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VOLUME 25 ISSUE 08

The Schoolcraft Connection

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January 16, 2012

The future is here

Cars for the 21st century

BY IAN GALLAGHER
MANAGING EDITOR

Over the last few years, the North American International Auto Show has placed a heavy emphasis on hybrids and electric vehicles (EVs). But this year some of the pure EV buzz has died down. It is not because the automakers have not been pushing them, but because EVs have become more mainstream. Nearly every manufacturer this year has an electric car or an electric version of an existing model. Some new automakers at the show, such as Coda, only make EVs.

The two biggest competitors are the Chevrolet Volt and the Nissan Leaf. The Volt is technically a hybrid, but unlike other hybrids the gasoline engine only recharges the battery to run the electric motor. If one charged the Volt often it would be possible to run solely on electric power. The Nissan Leaf is pure electric. Its range allows it to be used in many areas to make short trips, but not cross-country excursions.

Chevrolet Volt

Do not write off the Volt as a slow-moving, glorified golf cart yet, especially when it features an impressive 279 lbs of instant torque. There are also three distinct driving modes: Mountain, Sport and Regular. Mountain mode increases the amount of charge kept

in reserve – 30 percent rather than the usual 20 percent – and it also kicks the generator into high gear to keep more energy for the battery. The idea is that one would activate Mountain mode while still in the foothills, saving power before the steep grades. Sport mode allows the engine to have maximum output, putting more power to the wheels. Naturally, it will shorten battery life. The Volt also has a timer displaying how long it will take to charge and an efficiency meter, which tells you when you are braking or accelerating too much, among other energy-conserving gadgets.

Nissan Leaf

Compared to the bright green interior trim of the Volt, the Nissan Leaf comes off as somewhat bland. Upon pushing the

start button a little bell fanfare plays, signifying that the engine has started, because like all EVs there is not the usual hum or vibration of the engine. The Leaf gets approximately 100 miles per charge, but if you drive at the Leaf's 90-mph top speed the range will be considerably shorter. On the other hand, with regenerative braking and slower going the range can be extended. The Leaf is also equipped with a

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Into Iraq and back again

Part II: Eight years abroad

By IAN GALLAGHER & DANIEL PEAKE
MANAGING EDITOR & SPORTS EDITOR

This is the second part in a series of three on the withdrawal of troops from Iraq. The first part was published in the December 8, 2011 issue of the Connection.

The United States invaded Iraq on March 20, 2003. The war was billed as a way to find and destroy the alleged weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) that Saddam Hussein had. The U.S. led a “coalition of the willing” which included Great Britain, Australia and Poland and Operation Iraqi Freedom was launched. Once again the conquest was quick – by May 1, President Bush declared the major combat operations over. From there the role transitioned to keeping the peace while the country was searched for WMDs and the former dictator, only one of which would eventually be found. Saddam Hussein was captured on December 14 near Tikrit, where he was born. Ragged and unshaven, he was turned over to the new Iraqi Interim Government in June 2004. This reflected the changing goal of the war, from finding and disarming WMDs to bringing democracy to Iraq.

While the U.S. troops were initially greeted with a mixture of slight cheers and curses, the hopes of goodwill that America thought would be in Iraq were dashed with the revelations about the treatment of inmates at Abu Ghraib. In April of 2004, pictures were leaked

showing, among other things, American guards smiling while standing next to a pile of hooded, naked Iraqi prisoners. It bolstered the opposition to the occupation, both at home and amongst the Iraqis. In November of 2004, American forces began a campaign to secure the city of Fallujah, a hotbed of insurgent activity.

Iraq held its first free election in 50 years on January 30, 2005. 60 percent of eligible voters turned out to cast their ballots and receive the distinctive purple dye on their index finger. International media broadcast the images of Iraqis holding up their dyed fingers with pride across the globe. The new Iraqi government took their seats on January 20, 2006, but there were months of deadlock before eventually forming a government that April. Soon after, Hussein was sentenced to death and hanged.

To better combat insurgent forces including Al-Qaeda in Iraq, President Bush ordered a “surge” in troop levels on January 10, 2007. The surge sent five army and two marine brigades – roughly 20,000 additional troops – to Iraq. This brought the number of U.S. troops to over 150,000. 2007 would

also mark the deadliest year in Iraq for American personnel with 850 troops killed.

After arriving in the Oval Office, President Barack Obama cited the economic crisis as well as the now-unnecessary bloodshed overseas and ensured that under his administration the war would indeed come to an end. President Obama announced the end of the combat mission in Iraq on August 31, 2010.

On October 21, 2011, President Obama kept the promise he made during his 2008 campaign and assured the American people that the last of the troops would be pulled out of Iraq by the end of the year. “They couldn’t

stay there forever,” said Schoolcraft political Science professor Kent Kirkpatrick, “I applaud Obama’s decision to pull out, it was long overdue. But still, the fact is you can’t force democracy on a people who obviously don’t want it. The minute we pull out, the people will hate us, extremists will take over and we’ll be back to where we started.”

