

March on Washington

Day of international protest makes impact in Marquette

By Kayla Miller
editor-in-chief

"This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine."

A chorus rang out from a small section of the crowd gathered on a gray, foggy and warm winter day where about 800 people packed the corner of Washington and Third streets despite the light rainfall.

The Marquette Women's March, a sister march to the Women's March on Washington that brought over half a million people to Washington D.C., was part of a global anti-inauguration protest against President Donald Trump held on Jan. 21. Protests occurred on every continent throughout the world.

NMU students, professors and community members of all ages participated in the Marquette march. Sophomore political science major Hannah Rushton attended the march expressing her belief in the responsibility to speak out.

"I want equality for women. I want to break the gender gaps. It's really important to me," she said.

Another sophomore, earth science major Andrew Taylor, also talked about his reason for marching.

"The majority of the people in this country don't actually want what's happening right now so it's important to make sure that everyone knows that," he said.

Hillary Clinton won the popular vote in the election, surpassing Trump's number of votes



Emma Tembreull/NW

Christine Saari (left) and Ursula Stock (right) embrace in the center of Washington Street during the Marquette Women's March on Jan. 21 as part of a global anti-inauguration protest against President Donald Trump.

by 3 million.

A sea of signs floating above the crowd read things like, "Just because we have ovaries doesn't mean we don't have balls," and "Women are not pre-existing conditions."

A larger-than-life papier-mâché replica of Trump's head stood out of the crowd surrounding the post office. The head, made by retired NMU professor Esiquio Uballe, 62, was being carried by Peter Goodrich, 66, another retired NMU professor.

"Primarily we are here in support of our wives and all courageous women that are in Washington standing up against the

Trump agenda of sexism, greed and racism," Uballe said.

"We're concerned about our children and our children's children," Goodrich added.

Cheers erupted from the crowd as people drove by honking their horns, sometimes holding signs out car windows in support of the protestors.

Jane Milkie, a professor of art and design, said she was at the march for issues of climate change, student loans and women's rights.

"I'm standing here for future generations of all daughters," Milkie said.

She had a hard time under-

standing the arguments coming from the other side of the aisle, but a silver lining exists among all the strife, she said.

"Young people with their voices are coming forward, and it lends me some encouragement," she said.

Josué Briones, an NMU alum who graduated in December, marched with the Marquette protestors in support of immigrant rights. He held a sign reading, "Will trade 1 Trump for 10,000 immigrants." He said both of his grandparents and his mother were born in Mexico.

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NMU begins campus-wide assessment

By Winter Keefer

assistant news editor

Information-sharing and data-gathering sessions will kick off NMU's new "Planning for Distinction" campus-wide assessment project from Jan. 30 to Feb. 2 that looks to evaluate all academic and non-academic programs and services.

The session will be held in the Michigan/Ontario rooms in the UC from 9 a.m. to noon and 3 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31; noon to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1; and 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, Feb. 2.

NMU stakeholders, including staff, faculty, administrators and students, are encouraged to attend, Vice President of Academic Affairs Kerri Schuiling said.

"What will be developed initially, will be a set of criteria by which each individual program will be assessed. All programs are assessed in and of themselves against those criteria, so one program isn't compared to another, all programs are compared to a predetermined set of criteria."

There will be two 15 to 20-member task forces academic program review and support functions review created to look at both quantitative and qualitative data that will be used to assess the needs of the university. There will be no administrators on these task forces, though department heads will be able to apply.

"Part of the reason we are doing this is because of year after year where the state has cut our budget more and more. What a lot of universities we're not different from any other university are doing is across-the-board cuts," Schuiling said.

Across-the-board cuts mean every department gets the same percentage share of reduction in funding. In doing this, the university lacks a uniform criteria to assess department needs, she said.

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Student dies in Marquette home

By Kayla Miller
editor-in-chief

A cause of death is still being determined in the off-campus death of an NMU student, according to the Marquette City Police Department.

Sophomore entrepreneurship

major, Matthew Osterman, 19, died Jan. 20 in his home at 822 N. Fourth St. said Detective Capt. Mike Kohler.

The 911 call was made at 3:31 p.m., Kohler said.

An email was sent to all NMU students, faculty and staff on Monday from David Rayome,

dean of the college of business.

"On behalf of Northern Michigan University, our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time," Rayome said in the email. "We know he will be greatly missed."

An autopsy was performed

Monday, Jan. 23, said Derek Hall, assistant vice president of marketing and communications.

NMU counseling services are available for anyone in need.

A Celebration of Life will be held Jan. 28 in L'Anse, Michigan. For more information, visit jacobsonfuneralhome.com.



SPORTS

The Track & Field team opened its season with a victory at the Northern Challenge.

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FEATURES

Art pieces created by NMU faculty were celebrated at the Faculty Biennial Exhibition.

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Volunteering abroad:

NMU's Superior Edge engages in international service project

By *Alyssa Lambert*
contributing writer

With a primary focus on sustainability, a group of 13 students from NMU's Superior Edge participated in a two-week international service project on the North Island of New Zealand over the final two weeks of winter break.

"Sustainable living is more important for our generation than ever before. The way that we are living cannot last very much longer and the generation after us is really going to be living in a different way because they'll have no choice," said senior English major Amanda Maher.

From Dec. 29 to Jan. 13, the volunteers worked on five different ventures, ranging from administering tourism surveys to fixing up a walking trail.

At the first stop in Whitianga, students conducted interviews about sustainable travel practices with other tourists for local travel agencies. Maher said it was sometimes hard to distinguish locals from visitors but she knew their work had merit. She even had a chance to interview a man from Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Next, in Tauranga, the group was in charge of planting flax for an organization that employs people with mental illnesses. By 2018, the flax seedlings planted

will have provided a solid base for new vegetation to flourish, contributing to rainforest restoration in the area.

The travelers then volunteered at a YMCA day camp in Papamoa Beach. The project was aptly named "The Day the Americans Came," because many of the children attending the camp had never met people from America. The group learned about the Maori culture from the children through games, songs and dances.

At a place called Hannah's Bay Organic Community Garden, nestled in the volcanic city of Rotorua, members worked on a trail that passes through the garden. The group pulled weeds and applied mulch to beautify the trail.

For their final project, the group assisted volunteers in building a trail around Lake Okareka, which has been ongoing for six years. Natalie Berger, a recent film studies graduate, said the process was physically demanding but worth the hard work.

"I think the most rewarding part of the trip was knowing that I helped out in some small way to better the communities we were involved with and getting to know so many kind individuals who have been working on these passion projects for so long," she said.



Photo courtesy of Superior Edge

International service project members pose for a photo on New Zealand's North Island. The group spent two weeks assisting the Maori people with a variety of different volunteer services over winter break.

Hannah Lewis, assistant director for the Center for Student Enrichment, said the group's personal connections with the local residents were more important than the tasks they completed.

"They weren't so worried about how much we got done that day they didn't even talk about it. They were just like, 'It was so great to get to know you,' and that, 'You care about what we're doing,'" Lewis said.

The trip was not just work, of course. The volunteers vis-

ited Hobbiton, a Lord of the Rings movie set tourist attraction; kayaked along local beaches and went "zorbing" in human-sized hamster balls. They also viewed and participated in traditional practices, like Haka dancing, feasted on Kiwi cuisine and combated the New Zealand sun.

Rachel Harris, director of the Center for Student Enrichment, said international service projects are safe ways to explore countries and get a new angle on traveling.

"If I went to New Zealand on my own, I wouldn't have done or seen half of these experiences," Harris said. "It's a great way to immerse yourself in the culture, way more than just being a tourist."

For information on upcoming Superior Edge international service projects or about joining the organization, students can visit the Center for Student Enrichment. Tentative abroad experience locations include India, Thailand and Ireland.

Student input received on UC reno

By *Noah Hausmann*
staff writer

At the Wildcat Den and Marketplace on Monday, hundreds of students examined displays of proposed building designs as well as pictures showing different ideas for future amenities for the University Center renovation plans.

Sessions to gather student input on the recently proposed plans were held in the Wildcat Den and in the Marketplace. Throughout the day, there were also smaller feedback meetings with ASNMU, the Student Leader Fellowship Program, members of other student organizations, residence hall leaders, and the Center for Student Enrichment.

Some of the proposed building designs included pictures showing different ideas for future amenities like open offices, informal collaboration areas, additional retail, food court and coffee shops, games and electronic entertainment, conference rooms, auditoriums, social spaces, dance rooms, art galleries and an IT help desk.

Students got to place stickers on the displays to vote on which of the facilities they would enjoy most. They were also asked to fill out written surveys to assess how the UC is used by most NMU students today.

Kathy Richards, associate vice

president of facilities engineering and planning, handed out the surveys while she explained the renovations to students.

"Our goal in renovating the University Center is to bring

they hang out between classes, and what they feel is missing on campus, and what they want to be put into the project to enhance the student life on campus," Richards said.

We're trying to provide amenities that will enhance student life. Right now, there isn't really a place for students to go after 10 o'clock at night.

— *Kathy Richards*

associate vice president, engineering and planning



more students to the building, create more student traffic," she said. "The goal of tonight is to find out from students what amenities they would like in the building, so that if we build it, they will come."

The written survey asked 12 questions to determine how much the UC is used and by whom. It also inquired about the proposed amenities.

"It's so that we get a feel for who they are whether commuters or residence hall students, and then where they eat their lunch, where

She and other members of an advisory group recently visited Wayne State and Eastern Michigan University in order to see what student centers at other colleges offer. She said they learned how a variety of spaces can meet a wider amount of student needs.

"That's the question we're asking: What's something that's missing on campus?" she said. "We're trying to provide amenities that will enhance student life. Right now, there isn't really a place for students to go after 10 o'clock at night."

CORRECTION

In the article titled "NMU updates mass notification" in the Thursday, Jan. 19 issue, Steve Labar was incorrectly identified in the photo cutline. The person in the photo should have actually been identified as Lee Gould.

