Calloway was out on injury for Saturday's game versus Ferris State University.

Freshman guard Stephen Pelkofer, who tallied 11 points for the 'Cats, said the game is more difficult when a team has some of its guards sitting.

"It's tough when you don't have anyone consistently bringing up the ball," Pelkofer said. "[On Saturday], we got off to a slow start, and then we hung with them, but we couldn't close out. It

was a tough one."

Head coach Doug Lewis said the team needed to deny the ball handlers, but the 'Cats had a hard time defensively for the first half of the game.

"We couldn't handle their guards," Lewis said. "They have three of the better guards in the conference. If you look at the stats, 47 of their 69 points came from the three guards, and without containing them we pretty much didn't have a shot."

In the second half, sophomore forward Kendall Jackson sunk six out of six free throws to improve the Wildcat's point margin from the line. Jackson also added 17 points for the 'Cats over the course of the game, and grabbed four rebounds for the books.

Junior forward Matt Craggs led the 'Cats within a four point margin of the Bulldogs.

Late in the second half, Craggs dropped two layups and hit a three-point shot.

With 31 seconds left he sunk a free throw. The Wildcats were down 61-65 at that point, but were not able to surpass the Bulldogs for a win.

Craggs, who finished with eight rebounds and 14 points, said the team had a rough start but still finished the game on a

strong note.

"[Saturday] was a tough one," Craggs said. "We got off to a slow start but we were able to get some key stops at the end. We had effort, we were competing, and we never gave up."

The team took down ten defensive rebounds in the second half to strip Ferris State of second chance opportunities. NMU totaled 13 rebounds in the second half to trump Ferris by one.

In addition, the 'Cats outscored the Bulldogs by one in the second half, tallying the second period score to 39-38 in favor of NMU.

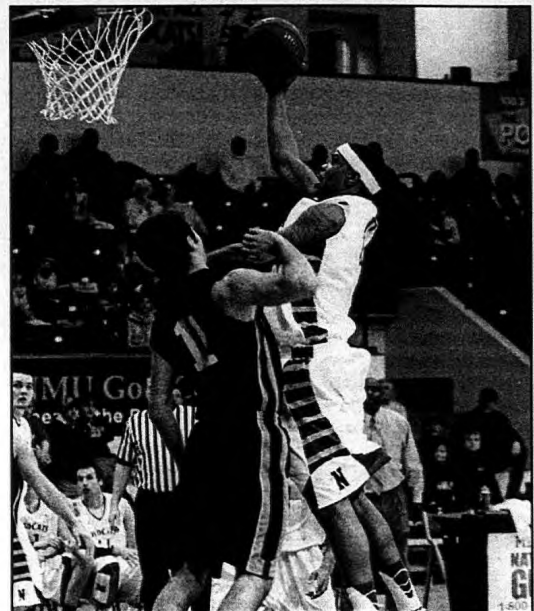
Lewis said the team did a good overall job on the floor and was able to hit the shots.

"When we did handle the pressure and got the ball inside we were able to score," Lewis said. "We shot 66 percent from the floor."

On Thursday, Feb. 7 the Wildcats lost 56-64 to Grand Valley. The Lakers are currently tied for second in conference play with Michigan Tech.

The game began as an even match between the two teams, as they left for halftime with NMU down by one with a score of 29-30. In the second period, the 'Cats trailed for the remainder of the game.

Senior forward TJ Cameron finished with the team-high 16



Justin Key/NW

Junior forward Scotter Johnson (5) contributed 12 points on Thursday, Feb. 7 against Grand Valley. Johnson tallied a free throw against Ferris.

We got off to a slow start but, we were able to get some stops at the end. We had effort, we were competing, and we never gave up.