Grand theft scholarship

The problem of educational loan fraud

By JOSIAH THOMAS
STAFF WRITER

It’s no secret that the country is experiencing its share of financial woes. It’s also no secret that there are people out there looking to get as much “free money” as they possibly can. These dirty cash-grabs can take many forms and one of them that hits close to school is student loan fraud.

Student loan fraud is the act of defrauding the government so that a student may receive extra money at the expense of colleges and taxpayers. Two people who know the most about this matter here at Schoolcraft College are Student Services Dean Cheryl Hagen and Director of Financial Aid Regina Mosley. According to Hagen, loan fraud is one of “various schemes to illegally apply for grants and student loans.” The most common instances of this sort of fraud are when students use a false identity to apply for college loans and engage in the least amount of registration activity necessary to secure a loan.

Fraud and punishment
Student loan fraud has been a crime since 1975 when Robert

Michel, a Republican congressman from Illinois, composed the Student Loan Act, making loan fraud a federal offense. Regardless of what the laws are, the Cato Institute reported in May 2009 an increase in fraud through false identities, theft from Pell Grants and working through the welfare system. These crimes have fallen under the supervision of both the thousands of private institutions responsible for handling the issue and the government alike. Penalties for committing loan fraud include a maximum of five years in prison and up to \$20,000 in fines. An example is Michelle Owens of South Carolina. She was sentenced to 51 months in prison and ordered to pay restitution for orchestrating a student aid scam.

Schoolcraft and loan fraud
Fortunately, Schoolcraft itself has not had many occurrences of loan fraud due to the College’s tracking and monitoring of student attendance and IP addresses. Students are only awarded their financial aid and scholarships when their attendance has been verified.

“Staff time and effort goes into investigating suspicious activities, ensuring that aid is disbursed to only eligible students, resolving discrepancies in student information,” said Mosley, “Such measures take away the time that can be spent processing students with legitimate applications and need.”

“Because the government is urging all institutions to have safeguards in place,” said Hagen, “Students may find more stringent requirements in order to prove their identity, which naturally creates added barriers for students.”

This says a great deal about Schoolcraft College as it has done generally well in keeping funds secured in spite of so many students and even schools that ignore the penalties.

As a parting note, Hagen reminded students to keep in mind the severe consequences for engaging in student loan fraud.

“We will catch you,” said Hagen. “And the penalties are severe.”



Attention: This is a test

How RAVE could save lives

By LEAH ESSLINGER
STAFF WRITER

The atrocities of the now infamous 2007 Virginia Tech shootings served as an eye-opener for college students across the country. The shootings claimed the lives of 32 people, leaving an additional 25 people wounded. It is the deadliest assault by any gunman in the history of the United States. While violence in high schools (like the tragedy at Columbine in April of 1999) is on the forefront of people's minds, Virginia Tech served a bloody reminder: anything can happen, anytime, anywhere. Since then, Schoolcraft has been hard at work trying to find an effective warning system to alert students and faculty of any possible threats. With RAVE Mobile Security and SAlerts, Schoolcraft students can breathe a little easier.

Introducing SAlerts

RAVE Mobile Safety is a third-party provider that specializes in emergency notification and safety software. Along with the RAVE Company, Schoolcraft's Campus Security team developed SAlerts, allowing students to stay connected through email, text and voicemail alerts. "We want to give folks multiple means of knowing what's happening on campus," said Director of Campus Security Police, John Monge. "No one delivery system is going to meet the needs of everybody, so we wanted a system that gives multiple delivery methodology."

It is important to note, however, that the creation of the system is not meant to inspire fear in the student body. It serves a very practical purpose as well. "It can let you know to stay in bed because of a snow day," said Monge.

No more do students need to stay glued to the television or radio for school closing information or risk

life and limb driving in to take that big test only to realize the College is closed. Students and faculty can also anonymously report anything from academic issues and incidents of personal property damage to possible threats to personal or public safety.

Refining RAVE

Wanting a system that gives multiple delivery methodology and also works efficiently has been the intention of the College for the past few years. The system underwent a nation-wide test of the government's Emergency Alert System on Nov. 9, 2011. College employees that signed up to test the system successfully received text alerts. Furthermore, the system will be tested no less than twice each year, as mandated by the government. The College remains ever vigilant to any possible weaknesses in the system.

What it's not

While it would be naive to think that mass acts of violence could never occur at Schoolcraft, it is good to stay connected to the goings on at Schoolcraft for many reasons. It is important to know that the system will not inform students of individual class cancellations, nor is the program used to deliver advertising of any kind. It simply functions to allow the College to communicate with numerous individuals as quickly and efficiently as possible.

"As we learned with Virginia Tech," said Monge, "as situations unfold on campus we need to get information out as quickly as possible."

Signing up for SAlerts is free, easy and only takes a few minutes. It can be accessed at www.schoolcraft.edu/stayconnected.

In our news

By RAMON RAZO
NEWS EDITOR

National News

Stop us if you've heard this one or if you're just really offended. A trend among dog lovers is having their canine companions take part in a Bark Mitzvah to celebrate the dog's coming of age. Yes, folks, you read that right. No, we're not joking.

An obvious play on words from the Jewish Bar Mitzvah, the ceremonies celebrate the dog's coming of age at two-years old (12 or 13 in human years).