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WEEKEND WEATHER

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data from www.weather.com

STATE NEWS

The University of Michigan announced Tuesday that it has installed a toilet and urinal in a campus engineering building that will convert human urine into fertilizers. The split-bowl toilet is designed to send solid waste to a treatment plant, but route urine to a holding tank downstairs. Urine diverted from the toilet and urinal will be treated and eventually used to create fertilizers that will be applied on the grounds of the university's botanical gardens.

NATIONAL NEWS

President Donald Trump moved to advance construction of the Keystone XL and Dakota Access oil pipelines Tuesday, a pair of projects that were blocked by the Obama administration due in part to environmental concerns. The pipeline would run from Canada to Nebraska where it would connect to existing lines running to U.S. refineries on the Gulf Coast. The U.S. government needs to approve the pipeline because it would cross the nation's northern border.

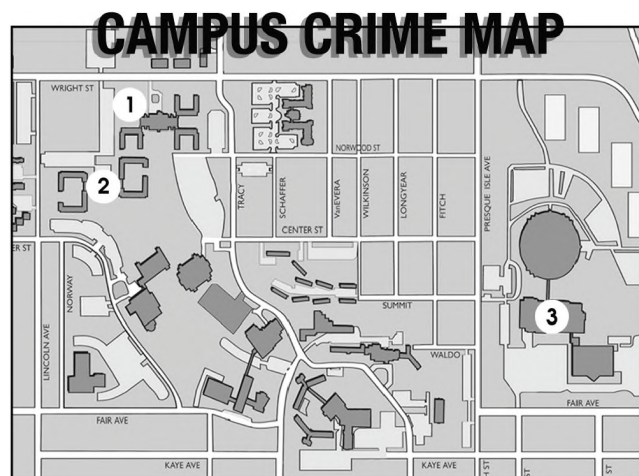
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

A biomedical scientist who helped restore mobility in a quadriplegic person for the first time has been named 2017 Australian of the Year. Professor Alan Mackay-Sim utilized his extensive knowledge on stem cells to restore mobility to a paralyzed Polish man. Professor Mackay-Sim studied the biological relations of brain diseases such as schizophrenia and Parkinson's disease for a decade and spinal cord injuries for more than a decade.

WEIRD NEWS

A truck carrying 38,000 pounds of marbles lost its trailer in Indianapolis on Saturday morning, causing the contents to spill onto the interstate and shoulder. The truck was pictured on its side with a blanket of green marbles covering the ground. Though the truck lost its marbles, no injuries were reported. The accident left one lane of the interstate closed for hours as a crew cleaned up the mess. "From this morning's accident on 465, a trucker literally losing his marbles. This delights me," a crew worker said on Twitter.

— Compiled from news sources



1. An Alcohol violation was reported at 10:17 p.m. Friday, January 20 at Van Antwerp Hall.

2. An assault was reported at 10:05 p.m. Sunday, January 22 at the The Marketplace.

3. Larceny of private property was reported at 10:56 a.m. Wednesday, January 25 at the PEIF.

NMU aims for 'distinctive' mission vision

By Davon Lanier
news editor

A process has begun to develop both a new mission and vision of the university in accordance with ongoing strategic planning initiatives.

"The hard part with the strategic plan is that you'll always have more great ideas than you're going to have resources, but that's where some of the mission and the vision comes in," said Cindy Paavola, assistant to the president for strategic initiatives. "So you take your resources and you say, 'Now out of all these fantastic ideas, which ones are the best ideas for right now?' based on where we want to bring the university, that's your vision, or how we're serving, that's our mission," Paavola said.

"The mission is who we are right now, the vision is who we aspire to be as a university," she later added.

The purpose of a new mission and vision is to correlate NMU's seven core values with implementation of the strategic plan, Paavola said. Recently, two rewritten mission and vision proposal draft statements were brought before the Strategic Planning and Budget Advisory Committee (SPBAC) in December. Paavola is one member of a four-person mission revision writing group who submitted the proposals. The group consists of one administrator, one faculty member a staff member and one student.

Paavola said this week, the group will send an informal survey back to [SPBAC] that has at least both half a dozen mission and vision statements along with a qualitative survey to get quantitative numbers on the most well-received drafts and some feedback. A pilot-survey will also be given to ASNMU and

some of the students the Student Leader Fellowship Program. If proposals in the survey gain traction amongst both the student groups and SPBAC, then another survey will be sent campus-wide to gather further insight.

"We wanted to have about the same number of students as we have on the committee so if something really bubbles to the top, we can say it's bubbling because faculty and staff like it as well as students," she said.

Prior to NMU President Fritz Erickson's nomination, there was

up with new and responsive approaches, expanding partnerships and growing enrollment. These focal points helped Paavola's group come up with the drafts recently submitted to SPBAC.

NMU's current mission statement reads reviewed by SPBAC reads, "[NMU] challenges its students to think independently and critically, develop lifelong learning habits, acquire career skills, embrace diversity and become productive citizens in the regional and global community."

The current vision of NMU is,

The mission is who we are right now, the vision is who we aspire to be as a university.

— Cindy Paavola
assistant to the president for strategic initiatives

more focus on finding the most cohesive vision for the strategic plan rather than creating a new mission and vision for the university, Paavola said.

"People really felt like we could put together a framework for the strategic plan and then make a decision related to the mission and vision which is how it ended up happening," she added.

Based on the identified core values of the university, a set of four strategic focus areas was determined in addition to four strategic outcomes on how to improve Northern. The focus areas are academic excellence, student success, domestic and global outreach and engagement, as well as investment in innovation. The outcomes are: enhancing prestige and coming

"[NMU] will become the university of choice in the Midwest for students seeking a quality academic program with individualized attention in a high-tech learning environment."

By the end of February, Paavola hopes her group will be far enough along to send out a campus-wide email to gather more feedback. By no later than May, she hopes to reach a final recommendation for a new mission and vision.

"I think the core values and the strategic plan both show that we're willing to be leaders, that we're not afraid to do things different than other people because it works for us, not because that's the goal. What I hope is that the mission and vision shows that boldness to be innovative," she said.

Racial equity and justice discussed



Steven Sprague/NW

Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion held a meeting with additional partners to discuss creating a Racial Equity Hub in the Upper Peninsula in the Whitman Hall Commons Saturday.

NMU updates employee recognition program

By Noah Hausmann
staff writer

In an ongoing effort of strategic planning, the NMU employee recognition program policy and procedures were recently updated to align the annual individual and team awards with the university's core values, mission and vision.

The main change is that when someone fills out the form to nominate a university employee or team for the award, the recommendation should now explain how the nominee has demonstrated one or more of Northern's core values in work or in campus or community involvement.

Before, the reason for recommendation could be more generic and did not need to specifically refer to NMU's list of official core values.

"The policies overall didn't change significantly," said Rhea Dever, director of NMU Human Resources. "It was more of an opportunity to refresh them in a way where we could connect them back to our core values."

NMU's BOT-approved official list of core values are community, opportunity, rigor, environment, inclusion, connections and innovation, according to the Office of the President webpage.

These themes were chosen to direct the university in decision-making and developing its strategic plan after Fritz Erickson became president. The values were determined after a series of discussions held with students, faculty, staff, alumni and community in 2014. Before this process, NMU had no official list of core values.

Cindy Paavola, assistant to the president for strategic initiatives, helped to facilitate the meetings, compile and categorize the information gathered and draft the list of values.



Paavola

"We looked for what were the same core values that came out across all those different stakeholders and bubbled to the top, then there's something that everybody values and thinks really does represent Northern," she said. "These were the seven terms that came up

no matter who you talked to."

The awards include the Excellence-in-Service Award, given to eight individuals, and the Distinguished Team Award, which is presented to up to four groups of workers. (Distinguished Team and Technology Innovation awards were combined since innovation is one of the core values.)

Renee Sheen, assistant director of Human Services for employee and labor relations, explained the purpose of the employee recognition program and its annual awards.

"It's to foster that spirit of recognition and looking at accomplishments that we make, because when we receive recognition it's really getting an affirmation that the work we do is valued," she said.

"When you feel valued, you feel more productive more satisfied in your job and are motivated to continue that work and motivate others to seek out ways that we can continue to enhance our values and promote excellent service both for the students and in the community," she added.

Recipients will be honored with their awards at the annual Faculty and Staff Recognition Luncheon in April. The Human Resources Department also created recognition-specific web pages showing past award-winners and telling

It's to foster that spirit of recognition and looking at accomplishments that we make, because when we receive recognition it's really getting an affirmation that the work we do is valued.

— Renee Sheen

assistant director, Human Services for employee and labor relations

their accomplishments, including excerpts from what was said at the ceremony.

"You're able to hear the great work that's being done the work that we need to show that we value. Everyone contributes so much value to the university. We want people to know about it and people should feel good about the work that they do," Sheen said.

To be eligible for nomination for the Excellence-in-Service Award, an individual must have at least two years of service at NMU as full or part-time (not less than .50 full time equivalent) employee, at least one year of service in his or her current assignment, a positive employment record during the past

two years and cannot have received an Excellence-in-Service Award in the past five years, according to the Employee Recognition Policy.

To be eligible for the Distinguished Team Award, a work team may be formal or informal and of any size. It can include students, however, the team must consist mostly of faculty or staff.

To make a nomination, visit the Human Resources webpage or obtain a paper form from Human Resources. The deadline to nominate is Monday, Feb. 6. The nominations will go through a selection committee which will then send a final recommendation of award recipients to President Erickson for approval.