— Matt Craggs
junior forward



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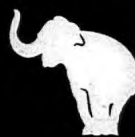


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FRIDAY FEB. 15

UP200 Sled Dog Race Start / 7^{pm} Downtown Marquette

SUNDAY FEB. 17

Clue Kick-Off / 7^{pm} Charcoal Room, University Center

MONDAY FEB. 18

NMU Discount Ski & Snowboard Day / 11^{am} - 8:30^{pm} Mqt. Mountain
WinterFest Dinner / 4^{pm} - 8^{pm} Marketplace

TUESDAY FEB. 19

NMU Discount Ski & Snowboard Day / 11^{am} - 8:30^{pm} Mqt. Mountain
Banner Competition / 6^{pm} Berry Events Center
Open Skate 6^{pm} - 9^{pm} Berry Events Center

WEDNESDAY FEB. 20

Airband Competition / 7^{pm} Jamrich 102

FRIDAY FEB. 22

Student Euchre Tournament / 6^{pm} Great Lakes Rooms, U.C.
Sponsored by the Beaumier U.P Heritage Center

SATURDAY FEB. 23

Human Sled-Dog Races / 12:30^{pm} Payne/Halverson Fields
Broomball Championship / 3^{pm} Behind the Superior Dome
Play: *Falujah* / 1^{pm} Forest Roberts Theatre (1/2 price for NMU students)

SUNDAY FEB. 24

The Great Yooper Folk Dance and Café / 1^{pm} Great Lakes Rooms, U.C.
Sponsored by the Beaumier U.P Heritage Center
Women for Women's Hair Drive / 12^{pm} - 5^{pm} Payne/Halverson Lobby



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Shout Outs

Princess Lela — Hey Princess, I just wanna wish you a Happy Valentines Day. Chewie and I will be on Hoth for a while, so I hope everything is going well while I'm away. Miss you lots sweetie.— **Han Solo**

Sea Star —Let's change things up! You go brunette and I'll go blonder!— **H**

B—Happy Valentines Day Boy-friend! Only 16 more days until we will be cruising through the Caribbean!— **S**

Snugglepuss —Hey baby, a very Happy Valentines Day to you! Can't wait for dinner...!— **Cuddlepie**

You —I have so many feelings for you, and I pray that you feel the same way about me.— **Me**

Illinois84—Miss you mucho!! Happy valentines day! Wish I was there with you.— **Callfor-nialover**

Brady L. —Yo Brady — I like your eyebrows. Be mine?— **Me**

My Roomie —Through anything, I know you are always there for me and I am always here for you. Love you girl!— **Love Your Roomie**

Saige & Shaina —My two main girls, couldn't have asked for better people in my life. Sweetheart dinner dates!— **Love Laura**

Marquette— I have nominated you the most romantic town in the country. I, a video rental machine who spits out floppy disks. I love you, Marquette. I just got out of a bad relationship. I'm a New Release. Let's make something happen.— **Red Box**

EIC— I'm glad you cleared up that question tonight. We are, like, a newspaper, and I couldn't agree with you more.— **OE**

Face— Happy Valentine's Day! I love you.— **Only a mother**

Bob Seger— I've got a pretty bad cough. I think it was from Smokin' OPs. Totally worth it.— **A Fan**

Methlab outhouse— I knew you were suspicious hanging out on the back nine.— **Golfers**

Money— I you've got the money, honey, I've got the time.— **Time**

Greasy Joe—You ruined my shirts. They've got stains all over them. Wash your hands, man.— **Sweatin' Andy**

Graduation— I command you to free me from this prison!— **Seniors**

Sleep— I miss you. — **Students**

Cha Cha— Happy Valentine's Day. I love you. Let's move some bathtubs.— **H H**

Family— I can't wait for you guys to be up here! So excited, let the party begin. Love you!— **Shaina**

Saige— Thanks for letting Palmer out and copy editing my homework and being the best sister ever.— **Shaina**