"I perform Bark Mitzvahs because it's a blessing for the animals," Lee Day told the Associated Press.

Day recently performed a "Bark Mitzvah" for a dog named Nicky in New Jersey. "I really believe that the animals have a right to have a party and a religion."

The idea first gained popularity back in 1997 when it was covered by the New York Times. As to be expected, the celebration gained criticism.

"This is nothing less than a desecration of a cherished Jewish tradition and degrades some of the central principles of Jewish life," wrote Rabbi Charles A. Kroloff in a letter to the editor.

In other news, Catholic cats will begin taking the blood and body of Christ in holy com-meow-nion.

Warner Bros. will begin requiring video rental outlets to wait 56 days before they are able to rent out DVDs. As it currently stands, DVD rental outlets such as Blockbuster and Redbox purchase new releases at lower, bulk rates. With the new delay in place (which will go into effect on Feb. 1) video rental outlets will now have to purchase DVDs at regular consumer prices. The move is aimed at generating more revenue for distributors as the DVD business continues to decline.

Netflix has agreed to abide by the delay. However, Redbox interim President Gregg Kaplan has stated that they will not wait longer than the usual 28-day waiting period.

Local news

Retired Detroit firefighter Brendon Milewski wasn't going to let the collapse of a two-story building (right on top of him) stop him from walking. Earlier this month, Milewski took his first steps in a bionic suit developed by California-based Ekso Bionics.

Milewski, along with six others, took part in a demonstration of the \$130,000 device at the Detroit Medical Center's Rehabilitation Center of Michigan. The suit is powered by four motors, two batteries and 15 sensors. The design of the suit is based on models created by the military to help troops carry heavy loads.

"We took the idea of the external skeleton, and we added nerves in the form of sensors and motors that represent your muscles and computers that represent your brain," said Eythor Bender, CEO of Ekso Bionics. The device is planned to be utilized at rehabilitation centers sometime in April. They will be available for home use in 2013 or 2014.

Meet the Supercommittee

The committee is made up of senators of Patty Murray (D-WA), Max Baucus (D-MT), John Kerry (D-MA), Jon Kyl (R-AR), Rob Portman (R-OH) and Pat Toomey (PA), and representatives who are made up of Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Jim Clyburn (D-SC), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Jeb Hensarling (R-TX), Fred Upton (R-MI), and Dave Camp (R-MI).

Budget, cuts and the American way

The "failure" of the Supercommittee

By **TODD WALSH AND RAMON RAZO**
STAFF WRITER AND NEWS EDITOR

Over the summer, Congress had to make a decision on the debt ceiling. In an attempt to add more time to the deadline, the Budget Control Act 2011 was created. In this act, the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction (known as the "Supercommittee") was created. The compromise for permitting the creation of this committee was the guarantee of automatic budget cuts if the committee failed to reach an agreement within a specified time limit.

What is the Supercommittee?

During harsh times, the government, in order to handle a specific duty, will sometimes create a sub-organization. An example is the Joint Committee of Atomic Energy. Their job was to oversee the United States Atomic Energy Commission back in the 1940s.

The committee is made up of twelve members from Congress: six Democrats and six Republicans. (See

sidebar). The Supercommittee's job was to find an additional \$1.5 trillion in debt savings over a 10-year period. They were to do this by looking at programs that could be done away with or cut.

Did they fail?

Now that the committee's call to action is done, the big question is the nature of their failure to reach an agreement. As mentioned earlier, the committee is broken into two groups comprised of both Democrats and Republicans. This naturally led to conflicts over health care, tax cuts and other issues. When a stalemate ensued, automatic cuts were triggered.

"It had good intentions, but it was bound not to work," said John Dalton, chairman of the Schoolcraft College Republicans. He points out how difficult it is to get a bipartisan committee to agree on what to cut and how much to raise taxes, if at all. The committee's failure to come to an agreement will

automatically trigger \$1.2 trillion in cuts in government spending.

What is being cut?

There is some difference of opinion of where programs will experience budget cuts. Many agencies, like the Environmental Protection Agency and The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, are claiming they will be harder to run. The FDA could cut their food inspectors by 600 and airport security personnel could be drastically reduced as a result. Other cuts will occur in border patrol and law enforcement. Many programs like Medicaid, Medicare and social security will likely experience cuts as well. Schools K-12 that rely on federal aid will see a deduction of over \$1 billion for special needs programs and after school programs. Tuition could also greatly increase. The military will also experience a budget reduction.

"Obviously, cuts are good," said

Dalton, "but the cuts aren't targeting the areas we need."

On the other hand, some supporters of the supercommittee's "failure" to compromise welcome the automatic cuts.

"It's not a decrease in the military budget. It's reducing the increase," said John Isaacs, executive director of Council for a Livable World and Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation.

Looking forward

The automatic budget cuts won't begin until January of 2013. This could potentially give lawmakers, critical of the cuts that are in place, lots of time to try and reverse or block them. The president says he will veto any attempted attacks on the cuts.

"It doesn't begin for 13 months," said Jim Kessler, Senior Vice President for Policy for the group Third Way. "Between now and then is an eternity for Congress."