MARCH

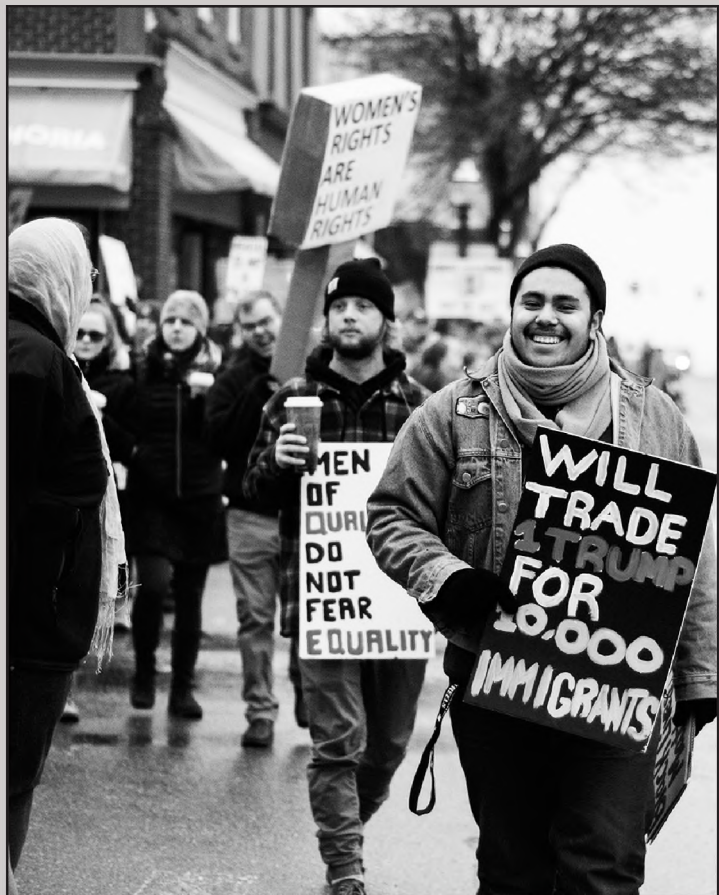
Continued from Page 1

"I am following in the footsteps of my grandfather. He fought for immigrant rights," Briones said. "[The march] is a beautiful thing. I'm happy to be here."

Keith Ellis, associate professor of art and design, said the issues are larger than any one

individual and people must show their response.

"We can't just sit by," Ellis said. "I think a good leader is somebody who can respect the other side at least. I don't believe everyone has to agree with everyone but at least you need to be able to see things from both sides, and this is a presidency that is completely myopic."



Christin DeFord/NW NMU alum, Josué Briones, marches in Marquette's own sister march to the Women's March on Washington that took place on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2017.

ASSESS

Continued from Page 1

"If you go through this kind of a process, you're making more educated decisions based on best evidence that your [departments] need more resources. You're doing really well but you need more resources," Schuiling said. "And, there might be other programs that aren't in as much demand and maybe they need to change form to be more contemporary so that students look at it and say, 'Oh that's something I'm interested in. I think I can do something with that when I graduate.'"

Head of Campus Strategies, LLC, and Consultant for the project, Larry Goldstein, will run a mandatory day of training for each task force. There will be a half-day training where both teams come together. In this time a criteria for assessment that each task force plans to use will be identified.

A facilitation team will also be created to help the task force, said Schuiling. This team will be chaired by Associate Provost for Undergraduate Programming and Faculty Affairs Dale Kapla and will include the university's director of institutional resources and analysis and director of human resources, along with a variety of other administrators.

The facilities team will assist in reviewing contracts during a committee training day. All contracts

will be honored, Schuiling said.

"It's a huge comprehensive assessment of our campus. I think we'll know our campus better than we ever have," Schuiling said.

The criteria for assessment developed will be specific to NMU, President of Academic Affairs and Provost Gavin Leach said.

"This is really not meant to be a cost-cutting exercise. It is meant to look at where the best resources

are going forward," Leach said.

Following the formation of the strategic plan and university core values, this project is the next step in looking at the long-term viability of the university, he said.

"It's really trying to develop and ensure that we have the resources in the best place to achieve the overall university success and try and achieve our strategic plan as best as possible," said Leach.



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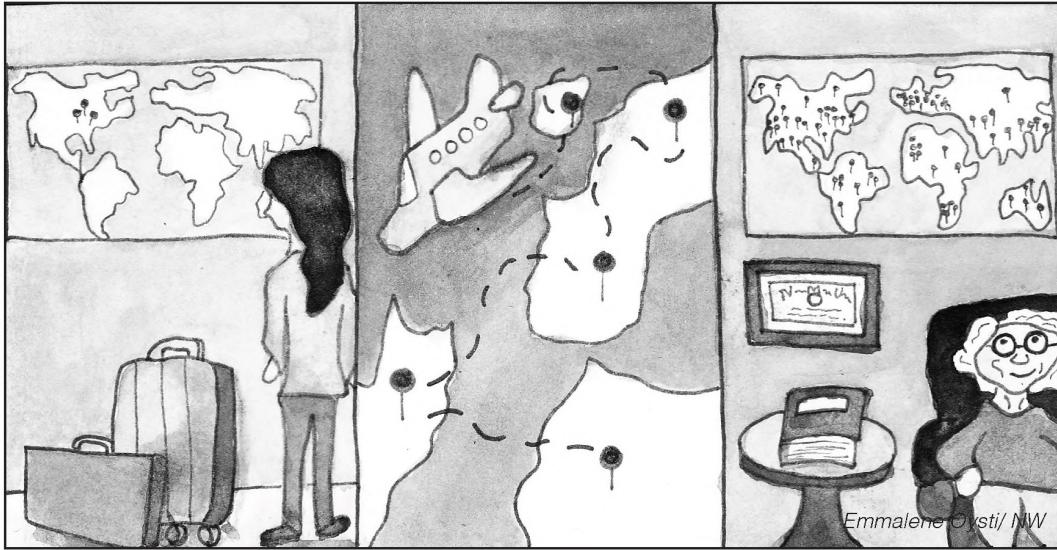
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EDITORIAL



Conquer ignorance by expanding perspective

As President Trump signs an executive order to construct a wall between the United States and Mexico, and then reportedly is to sign additional orders to limit or block refugee access into the country, we should take a moment to contemplate our perception of the world.

Too often, the people in the United States are raised and are living in a protected bubble. While our brains are filled with getting to work on time, making dinner or getting the next paycheck, we forget that families are living in war-zones. We forget that people in developing countries are struggling to get water. We forget that pollution gets to the point where it negatively impacts the health of those who live nearby.

One of the best ways to get out of this protected bubble is to travel. Experiencing a culture that's not your own opens your mind and gives you a new understanding of life around you. Without that exposure or understanding, we don't experience or witness people who live differently than us.

This is where ignorance stems from, and when we are ignorant of other lifestyles and cultures, we become bigoted

and hateful toward the people different than ourselves. Too many people in this country talk about immigrants as if they were less than Americans, less than human beings. This is wrong.

During college, we have the unique opportunity to learn about other cultures across borders with study abroad. Students come back with heartfelt ties to that location, lifelong friends and above all a deeper understanding of the world. People who have studied abroad also have the ability to share their knowledge and experiences, which is only beneficial.

Traveling abroad or even just outside your area fills your pocket with experiences and insights you could have never imagined, and overall broadens your perspective of the people around you. One can never fully understand the world, or what's going on in it, from a single point-of-view.

When facing the challenge of President Trump and his handful of executive orders, it's important to keep in mind different perspectives and the world around us. The only way to conquer ignorance is to stop blocking the world out.

Being part of a pair



Staff Column

Winter Keefer

Growing up I always had a best friend, a partner in crime, a companion on long car rides, a fantastic confidant and someone who kept me honest. In fact, I had this before birth. I am lucky enough to be one of the rare people on Earth to have an identical twin sister.

When we were younger I remember my sister as a constant, an anchor when the world seemed backward. Reflecting on where we are now after living in different places for a few years, the world can still feel off-balance sometimes. The difference between now and then however, is that we've come to a place where we don't need each other to set life straight again. I still find myself missing her, but being apart has made us stronger.

The trouble with being an identical twin, to me, comes when we are seen as a matching set rather than a pair of originals. We moved schools a few times and for a while most people called us by our last name only so there would be no chance of addressing the wrong person. I felt like we were a singular entity rather than two separate beings. It is a very strange feeling breaking away from that and it requires both time and a little bit of loneliness. I do know that it was worth it in the end.

We are now both happily doing what we love. She is pursuing a degree in material science engineering with a focus on metallurgy, and I am seeking a life of storytelling

through journalism. You can clearly tell who will make more money. But, what matters most is that we are both proud and supportive of each other, even from afar.

The lesson that I learned from growing up with a doppelganger is that identity shouldn't be skin deep. Sometimes people can't tell the difference between a mirror reflection and what lies beneath it. This is not just an issue that occurs with twins. It is easy to identify people by snippets of small talk, from the way people walk or the pitch of their voice. I've caught myself judging individuals in this way at times and I realize I'm a hypocrite when I resent people for my own identity crisis.

Ultimately, we are all actively trying to find and create pieces of ourselves that make us unique. I may have experienced the desire for distinctiveness to more of an extreme than the average person, but I think we all have a bit of that desire to stick out from the crowd. My sister and I dyed our hair, we started dressing differently and actively looked for separate passions just to make it so people could tell us apart enough to address us by our first names. Now we have established lives in different places and with different people. And, when we see each other after a long period of time the reunion is just that much sweeter.

My twin is still my anchor. When I'm feeling lost I can always give her a call or drive to meet her, but that anchor doesn't define me anymore and when I look at a person I find myself constantly conscious of what lies further than skin deep.

THE NORTH WIND

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Obama Blues

A student's reflection on the past presidency



**Guest
Column**

Tim
Eggert

Thanks Obama. Seriously, thank you. Apart from the Olympics and quadrennial elections, I don't consider myself to be the most patriotic citizen. However, watching your farewell address and inauguration interactions led me to a somber yet sobering conclusion: I'll miss you man, but dammit do I love democracy. If this is my version of a shout-out track, then let it extend to the entire Obama family, administration and fellow Americans who generated and witnessed history over the last two terms.

Like most NMU students, I'm the product of the Clinton and Bush presidencies, but have intimately known only one president; I've matured into political consciousness with President Obama. Now, when I reflect on Obama's time in office, I cry like Joe Biden being awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Political hashtags and Biden memes aside, I think we owe Barry a genuine thank-you for his dedication to progress, principle and passion. Don't get me wrong, the last eight years have been a potpourri of executive and congressional rigidity, but no

presidency is perfect. You may frame the 44th president's time in office as less than ideal, but we can all agree that Obama has left behind a legacy rooted in empathy and humbleness.