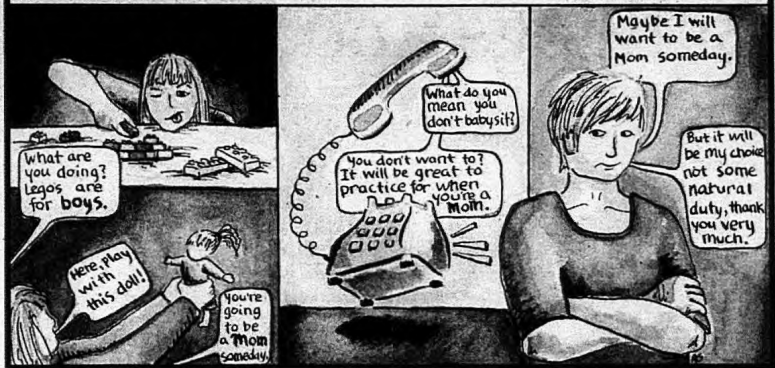
Laura— You're my second sister. Love ya girl!— **Shaina**

OE— Mind if I tag along? I just thought a ride was assumed, but I don't know.— **SE**

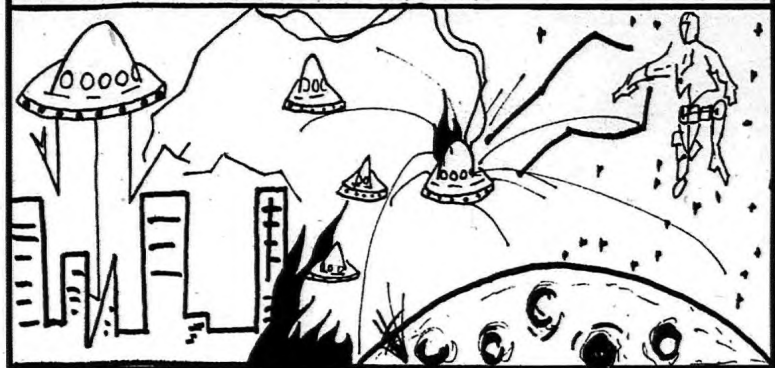
The best family and boyfriend!— Thank god this weekend is finally here! I miss you all so much! — **Saige**

- Inspirations
- Evil Printer
- Like a newspaper
- Adorable pizza
- Copy editors
- Hungrily
- Mug shots
- Early 1970's music

AMBLING ROSE — Alanna Stapleton



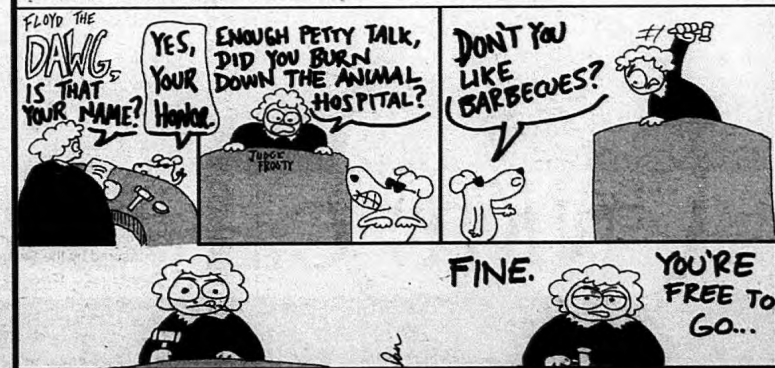
THE ADVENTURES OF KID HERO — Ryan Casey



SWEDLAND — Josh Swedlund



FLOYD THE DAWG — Devin Beattie




Superior Edge So Right



LEANN HERRMANN

Leann Herrmann has recently completed Citizenship, Leadership, Real World Edges! Originally from Batavia, Illinois, Leann is a Junior majoring in psychology with a minor in biology. She is also a Resident Adviser in Payne Hall. Of all her activities, Leann states that her favorite activity was having the opportunity to shadow a physician's assistant. She says, "I have seen a day in the life of a physician's assistant and seen the interaction with my patients, and I can't wait for my time to come in the medical field." To complete the Diversity Edge, Leann has plans to travel to Tanzania, Africa in May for a three-week medical internship!

Congratulations, Leann!



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