FUTURE AUTO

continued from PAGE 1

"Turtle mode" where, as the battery is drained, the car will go slower and slower. If one activates "Eco mode" the Leaf will be able to pull another 10 mpg on the range. One can move in and out of the Eco mode while driving.

Unlike the Chevy Volt, the Leaf is solely designed to be a commuter car. The time required to recharge from zero percent (seven to eight hours from a charging station and a full 16 hours from a regular wall outlet) forces the Leaf to stay within close range of a power source. The up-range SL model, however, has a 440-volt charger which allows it to charge up to 80 percent in 30 minutes.

The Future is Coming

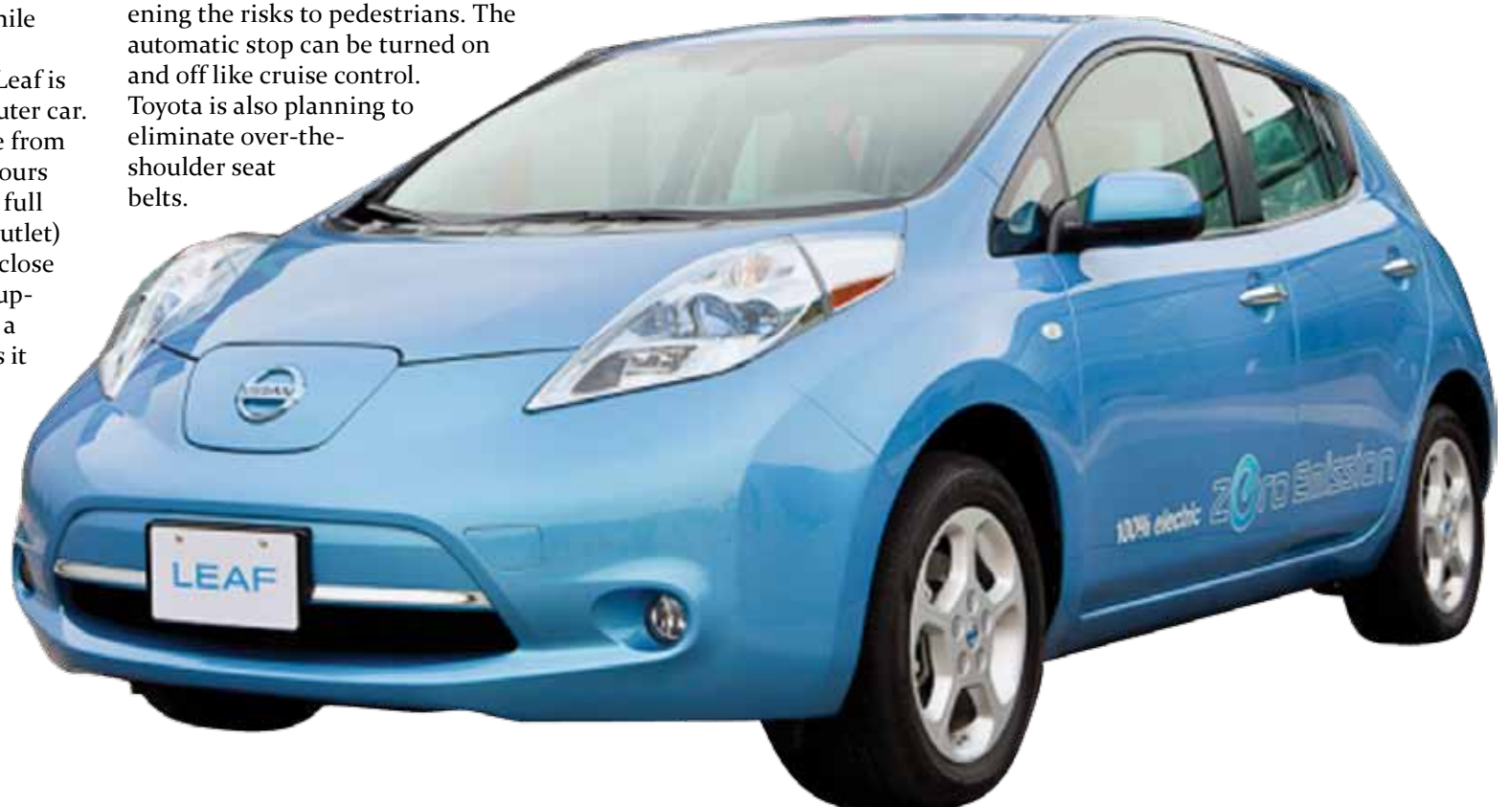
The technological innovations on display are not limited to engines and powertrains. Toyota is exhibiting its future safety technology with concepts that use a series of radars, sensors and airbags to increase spatial awareness and help protect those inside and outside the

vehicle. The car will automatically stop if the sensors detect something in front of the car. If it is too late to come to a full stop and a collision with a pedestrian is imminent there will be external airbags that deploy out of the A-pillar (the support beam between the windshield and the front windows) to cushion the blow, lessening the risks to pedestrians. The automatic stop can be turned on and off like cruise control. Toyota is also planning to eliminate over-the-shoulder seat belts.