Hopefully, President Trump follows this precedent. I understand the challenges transferred to the 45th president; a bipartisan congress and country held in social and racial tensions is intimidating. But herein lies the allure of American democracy: no matter one's political affirmations, nor the creeds sponsored by a previous president, we as a people can unify to love or to hate, and stimulate change. Trump may ratify policy, or catalyze protest, but for me, Obama lingers by reaffirming my belief in democracy and morality.

Let us not frame Obama's time in office and Trump's succession as negative, but as the positive confirmation of our democratic narrative. We may not continually endorse a president's conduct, but we functionally uphold democracy as the institution by which we identify with as Americans. If you disagree with modern elections, or political efficacy, I encourage you to not underestimate the will of Americans to initiate amendment, and unify to uphold independence.

At the center of Obama's campaign messages were the promises of change and hope.

We've beheld the transcendence of these from pledge to policy. In one sense or another, we've all benefitted from the Obama administration. Education, health care, foreign affairs and social justice have been ratified in the most favorable way for Americans. If you disagree, that's totally legitimate, and the virtue of our ability to practice self-government.

Maybe I pedestalize the former first family like Americans once did with the Kennedys, albeit we observed presidential character through dad jokes in speeches, shooting hoops with diplomats, and tweeting about politics. Obama has been a president with countless firsts, and perhaps a few lasts, but his legacy will never disappear from our history, nor our hearts.

Two weeks into Trump's freshman year of his term, I've got the Obama-blues. Most of all, I'm going to miss the poise, gentleness, and normalcy of the Obama family. Obviously, I've fallen for their appeal to millennial minds, and if possible, I would vote for a third term. But again, democracy checks my desire, and imparts a reason for me to stay politically active, and ultimately, patriotic. So, here's to President Obama: thank you for serving as a source for inspiration, fusion, and rectitude. Yes we can; yes we did.

SOUND OFF

What would you like to see accomplished by the new presidency in the next four years?



**Holli Lambert, freshman
elementary special
education**

"I'd like to see our illegal immigrant population go down, more jobs for Americans and for our military to be stronger"



**Eric Ackerman, Junior
environmental science and
sustainability**

"Change his mind about climate change"



**Jake Carp, senior
mechanical engineering
technology**

"Anything beneficial that would help out just anyone"



**Rachel Grant, senior
zoology & philosophy**

"I'd like to see him bring our community together, less division between people, more unity."

compiled by Christin DeFord

Shoenice: pioneer of online entertainment



**Opinion
Editor**

Trevor
Drew

One thing in life I particularly enjoy is sharing entertainment with my friends and family. The sparkle in my roommate's eyes when I show them a sweet new song or an awesome movie always does me good. But for years, I've gotten a certain kind of kick out of exposing people to a hidden gem deep within the annals of YouTube. When I first discovered this treasure it was sheer accident, but now I am one of the many who are fascinated yet disgusted by the infamous YouTube star: Shoenice.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the sensation, Shoenice,

born Chris Schewe, is a man who was able to reach internet stardom by filming himself consuming just about anything, and I mean anything. Throughout my life I've been witness to plenty of my peers eating or drinking some gross concoction on a dare, but those were reduced to mere child's play after I watched a Shoenice video. From entire bottles of hard alcohol, hot sauce and glue, the guy consumes just about anything. Even things you didn't think were possible to eat. I've seen a video where he eats an entire tin of chewing tobacco which still makes me cringe just thinking about it.

His steel intestine isn't what makes Schewe so intriguing to me. Recently, I've found it takes a lot to impress me and I don't believe that trait is unique to me. While Schewe's obscure talent is bizarre, his use of shock value is not different from other viral in-

ternet sensations. In fact, for anything to be relevant or exciting in the technology age, it better be off-the-wall.

The whole reason I even care to tell people about Schewe is because what he does is so genuinely unbelievable. Every day, as I go through social media, I'm bombarded with videos, links, and articles imploring me to "click on this" claiming "you'll never guess what this man does at McDonald's" or "this bride surprised her man with a gift you won't believe." The whole appeal to links such as those is the promise of surprise.

People crave excitement and now that we have nearly instant access to videos of people backflipping off cliffs, falling from space and making insanely long trick shots, we grow tired of the same-old same-old. Sensations of the day quickly get cast deep into the internet's peripheral.

People crave excitement and now that we have nearly instant access to videos of people backflipping off cliffs, falling from space and making insanely long trick shots, we grow tired of the same-old same-old.

The hunger for the new and exciting isn't a bad thing though. It's only natural for humans to want more and to continue to trudge through new frontiers, even if those frontiers involve eating cactuses on Youtube. Internet pioneers like Shoenice, as strange as it may be to say, are the new artists of the technology age. Sites like YouTube give people the ability

to have a better view of the world around them. It gives people the ability to make use of seemingly unusual abilities and dares us to do better and to share what we can do.

While it will be hard to beat a Shoenice video, I'm excited to stumble upon the next Internet star who's videos I can't help but share.



Kayla Miller/NW

Assistant professor of art history, Tracy Wascom describes her art piece, a series of photographs, to attendees of NMU's School of Art & Design Faculty Biennial Art Exhibition.

Professor artwork displayed at Devos Museum of Art

By *Kayla Miller*
editor-in-chief

Animal meat, flesh, women's rights and the inauguration of President Donald Trump were all part of the conversation last week during NMU's School of Art & Design Faculty Biennial Art Exhibition reception on Friday, Jan. 20.

Students and community members came together Friday night to view artwork made by professors in the NMU College of Art and Design. Work showcased included photography, drawing, painting, furniture design, graphic communications, illustration, computer art, digital video and sculpture. The reception, held from 6 to 8 p.m., opened the exhibit that is running from Jan. 16 through Feb. 19.

Approximately 75 people mingled around the lobby of the art building and the Devos Museum of Art sipping wine and beer. A full display of hor d'oeuvres was also made available to the attendees.

One art piece on display was photographs of uncooked meat multiplied and arranged to create patterns similar to quilts. The photographs, done by assistant professor Tracy Wascom, used zero-color

manipulation. The meat was all sourced from beef, pork, lamb and duck—all meats she consumes, she said.

"I'm working with meat—that's shocking," Wascom said.

When people view the work from afar, they can only see a brightly-colored pattern of shape, but with closer investigation, they see the textures of tis-

sue, bone cartilage and animal flesh arranged together to create a completely different image. From the point people realize what they are looking at, most people can't move past the idea of meat equaling gross, Wascom said.

"Their reaction goes from elation to repulsion," she said. "They can't see it any other way.

I'm challenging them to look differently."

Another piece at the exhibit was the computer art by professor Stephan Larson. His piece was an animated video of a machine stretching differently textured materials resembling body parts such as skin, muscle, bone and tissue. Some museum-goers watched the video with a look of

discomfort.

"There is something grotesque to it, but there's also beautiful stuff inside grotesque things," Larson said.

His work discusses the existence of machines in society and the inevitable downsides that come with the invention of technology, including the lack of morals or care, Larson said.

"In the broadest way, it's having some accountability for the stuff that we make."

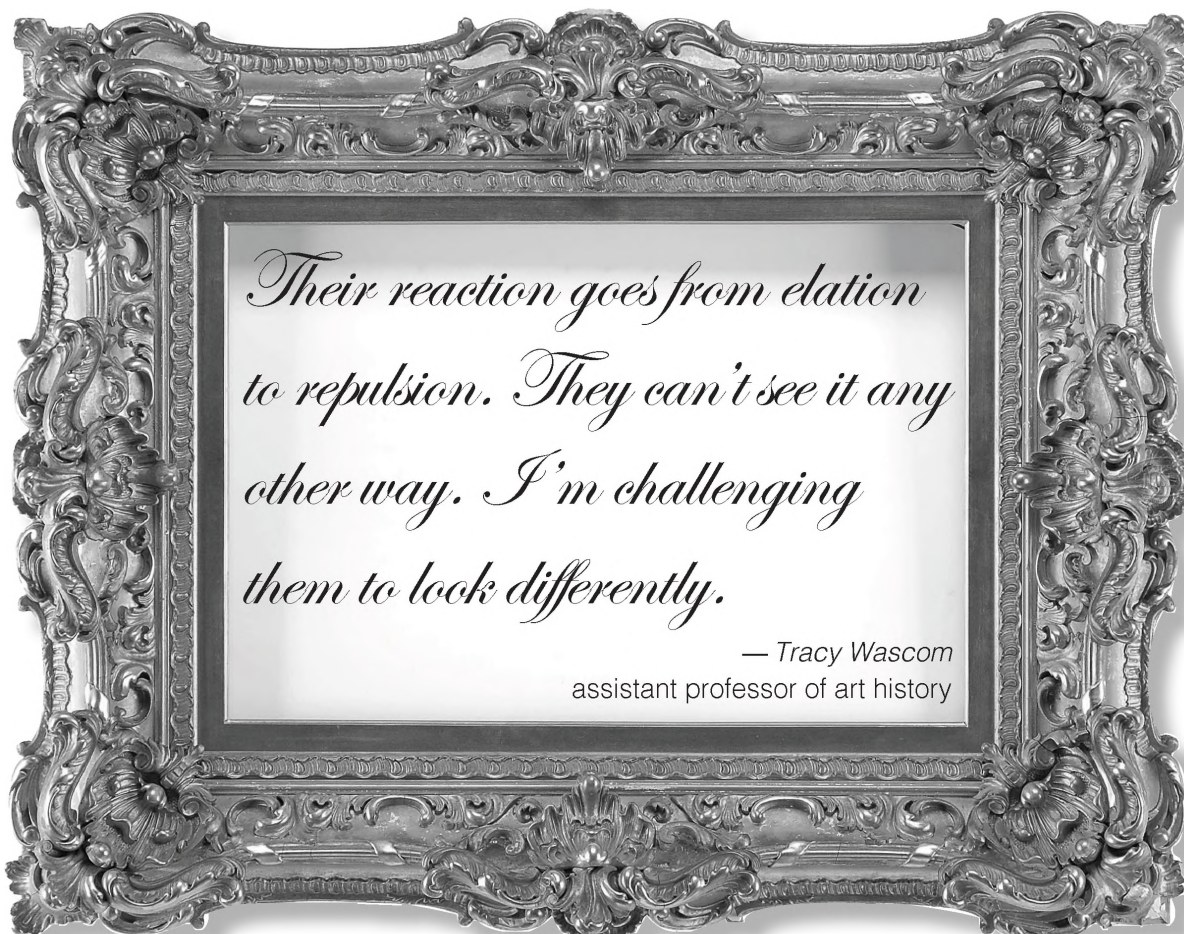
Furniture was also featured in the show. Human-centered design associate professor Peter Pless created a series of shelves he described as minimal.