Instead, there would be a series of airbags deployed from the seat and the lap belt, although this would result in a loss of upper body restraint in situations where the airbags would not be deployed.

The other automakers are rushing to catch up to Nissan and GM in terms of EV technology. Soon, the

Leaf and the Volt will have to compete with the Honda Fit Electric, the Ford Focus Electric and Volkswagen's electric offerings, not to mention Toyota's formidable and growing Prius family. So it looks like EVs are here to stay. The future has arrived, and it makes a little bell sound.



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- The First Amendment to the Constitution

i Don't get it



LIKE THE TRUTH, BUT BETTER

By JONATHAN KING

EDITOR IN CHIEF

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Well, I finally got one. The transcendent technological toy, the Holy Grail of hipsterism, the shiniest of shiny objects, the beloved Apple iPad 2. And I'm here to tell you that as I stand here, \$700 leaner, I am distinctly not in love with it.

Before you start typing up hate mail, let me assure you that this is not an anti-Apple rant. Truth is, I quite like Apple. I'm not particularly brand-loyal, but I do maintain a fairly equal mix of Apple and non-Apple electronics – in fact, I'm typing this article up on my MacBook Pro as we speak (a piece of equipment I am dearly in love with). So why has the iPad escaped my infatuation? Well, the problem is the iPad does everything I want it to do ... just not that well.

Let's start with work. As someone who almost always has a Droid in his pocket and a MacBook by his side, I would be hard-pressed to imagine a

task best suited to a device less functional than a laptop and less portable than a smartphone.

The iPad is not a tool for productivity. The iPad is a tool that allows you to say you have an iPad. I know the iPad wasn't exactly meant for a person like me. Still, as tablet computers are supposed to be the wave of the future – destined to replace laptops, so they say – it's surprising how backward the iPad feels when it comes to getting things done. The lack of multitasking and processing power means in most situations it's delegated to menial tasks. Granted, the iPad can do a lot of little things very well but so can a \$200 netbook. Sure, you don't get a fancy touch screen but I was under the impression that the future was about efficiency over novelty.

So let's talk about games. I am a gamer who owns multiple consoles ranging from Atari to PS3 and a decent PC. So what does the iPad offer someone like me for whom digital entertainment is a hardware necessity? Well, I hope you like Sudoku.

The iPad is not a game console, it's a distraction machine.

If there's one thing the iPad offers in terms of gaming, it's potential. If there's one thing the iPad's game library does, it's to squander that potential. Deep, compelling gaming experiences are traded in for beautiful time-wasters that don't provide a sense of accomplishment as much as a sense of "What am I doing with my life?" And if you play anything with 3-D graphics, you quickly realize that the iPad has the processing capabilities of a pre-

millennium computer. The plus side? The games are cheap. The downside? You can find hundreds of Flash games online for free that can provide similarly addicting experiences. Oh wait ... the iPad doesn't support Flash. I guess you're stuck.

Well, what about music production? Well, in 2010 Damon Albarn of Gorillaz attempted to show the capabilities of the iPad by creating an entire album ("The Fall") with the device. The result? The worst Gorillaz album to date. Sorry, Damon. The iPad is not a music studio, it's a music accessory.

As a sonic toy or a scratchpad for musical ideas, the iPad is pretty cool. As anything else, it's lacking. Serious, professional, versatile applications just aren't there yet. There are several useful applications which do have real-world potential but how much are you going to pay for digital sheet music? For the same price as or less than a base-level iPad, you could purchase software that is much more versatile or some hardware that is much more useful and get your home studio started off properly. And if you're dead-set on feeding Apple money, you could

get Apple's Logic Pro software (\$199) and still have hundreds of dollars left for microphones and chocolate bars. As a musician, I feel short-changed.

For all its beauty and innovation, the iPad demonstrably has no place in my life ... and yet I can't put it down.

Stephen Fry referred to the iPad as "a magical device," and I concur – it is a mystical object that wills you to use it with its very existence. You want it to be brilliant so you find a way to make it brilliant. The touch screen is intuitive and fun. In most cases it makes whatever I'm doing that much more engaging. I want to have a good time with it even if the games are shallow. I want to be creative with it even if the tools are basic. To quote the immortal R. Kelly, "My mind is telling me no/ But my body/ My body's telling me yes."

For you, the iPad might be everything you want and more. As it stands, I am still not in love. Maybe the device will grow on me. Maybe it won't. In the meantime, all I have to say is congratulations, Apple ... you crafty sons of guns you.



PEAKE PERFORMANCE

By DANIEL PEAKE

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Spread the stars

Allow me to introduce myself; I'm discontent. Why you ask? Of all the sports I cover and show interest toward, there's no other that captivates me like professional basketball. Sadly, that means I'm stuck with today's NBA.

There was a time when the NBA was an organization highly regarded for its competitive spirit. The playoffs were an event organized with 12 teams all greatly endowed with the talent necessary to take it all. That was about 10-20 years ago. Today, my heart grows weary with the recent establishment of "super teams."

Yes, I'm one of the few who haven't hopped on the "big-three" bandwagon. The 2008 big three from Boston (hate them), the big three in Miami (despise them even more) and, this season, the failed attempt to make a big three in Los Angeles (discontent indescribable, so use your imagination) are all examples of superstar players combining their talents on one team. This pooling of elite talent means the remaining NBA teams are left devoid of any stars to keep these teams interesting.

Forgive my unapologetic demeanor but when exactly did this become the movie "Space Jam"? Sure Jordan had a talented group with him in the '95-96 season, but he didn't have Magic Johnson and Hakeem Olajuwon for point and center! Everyone was simply at an understanding that, despite the presence of Dennis Rodman and Scotty Pippen, the star was Michael Jordan and without him they wouldn't have made a championship run. Jordan was the type of competitor that wanted to beat the other all-star players, not ally with them. After years of watching Jordan strive to improve his game and overcome stubborn opponents (see Detroit Pistons, aka, the Bad Boys) I have no compassion for the star players who thought it necessary to run to a team who would deliver two other stars in hopes of winning a title, not to mention any names (**cough, cough, LeBron**).

Now, in the beginning 2011-2012 season, or the remains thereof, we heard rumors of the Lakers trying to buy out Dwight Howard, the all-star center from Orlando. Moreover, we see another game-changing elite player, point guard Chris Paul, traveling to the Clippers to be coupled with sophomore sensation Blake Griffin along with one of the most postseason-savvy guards in the league, Chauncey Billups.

What's the sum total of it all? If business continues in this manner, the NBA will be filled with a majority of terrible teams while we focus on the four or five stacked with the majority of elite talent, stats and records. However, since the majority of beer chuggin', popcorn stuffin' fans just want the entertainment of a competitive league, change will be a long time coming. So what are my predictions for 2013? NBA Champions Los Angeles Lakers, Finals co-MVP's: Kobe Bryant, Dwight Howard, Derrick Rose, Kevin Durant and Blake Griffin.

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About the problem with cars



KICKING & SCREAMING

By IAN GALLAGHER
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The invention of the car will forever be remembered as the point where the modern age truly began. They are miraculous inventions that allow us to travel great distances in comfort and style. But there is, like many great things in life, a proper time and place for them. The near indispensableness of cars has resulted in them losing some of their luster and appeal.

One should be able to live the bulk of one's life without having to use a car for the daily drudgeries. For this there is new urbanism which focuses on sustainable, mixed-use urban development. A major tenant of new urbanism is walkability where it is possible to live entirely car-free through having access to all of one's daily needs within walking distance of their homes and work. Areas with a high degree of walkability are common in Europe and major East Coast cities like Washington D.C. and New York City. But there should be ways for this to exist in suburbia or, more ideally, in a new urban landscape.

The majority of commerce in America takes place in two areas: shopping malls and big box stores. Both are free-standing buildings surrounded by expansive parking lots. These not only look horrible aesthetically but further force the use of cars for ridiculously short trips such as visiting two stores on opposite ends of a large strip mall or across the street from each other.

Unfortunately, most new urbanist projects are constructed on greenfield sites, meaning there was previously no development on the location. This, while making a good test bed for new urbanism, only further contributes to suburban sprawl. Still, ideas taken from new urbanism are being set into motion to revitalize the downtowns of major urban areas.

In Miami, mobility is a major issue. According to the Congress for the New Urbanism, the city has abolished the traditional zoning designations that have spurred the spread of the automobile. For example, rather than separate residential zones and commercial zones that are common throughout the country and often result in large unwalkable expanses between areas (necessitating the use of a car), Miami will now focus on mixed-use patterns, where commercial and residential space will now share not only the same neighborhood and block, but possibly even the same building.

Detroit, too, grappling with attempts to revitalize its downtown. Plans have come and gone over various forms of rapid transit, from high-speed buses to a light-rail system. The goal of any public transportation network is to facilitate people's movements without the need for a car. While a transportation system will not solve Detroit's many economic woes, it will help the city attract young professionals that prefer to live in walkable areas.

New urbanism offers the possibility to save the planet but, more importantly, it could save driving. Driving is something that is meant to be enjoyed. Nothing compares to sitting behind the wheel and feeling the wind blow while cruising down the highway or country back roads, listening to the hum of the engine and the tires roll over the pavement. Roads are meant to be open. One shouldn't have to spend their time stuck in traffic, or behind a '93 Corolla going 15 miles under the speed limit going from one store to the next.

The fear of argument

About a month ago, a friend of mine posted a video of Rick Perry on Facebook calling him a loser for his "homophobia" and "hatefulness." I challenged the idea of Perry being hateful, stating one can disagree with a person's lifestyle without being disrespectful. Well, that opened up the flood gates. I was raked over the social networking coals for being "intolerant," "disrespectful" and "pushing my beliefs." His whole family defriended my opinion. His sister even blocked me. I hoped that if my friend wanted to claim something, he'd be able to substantiate his claims.

This is not a bit about homosexuality. This is not a bit about Rick Perry. (For the record, the campaign video in question is atrocious.) I only wished to pick my friend's brain and engage in friendly discussion. This whole notion of "how dare you challenge my beliefs" is really puzzling. Why be afraid to debate?