"I work from a different style of reducing things down to their basic elements that need to be there in order for it to be aesthetically nice and to have things that are functional as well," he said.

The ideas behind the furniture began last semester, but real progress on computer models and prototypes started over the winter break.

For one student, this faculty show was his first time attending an art exhibit.

"I came to enjoy the art by the faculty, to see where they came from and what their artistic style is about," said Matthew Key, junior digital cinema major.



Meet Seeds

The driving force behind Marquette's food community

by Trinity Carey/ features editor

Long before eating locally was a widespread notion many wanted to be a part of, there was Seeds & Spores.

Seeds & Spores Family Farm is a small sustainable farm in south Marquette that supplies to local businesses such as The Marquette Food Co-op, The Marq, Sweetwater Cafe and the farmers market.

"I love it a lot because we sell just to the local community and we're constantly working on the best way to farm and the healthiest way to create things," said Niihah Hatfield, NMU sophomore and creative writing major and member of the Hatfield family who operates Seeds & Spores Farm.

The Hatfields started farming in Marquette over 13 years ago and now grow 10 acres of vegetables including kale, herbs, squash, medicinal herbs, beets, asian greens and more. They also raise pigs, cattle, turkeys, chickens and laying hens. Everything they do, they do organically.

The farm is Certified Naturally Grown versus their old title of Certified Organic, said Hatfield.

"It's the same standards, but it's certified farmer-to-farmer and there is no cost of having an inspector come from anywhere, so it's cheaper and it's a lot less paperwork, which means we have more time out in the fields," she said.

Instead of pesticides the farm controls pests and weeds through freezing, picking off potato bugs, occasionally using organic sprays and a new method they've been trying—flame weeding, which involves using flames over garden beds to kill the weeds that come up before the germinating seeds.

"It's a great way to get a head start," Hatfield said. "Everything else is either hand-weeded or weeded with our old farm mill tractors."

The farm also adds minerals to their soil for healthier crops.

"We remineralize our soil, so we're constantly adding natural minerals like kelp and sea salt back into the soil to replace the nutrients that the plants are taking out," Hatfield said. "It's just

not authentic farming practice."

Seeds & Spores also offers a Community Sponsored Agriculture program which gives members a box of fresh produce weekly at a discounted price because they have committed to buying from the farm for a season, Hatfield said.

"We definitely go for more heirloom varieties of veggies so things that have been around for a really long time. We grow a lot of heirloom tomatoes, that are all funky colors and shapes, purple potatoes, romanesco cauliflower that looks like a little geode," she said. "A lot of those old varieties that are taken out of mass production because they don't produce as well or they're smaller and less uniform, but they're more hearty and much more delicious."

The growing season in the U.P. is much shorter due to the cold weather, but the Hatfields are using this time to build a new farm store and certified kitchen where they can sell farm fresh food already prepared.

During the summer, Seeds & Spores has eight full time employees includ-

ing the Hatfield family parents Jeff and Leanne, daughter Niihah and their two sons Ruben and Aleutian.

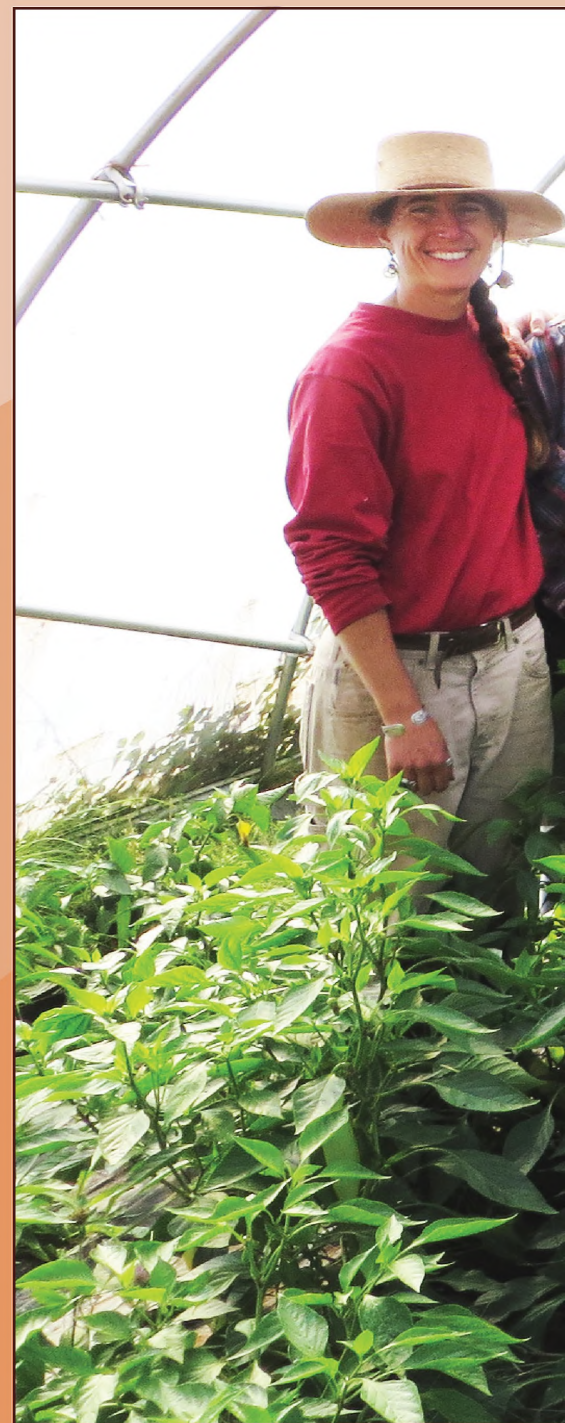
"We're all a really tight knit group and were working towards this goal of better food and I get to manage the farmers market and see people get excited about it and educate people on eating locally," Hatfield said.

Coming from a farming family has sparked Hatfield's interest in food culture and on educating people of cheap and simple ways to be healthier, such as shopping at the farmers market versus a store, she said.

"One of the things is keeping the money in the local economy, then you are not investing in buying food from the other side of the country and investing in the fossil fuels to get that food to us," Hatfield said.

Seeds & Spores offers students the opportunity to work on the farm during the summer as well as farm tours to classes and groups.

"My favorite part is living with the earth and with real people and the honest work of farming is something that is invaluable," Hatfield said.



s & Spores



Left: A herd of red angus beef cattle gather in the farm's pasture. All the cattle are fed with organic feed mixed right on the farm and raised completely hormone-free.

Above: Employees of the Seeds & Spores Family Farm gather in one of their 12 "high tunnels" that act as greenhouses.

Photos courtesy of Seeds & Spores



Take a trip to the bayou with the Lagniappe

By Dain Holter

contributing writer

Take the main entrance along a back alleyway or the hidden doorway off of Washington Street and head down the stairs, when you reach the bottom you'll be transported to Louisiana.

Lagniappe is a Cajun Creole eatery hidden away in downtown Marquette. Since their opening in 2006, Lagniappe has provided high-quality Cajun delights and maintained its unsurpassed service.

Southern jazz and soul music plays in the background, Mardi Gras beads hang from every wooden pillar, Bourbon Street signs and alligators at every corner welcome you into the Louisiana atmosphere of the Lagniappe. The restaurant's bar the "Voodoo Bar" looks like something straight from New Orleans, made of wood and decked in tiki head decor.

The employees, managers and owners of Lagniappe try to give you more than just a meal, they provide an all-inclusive escape to the heart of New Orleans.

The drink menu is quite expansive, offering many unique themed drinks such as a Cajun Bloody Mary, Alabama Slamma and a Crawfish Claw, as well as Louisiana beer selections.

I went with the waitress's recommendation of the most popular cocktail the Hurricane. With this drink you can choose which category of a Hurricane you'd like to endure, a three, four or five, depending on how many shots you'd like in your drink.

The cocktail came with a cherry and orange wedge garnish to give it that tropical storm look. The most unique thing about it, however, was the paper umbrella that came atop the drink. It looked as if it had been whipped around in a hurricane practically destroyed, adding a cute and comical touch.

The appetizers here will make anyone indecisive with their non-typical offerings, including dishes like alligator bites, crawfish nachos, fried frog legs and fried green tomatoes.

To begin my meal, I ordered

the fried garlic cheddar grit cakes. This is three triangular grit cakes smothered in a creamy sauce and finished with a little shredded cheddar, Monterey jack and gorgonzola.

These were absolutely to die for and easily a new favorite of mine. The cakes are lightly fried to perfection. Upon first bite into the grit cakes I broke through the golden fried skin to reach the silky smooth inside. Its perfect texture alone makes you need another bite. It's all brought together with an orange Tasso cream sauce that perfectly finishes the dish.