In my life, my beliefs have frequently been challenged. People have told me I'm crazy, that God is a lie and Jesus is a joke. What is my response? Yelling at them, claiming they're hateful, insulting them personally and shutting down all communication (as my friend did)?

No. I'm calm and respectful. I ask them why they believe this. Afterward, the ball is in their court to prove themselves intelligent and respectful or a rage-filled megalomaniac. The best way to prove a fool as such is to let them talk. I'm confident in my beliefs. However, if you have to resort to name calling and cut off all interaction with someone because you are incapable of backing up what you believe, maybe it's time to reconsider your beliefs.

Two issues that seem to generate the most heat are abortion and homosexuality. When I say something along the lines of "I believe it is wrong for a woman to have her baby killed for any reason," I am attacking the issue, not the women. When this article goes to

LET'S BROADEN OUR MINDS



By RAMON RAZO
NEWS EDITOR
misterrazo@gmail.com

print, a friend of mine will have likely killed her baby on the grounds that she just doesn't want to be pregnant. When I tell her I think that what she's doing is wrong, it's because I think her actions are wrong. I don't think she is evil.

As for the homosexuality issue, I always saw it as no different as any other lifestyle that a Christian belief sees as harmful. Without a doubt, morons like Fred Phelps and the hate-mongers at the Westboro Baptist Church do exist but they are not examples of real Christian love.

But it doesn't matter. Issues like these two, along with issues like socialized healthcare, prayer in schools, the death penalty and other hot-button issues always generate hefty emotions. The problem is when people take the discussions personally or out of proportion, checking their brains at the door.

We are not Vulcans. We are creatures of emotion and feeling. Those things are important but when it comes to the realm of argument, we have to keep our emotions in check. Stick with the facts. Use your brain. Most importantly, keep it respectful. Debate is how we discover truth. As the Sir Arthur Conan Doyle character Sherlock Holmes says, "When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth."

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KEEP
IN
MIND

By Kim Poma
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR
kpmail7@yahoo.com

Just the other day, as I was heading to work, I saw one of those Salvation Army buckets, the bell ringer and everything, still seeking donations. A year ago, I would have marched right over to the bucket and happily slipped a dollar inside. I would have felt proud about myself for the rest of the day. A year ago, I didn't know that the Salvation Army is very particular about who their money and aid goes to. And now that I do? I can't look at those buckets the same way again.

Last November, an article was

brought to my attention, in which were the details that the Salvation Army actively discriminates against the LGBTQ community. They will not give money or any form of help to anyone who may be gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. This knocked me off my feet when I found out. So I did a little digging.

On their website, under the "About Us" tab, the Salvation Army is described as "an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination." This, of course, was enough explanation that I needed.

Further digging led me to the website's mission statements. Under homosexuality, the text reads "the services of The Salvation Army are available to all who qualify, without regard

to sexual orientation." This would be fantastic if it was true. An article in the New York Times brought to my attention a man by the name of Bill Browning who was both homeless and in a relationship with another man.

The Salvation refused to help the couple unless they broke up and left their sinful life of homosexuality behind. They were told that only one could stay in the shelter if they broke up unless there was room for the other. And even if there was, they would have to sleep on opposite sides of the room and were not allowed to look at each other.

Here's the thing though: The Salvation Army does help people. Logging onto their website right now shows me they've managed to raise over \$1,000,000. And the money *does* go to people who may need it. And I totally understand that religion and homosexuality aren't exactly syn-

onyms. But if you're running an organization that preaches services available to all, you really should stick behind that mentality.

Salvation Army has the power to help anyone who comes asking. I think it's really unfair that they're allowed to pick and choose exactly who they help and who has to sleep outside in the cold. At times in which more and more people are losing homes, jobs and every stable thing they hold dear, organizations should not play favorites.

These articles really opened my eyes and I can only imagine others who had no idea the stipulations that went with the red bucket. I'm glad I found out and now I'm going to make sure my dollars go to an organization that doesn't discriminate.

Fairytales & truer tales

THROUGH
THE LOOKING
GLASS



By Alys Dolan
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
alysmarie91@gmail.com

As a child we are read fairytales of princesses and witches that end with good triumphing over evil. Usually the prince saved the beautiful princess, they went on to live happily ever after and we went around hoping to find a prince or princess. The evildoers, be it the stepmothers, wicked queens or sea witches, wound up banished or left all alone. Now, at 20-years old, I realize how far from a princess I am and, upon looking deeper into fairytales, I have

found that most are not what they were when I was a child.

When I was a little girl my favorite was the story of "The Little Mermaid," a young beautiful singing mermaid who traded her voice to a wicked sea witch for the ability to walk on land. She changed her whole life at a chance for true love. In the classic Disney tale, the red head defeated the sea witch and married the prince. However, that is not what the original story by Hans Christian Anderson said. The mermaid went to the sea witch for legs and the sea witch cut out her tongue as payment. The witch explained that the mermaid would experience horrific pain with every step, she was not meant to have legs and the sensation of walking would be nearly unbearable. She was told to marry the prince and then she would gain an immortal soul and feel the happiness all humans feel. With no voice this task is difficult but the prince did love her most of any woman he had met ... until he found the neighboring princess. The two married and the little mermaid's heart was broken, then she turned into sea

foam. Disney seems to have left these details out.