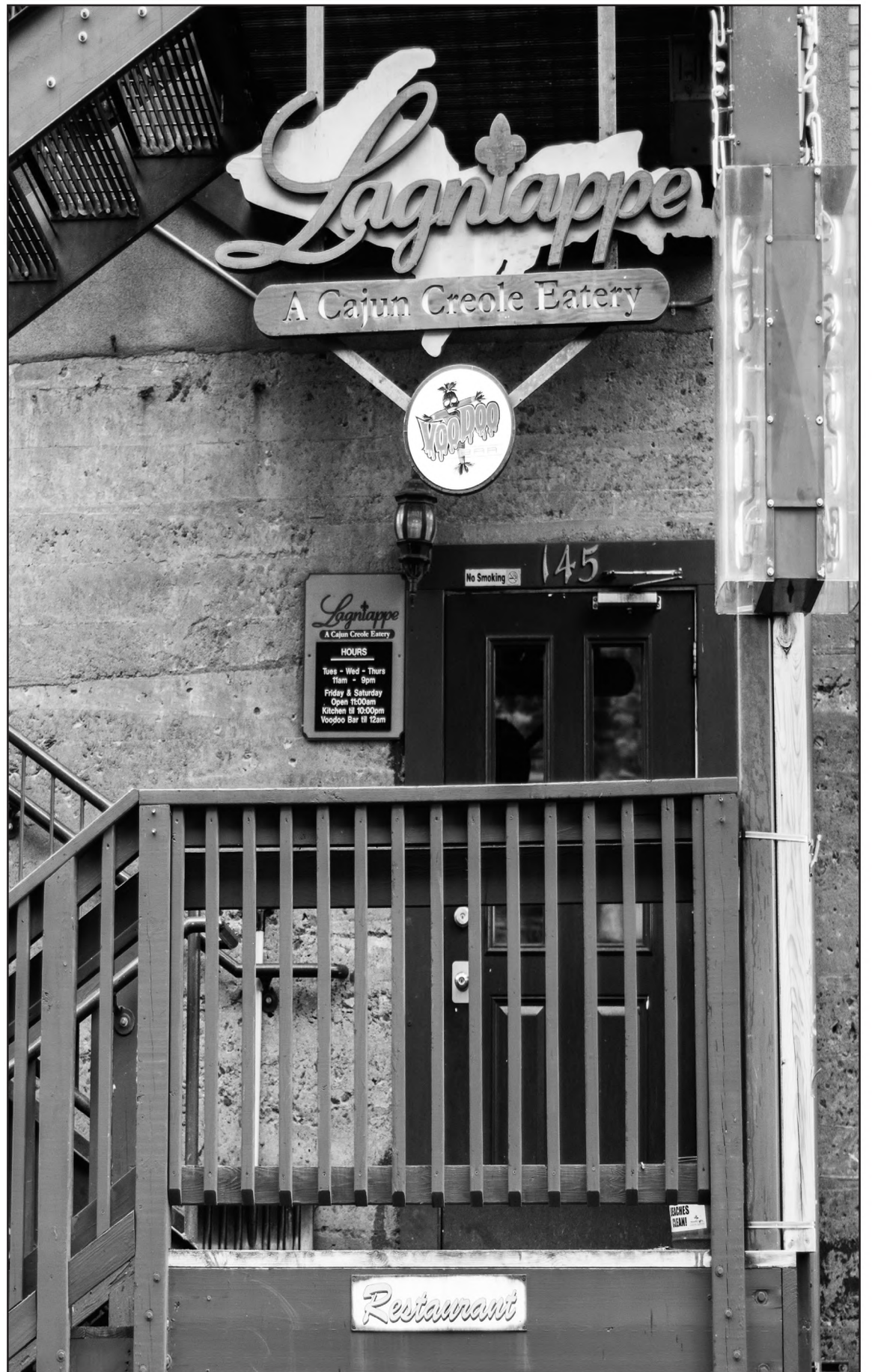
Choosing an entrée was just as difficult with the huge menu that can cater to almost anything you're in the mood for, with sections for gumbos and soups, salads, po' boys or traditional Louisiana sandwiches, creole classics, and pastas.

I had to go with a Lagniappe classic to complete this dining experience and ordered the Bayou Bouillabaisse. This is basically a Cajun stew consisting of catfish, shrimp, crayfish, andouille sausage, potatoes and vegetables in a Cajun tomato broth and served over a bed of rice.

This was a marvelous decision because I was able to try all the different types of meats the restaurant has. The dish also had the perfect amount of spice. It's a common belief that most Cajun food is spicy and this had a kick, but it wasn't unbearable and the flavors of the ingredients still shined through.

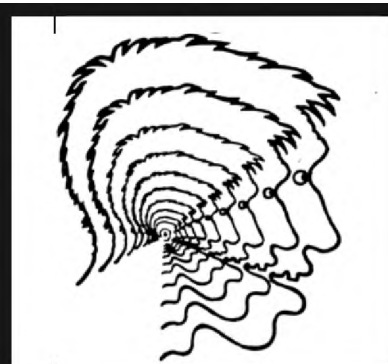
For the dishes here that do carry more heat, Lagniappe allows the customer to pick their level of spiciness, with a five being the hottest and three being the average spice of most dishes. If you're passionate about spicy food and a five just isn't enough, the restaurant has an extensive hot sauce bar with more hot sauces than you can think of.

Overall, it was a wonderful meal. The service here is timely for a sit-down eatery and the wait staff are extremely polite and helpful. I truly appreciate that the Lagniappe does not only serve you, but gives you an experience too.



The Jackson Cut alleyway entrance to local eatery Lagniappe which offers a variety of Cajun Creole dishes.

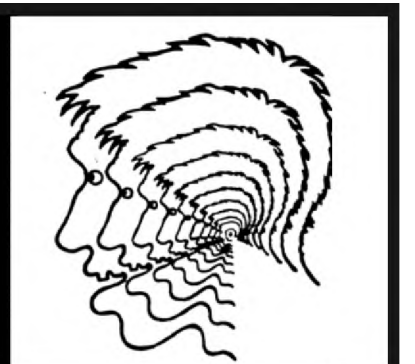
Christin DeFord/NW



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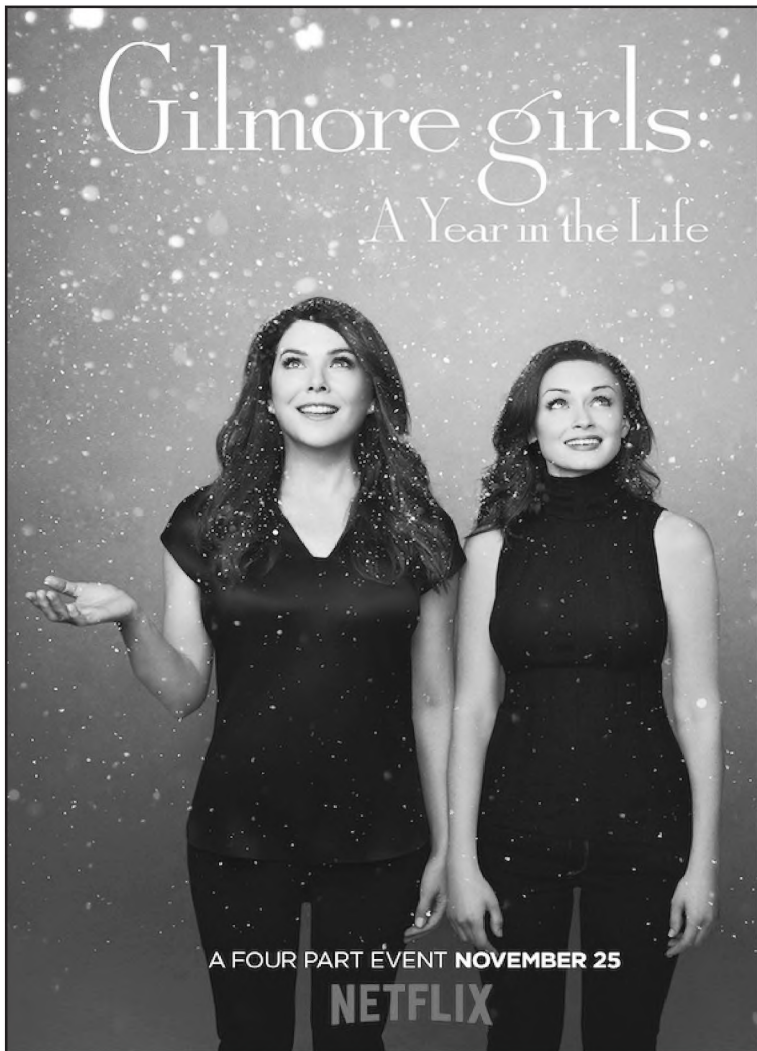
Gilmore Girls reboot lacks original spark

By *Jamie Glenn*
contributing writer

Millennials of the 2000s can finally return to the sleepy town of Stars Hollow with the revival of an old favorite, “Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life.” With the final episodes of the original series airing almost ten years ago, the short season lets viewers tie up loose ends and catch up with the lives of America’s favorite small town girls: Rory and her mother and best friend, Lorelai.

Story: “I smell snow.” The show opens with iconic dialogue from defining moments in the original “Gilmore Girls.” All seven seasons were aired on the “CW” from 2000-2007. After nearly a decade hiatus, creators return with a valiant effort, yet a somewhat misfire of a reboot. Writing duo Amy Sherman-Palladino and Daniel Palladino bring their pens to Netflix to flesh out the unfinished moments that many fans have been waiting to reach the screen.

When we had last left the leading ladies, Rory was just starting out as a journalist and Lorelai had yet to marry Luke. Season one of “A Year in the Life” offers four episodes, each modeling a season of the year starting with winter and closing with fall. It’s in this continuation that we begin to see an even more adult side of Rory (Alexis Bledel), who ultimately finds her way back to



Year in the Life” has a promising lineup. The “Gilmore Girls” humor is good, but at times missed the mark and felt forced, as if a key component of the puzzle were missing.

Secondary character Kirk (Sean Gunn) rekindles the fire of his character by returning

gathering spot, forces human interaction. Luke’s character has been one to always love personal interaction, hate cellphones and not provide Wi-Fi for his customers.

Many comments are made throughout the season regarding poor cell phone reception along

ences to the original series that pay tribute to longtime viewers.

The foundational characteristics as to why the show is loved by many still remains. The original series gives off a vibrancy that allows it to be rewatchable and supplies good humor, relatable actions and strong human emotion between characters. The new season seems to be missing that spark.

Gathering many of the original cast members allowed for promising execution, but failed to reach its full potential due to the fact that the writing could have been a bit stronger in some scenes.

The response to this revival season is very mixed, loved by

some, while others are left with disappointment. Longtime fans who had to wait for almost a decade to tie up elements of the show may generate a different response to someone brand new to the series.

Bringing back the “Gilmore Girls” has allowed for a bigger audience to catch up on the previous seasons, in continuation with this new season Netflix has to offer. This reboot also has presented itself at a very pivotal time in entertainment where it’s easier to build on preexisting storylines with strong fanbases, rather than start from scratch.

Though flawed, many will continue following Rory and Lorelai’s stories.

The season offers new passions, questions old loves, grieves a loss and the sound of wedding bells chime. Ultimately, viewers are left with one big question: what does Rory’s future hold?

her hometown of Stars Hollow to discover herself once again. We also get a glimpse into a much older and mature Lorelai (Lauren Graham) and her life as an inn owner.

In our time away, she has become more stable in her relationship with both Luke (Scott Patterson) and her mother Emily Gilmore (Emily Bishop). The season offers new passions, questions old loves, grieves a loss and the sound of wedding bells chime. Ultimately, viewers are left with one big question: what does Rory’s future hold?

Characters: A strong returning cast with nearly all the original members from the show, “A

with modern punch lines about Uber and the world of the internet. Michel (Yanic Truesdale) is brought more to the screen in this revival. In the original series, Michel was a secondary character who had minimal screen time. In this new season we are given much more insight and detail into his character. The opposite occurs with Melissa McCarthy as Sookie St. James, Lorelai’s business partner and best friend, who only returns for the tail end of the new season.

Style: Writers make a statement on the importance of connection without technology while trying to modernize Stars Hollow. Luke’s Diner, a town

with outdated cultural references about media and pop culture that fail to reach most of the audience demographic.

Each episode offers a coloristic tone that reflects the season the episode takes place in. Winter uses bright yet cold tones and fall is full of vibrant nature tones. This amount of detail demonstrates the dedication that went into creating the show’s return.


Verdict: The show’s humor is off, not allowing the dialogue to reach the mark and jokes are often too long and drawn out.

Many character interactions feel forced and take up too much screen time, influencing the pace of the show. Still, there are refer-

Film: Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life
Directors: Amy Sherman-Palladino, Daniel Palladino
Writers: Amy Sherman-Palladino, Daniel Palladino
Starring: Lauren Graham, Alexis Bledel, Scott Patterson, Kelly Bishop
Runtime: 88- 102 minutes/ episode

Rating:





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Emma Tembreull/NW

Junior distance runner Kameron Burmeister runs inside the Superior Dome during the Northern Challenge on Saturday, Jan. 21 when the Wildcats took first place.

Track & Field captures Northern Challenge

By Trevor Drew

opinion editor

The track and field team kicked off the new semester by dashing their way to a meet title over the weekend in this year's Northern Challenge, the one and only meet held in NMU's Superior Dome for the season.

"I was very happy with how they performed. We had some great results especially for this early in the indoor season," head coach Jenny Ryan said. "We saw some things we still need to work on but overall, I feel like we are heading in the right direction."

Seven Wildcats combined to win nine events and totaled 265

points to top Lake Superior State (91) and the Copper County Track Club (88).

Junior Ine Mylle improved her provisional mark in the triple jump to 38-8.25 and also took the long jump (17-5.5) and 55-meter hurdles (8.70).

Despite her strong performance, Mylle said because of the smaller-sized competition she was focusing more on improving her technique rather than placing well. Mylle added that she feels she still has room for improvement technique-wise but was happy with her results regardless.

"I definitely hope to get better in my hurdles, get faster times so I can place in the finals at GLL-

ACS," Mylle said. "I already had a provisional mark for triple jump so I just hope to get better in that so I get to go to Indoor Nationals.

Junior Kameron Burmeister not only clinched the victory for NMU in the 5,000-meter run but also broke her own school record and an NCAA provisional mark with the time of 17:29.56.

The other Wildcats who claimed victories were junior Kieren Becker (mile run, 5:16.44), sophomore Paige Dutcher (400-meter run, 1:00.39), sophomore Shayla Huebner (800 meter run, 2:17.47), senior Samantha Johnson (weight throw, 49-2.25) and freshman Katelyn Smith (3,000-meter run, 11:08.63).

Smith also raced to a runner-up finish in the mile run (5:22.94) while Becker took second in the 3,000-meter run (11:12.78). Senior Avadon James placed second in both the 55-meter run (7.39) and the 200-meter run (26.53).

One reason the Wildcats were able to do well in the Northern Challenge was because of the positive atmosphere generated by the team, Mylle said.

"I think that, as a team, we all are really good together, we hang out outside of practices, we get along really well," she said.

Mylle added that she feels it helps having teammates cheering each other on in competitions and that the smaller size of the team

fortifies their bond.

Although this meet is smaller compared to future competitions, the experience and practice will give the Wildcats confidence in the bigger meets which will benefit in the long run, Ryan said.

"Now we know where we stand and what we can do," Ryan added. "When you have higher competition, you get pulled along and get to even higher levels. I think we are ready to see what we can do to some of the top people in the conference."

Northern Michigan next competes at the Doug Hansen Open hosted by Saginaw Valley State at the SVSU Fieldhouse in Saginaw, Michigan on Jan. 27.

Wildcat Hockey tries to keep momentum going through bye-week

By AnnMarie Kent

sports editor

A sweep over the University of Alaska-Anchorage Seawolves leaves the Wildcats scraping for a spot in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association play-offs.

"I was really proud of their focus that carried over into both games," head coach Walt Kyle said. "It's never easy to beat somebody twice, especially when so much is on the line right now for both teams."

During Friday night's match-up, the Wildcats sped to a 3-0 lead

in the first frame. Senior forward Dominik Shine, junior forward Robbie Payne and freshman defenseman Philip Beaulieu all found the back of the net during the period.

The only response from the Seawolves came in the first few minutes of second period when sophomore forward Jeremiah Luedtke got one past the goalie.

Shine got his second goal of the night on a powerplay near the end of the second frame. Sophomore defenseman Connor Franti started the scoring in the third with his goal 10 minutes in. Shine

ended the scoring with his second hat trick of the season.

The second night of the series sophomore goaltender Atte Tolvanen made 34 saves in a shut-out of Anchorage. Four Wildcats sank the puck in the 4-0 victory. Senior forwards Gerard Hanson and Shane Sooth, sophomore forward Troy Loggins and Payne all contributed to the Wildcat win.

After the first sweep of the season Tolvanen said the team is hoping to keep up the momentum through the bye-week.

"It's nice to have a little bye-week," Tolvanen said. "We've

been on a roll for the last couple of weekends, we've been playing better. So it would be nice to keep it going, keep the momentum going."

The team is now 7-17-4, and Sooth attributes the rocky season to weak defensive play. He said Tolvanen was doing his job of stopping the puck, but they were struggling with the rebounds.

"It all starts from your defense clawing up that middle and then the offense gets going," Sooth said. "So you really have to credit the defense first and then the offense will come."

Tolvanen said since the new year he's been pushing himself harder in practice and making an extra effort to grow as a goaltender. Kyle even said Tolvanen looks like a completely different goalie than he was before Christmas.

Tolvanen doesn't attribute the recent success of the team to his goaltending though.

"The guys [have been] unbelievable in front of me for the last two weekends," He said. "I allowed three goals in the last four games—they've been helping me so much."

SPORTS BRIEFS

STUDENT-ATHLETES

A total of 73 Northern Michigan student-athletes were named to the 2016 Fall Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference All-Academic and All-Academic Excellence teams.

18 cross country runners, 21 football players, one men's soccer player, 22 women's soccer players and 11 volleyball players were among the GLIAC honorees.

46 Wildcats received All-Academic Excellence accolades. Northern Michigan's cross country and women's soccer teams each placed a department-high 16 student-athletes on the team.

A total of 1,201 student-athletes were recognized by the GLIAC for their work in the classroom this past fall. To be eligible, a student-athlete had to be on the active roster at the end of the season and could not be a freshman or a first-year transfer. Spots on the All-Academic (3.0-3.49) and All-Academic Excellence (3.50-4.0) teams were determined based on cumulative GPA.

NORDIC SKIING

Senior Adam Martin and sophomore Nicole Schneider raced to individual titles at the Telemark Qualifier, held Saturday and Sunday at Birkie Trailhead.

The women dominated the competition at the two-day event. In Saturday's 5K classic, eight Wildcats placed in the top 10 in the 166-athlete field. On Sunday, all eight finished in the 15K freestyle's top 10.

On the men's side, five Wildcats cracked the 10K classic's top 10 and four made the 20K freestyle's top 10.

Schneider won the 15K freestyle, timing in at 49:26.1. She was joined on the podium by Northern Michigan alumna Felicia Gesior (2nd, 50:09.4) and Sophie Schimpl (3rd, 50:34.9).

Junior Caroline Brisbois (4th, 50:37.6), senior Kristen Bourne (5th, 51:19.7), junior Vivian Hett (6th, 51:40.5), junior Anikken Gjerde-Alnaes (7th, 52:13.0), sophomore Sarah Bezdicek (8th, 53:15.5) and sophomore Sophie McDonald (9th, 53:56.6) also raced to top-10 finishes in the 15K freestyle.

Martin edged teammate senior Fredrik Schwencke for a first-place finish in the 10K classic, crossing the line in 30:24.5. Martin and Schwencke (31:02.6) were joined on the podium by Northern Michigan alumnus Kyle Bratrud (31:18.9).

HOCKEY

Senior forward Dominik Shine and sophomore goaltender Atte Tolvanen garnered Western Collegiate Hockey Association weekly accolades, the league office announced Monday afternoon.

After leading the Wildcats to a sweep of Alaska-Anchorage on Jan. 20-21, Shine was named the Offensive Player of the Week for the second time in three weeks and Tolvanen captured his first Defensive Player of the Week award of the season.

Shine led a Northern Michigan offense that exploded for 10 goals during the series, posting four points (3g-1a). In Friday's 6-1 win, he recorded his second hat trick of the season. The next night, he notched the primary assist on Gerard Hanson's game-winning goal.



Neil Flavin/NW

Sophomore guard Darby Youngstrom runs the ball down the court toward the basket at the Berry Events Center.

Women's basketball grabs two home victories

By Trevor Drew

opinion editor

The Northern Michigan Women's Basketball squad snapped a 3-game losing streak and kicked off a series of home games with two decisive victories over the Lake Superior State University Lakers and the Northwood University Timberwolves over the weekend.

"I thought the defensive and rebounding end was outstanding. It was as good of a defense as we have played in a weekend all season long," head coach Troy Mattson said. "If we can do those two things on our home court and be able to put enough points up to really put some pressure on some people, we are going to have a good chance to win some basketball games."

The Wildcats popped out to a commanding 36-12 advantage over the Lakers by the end of the first half of Thursday's game, thanks to a dominating second quarter in which the 'Cats cranked out a 20-4 run.

Never breaching a single-digit score difference, the Lakers chipped away at NMU's edge but were ultimately defeated 60-44.

Freshman forward Jessica Schultz was the only Wildcat to score in the double digits, contrib-

uting 14 points. She went eight for 10 on her free-throw attempts during the game.

Sophomore guard Darby Youngstrom tied her career highs in both rebounds (10) and assists (5) while senior guard Bre Gaspervich set a career best with seven steals.

Northern Michigan carried this momentum into Saturday's contest, where the ladies pulled off a 70-50 victory over the Timberwolves.

The Wildcats nearly doubled Northwood's score by the half as the 'Cats went into the locker room with the 41-22 advantage. Three-pointers on back-to-back possessions from Timberwolf Delaney Kenny cut Northern Michigan's lead to 48-30 in the third quarter, but Northwood failed to ever clutch the lead and the Wildcats walked away with the victory.

Sophomore center Taylor Hodell led the offense with 20 points, finishing one rebound shy of a double double. Freshman forward Erin Honkala (12 points, 11 rebounds) and Schultz (11 points, 10 rebounds) each had double doubles. Gaspervich chalked up 11 points.

With a home record of 7-1 and after being on the road for the previous two weekends, sopho-

more guard Emily Schramek said that the team benefitted from being back at the Berry and is optimistic for the remaining games in the homestand.

"[Being on the road] was definitely very tiring mentally and physically on us so it was really nice to be home and we are looking to get five home wins in a row," Schramek said.

The homestand concludes this weekend with three games starting off with the Ferris State Bulldogs this Thursday.

Mattson commended the Bulldogs for a strong performance against Saginaw Valley that resulted in a loss in overtime and a win over Wayne State. Ferris has been playing well lately and they will be tough competition, he added.

"[Ferris and Saginaw Valley] are two teams we just got beat by a week ago and we had a chance to win both games," Mattson said. "Mentally and physically we need to be prepared and go out there and play like we did this past weekend. If we do that, we have got ourselves a good chance."

Northern Michigan continues its homestand next week, hosting Ferris State at 6 p.m. Jan. 26 and Grand Valley State at 1 p.m. on Jan. 28 and concludes with Michigan Tech 6 p.m. Jan. 30.





Steven Sprague/NW

Sophomore guard Isaiah Johnson handles the ball at center court during the Wildcats' loss to the Lake Superior State University Lakers on Thursday, Jan. 19.

Men's basketball hosts top GLIAC teams

By AnnMarie Kent
sports editor

The Men's Basketball team has built momentum and confidence off a 100-point game before they finish a five-game homestand against three of the top-ranked conference teams.

The Wildcats began last week's play on Thursday with a 90-80 defeat by the Lake Superior State University Lakers.

Head coach Bill Sall said he was especially disappointed with the loss to LSSU because the team played incredibly well for the first 30 minutes of the game.

"Foul trouble really hurt us," he said. "We had a number of guys that got in foul trouble, so it really thinned our bench down."

The Wildcats came back on Saturday with a 100-79 win over the Northwood University Timberwolves. The win marked the first time the Men's Basketball team broke the 100-point threshold since 2012. On Nov. 17, 2012 the team toppled division III Finlandia University 129-52.

"It's impressive to put up 100 against any division II team, but an in-conference opponent," senior forward Brett Branstrom

said. "We're just happy we're clicking... on offense right now."

Sall said he was impressed with energy and shot percentage the men were able to achieve against the Timberwolves.

The 'Cats continue conference play when they host the top three Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference north conference teams.

The No. 1 ranked Ferris State University Bulldogs visit the Berry Events Center at 8 p.m. on Thursday Jan. 26. The Bulldogs are on a 10-game win streak, their last loss was on Dec. 8 against Walsh University. Ferris has broken the 100 point-barrier in four of their last seven games, most recently on Saturday when they defeated Wayne State University 102-81.

The upcoming games haven't shaken freshman center Myles Howard. He said as long as they play as a team they can defeat anyone.

"Coach uses a mantra: play hard, play smart and play together," he said. "That's really what we've been living by these past couple of weeks and that's definitely what we're going to do."

Play continues at 3p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28 when the Wildcats

tip-off against the Grand Valley State University Lakers.

The Lakers are tied for second in GLIAC rankings with an 8-3 conference record and 12-6 overall record.

Grand Valley's last defeat was against LSSU in a 99-78 loss.

Monday night brings rivalry night back to the Berry, when NMU tips off against the Michigan Tech Huskies.

The Huskies are also tied for second place within the GLIAC with an 8-3 conference record. The bulk of Tech's losses come from their non-conference play with a 10-8 overall record.

The game starts at 8 p.m. on Monday Jan. 30.

Every time these two teams met last season the Wildcats were bested by the Huskies. The 'Cats last defeated Tech on Feb. 2, 2015. A 67-62 victory in Houghton.

Sall said the team has developed well since the beginning of the season because of players growing into leadership roles.

"We're going to have some ups and downs because we're an incredibly young team," he said. "Our leadership and the guys that are striving to keep on the right track has really helped us."

PLATFORM PERSONALITIES PRESENTS:

KEITH KNIGHT

GENTLEMAN CARTOONIST



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

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Keith Knight is the creator of three popular comic strips: The Knight Life, (th)ink, and the K Chronicles. For nearly two decades, this multi-award-winning artist has brought the funny back to the funny pages with a uniquely personal style that's a cross between Calvin & Hobbes, MAD, and underground comix. Keith is part of a generation of African-American artists who were raised on hip-hop, and infuse their work with urgency, edge, humor, satire, politics and race.

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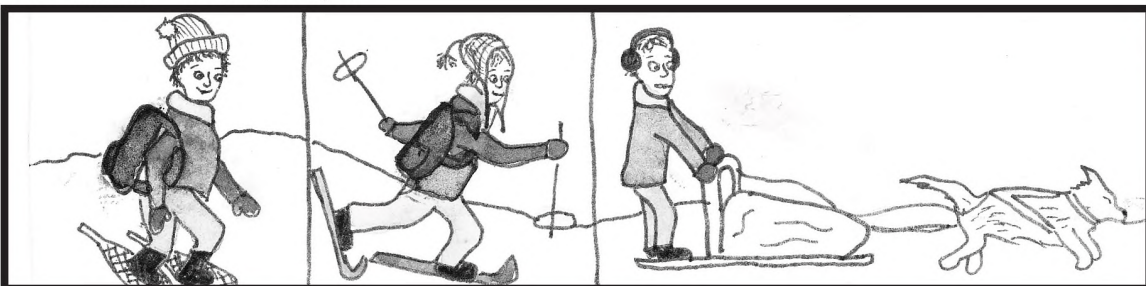
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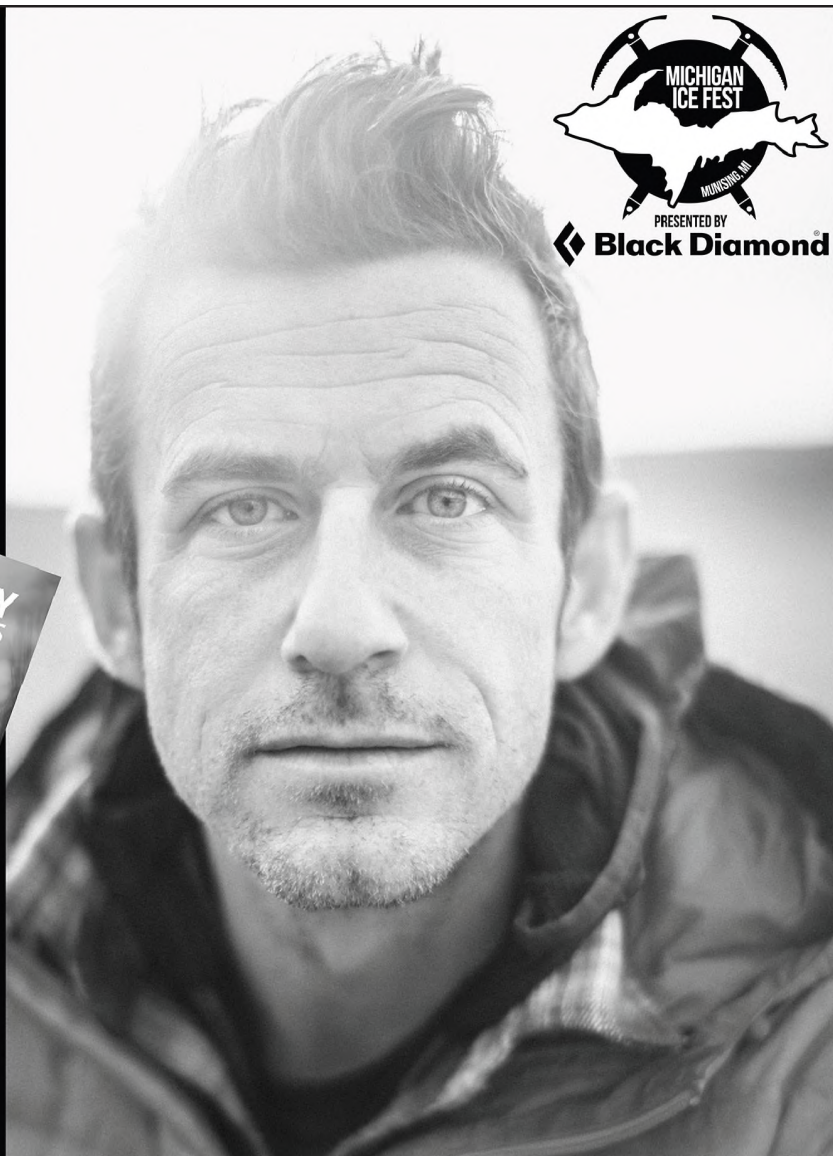
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