The fable of Snow White was another favorite of young girls. However Disney and many storybooks forgot some excruciating details. The queen demands that when the huntsman returns, he must bring back Snow White's heart and place it in a locked chest. Fair enough, yet one does wonder what this woman going to do with the heart of the maiden princess. Well, in the early versions of this story, it was clearly stated: eat it. The queen actually asked for many of the young princess' organs: lung, liver, colon, the whole nine yards. The carnivorous queen wanted to devour her insides. Fear not, for the queen received a fitting end. On the day of Snow White and Prince Charming's wedding, the queen reaches into a fireplace and retrieves scolding hot iron shoes. She places these shoes onto her feet and dances around until she falls down dead. This version of the story would have unquestionably scarred children, so parents and motion picture companies cleaned it up a little bit.

Finally comes the well-known story

of Sleeping Beauty, a beautiful princess who pricks her finger on a spinning wheel and falls into a deep sleep. The version that has been cleaned up details how the Prince finds the sleeping princess and is so overcome with desire, he ... well, has his way with her. She is in a deep slumber. If that was not bad enough, she becomes pregnant and gives birth to twins. She is still in a deep slumber. One of her children crawl onto her in search of milk and latches onto her finger by mistake, the baby dislodges the cursed piece of wood that caused the sleep and his mother awakens. I am sure she had one of those, "Dude, what happened last night?" moments.

These well-known fairytales have influenced much of my character and behavior. I am kind to animals, sweet to others and sing to my cat each morning. They have been misleading and now I realize I can take more away from the original stories than the sanitized versions: keep my distance from stepmothers, always sleep with my door locked and no man is worth losing my life for.

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EDITOR'S OPINIONS

With winter break still in full swing and no students on campus to query, we turned to our own politically-diverse Connection editorial staff and asked their opinion of the ongoing primaries.

Compiled & Photos by Steven Grill

"What do you think of the primary process?"



Ramon Razo
NEWS EDITOR

Political affiliation:
Conservative

"I always find the process fascinating. While it's frustrating not being able to find the 'perfect candidate,' this is a good time to try and weigh your opinions in who's going to be running your country."



Kim Poma
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Political affiliation:
Team Obama

"I don't want any Republican running to be my President. I thank the primary process for shining the light on their stupidity."



Alyson Dolan
A & E EDITOR

Political affiliation:
Libertarian/Rebel Alliance

"I find it to be beneficial because it allows voters to see a candidate before hand. It gets information out there on who could possibly be the next President of the United States."



Dan Peake
SPORTS EDITOR

Political affiliation:
Communist/Green Party

"Marxism will rise again!"



Sarah LaVier
WEB EDITOR

Political affiliation:
Democrat

"I have not been following the primary process, so therefore, no thoughts, comments or feelings."



Mandy Getschman
LAYOUT EDITOR

Political affiliation:
Independent

"I wish the primary process would be more attention-grabbing so the public would actually benefit from the information presented."



Ian Gallagher
MANAGING EDITOR

Political affiliation:
Libertarian/Sith

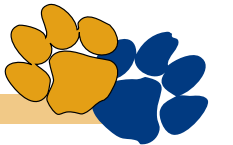
"The primaries are a great way for politicians and political junkies to get excited for the election."



Jon King
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Political affiliation:
Libertarian/Jedi

"It's an essential process that degrades into an overblown, over-hyped media production designed to remind us of what we already know and make us sick of the political process before it's begun."



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Ready, set, workout

College to open new fitness center

By KIM POMA
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

With the new year comes new resolutions. Usually, the most popular of which involves the desire to lose excess holiday weight. Luckily, Schoolcraft is stepping up to aid its students, staff and faculty in this cause. A new fitness center is being added to the PE building on campus, where students will be able to enjoy state-of-the-art exercise equipment for only \$15 monthly. (See sidebar for more pricing options.) The College is even employing professional trainers to help students meet their personal goals and will eventually hire student employees. "It's a real resource for students that wasn't previously available," said Leslie Petty, Assistant Dean of Continuing Education and Professional Development and an active staff member in the center's creation. And this center isn't just for students – members of the community are also welcome to join.

But don't just go to shed those holiday pounds and consider the work done. Schoolcraft is truly spoiling its students with this new center in hopes that it will be used throughout the entire year. There will be temporary digital lockers inside the fitness center for members to store personal items while they exercise and full-size lockers are also available through the main equipment room in the Physical Education building. Members will be responsible for bringing their own lock. The locker room facilities include a dry sauna, updated lockers and shower facilities.

Other centerpiece aspects of the facility will be 13 state-of-the-art treadmills, motion and elliptical trainers and a bevy of other advanced equipment. Most of these will include touch screen features and individual mounted televisions. What better way to exercise than along with your favorite show? Free weights and Kaiser Strength training machines will be available for those opting for lower-tech training.

Members are encouraged to take free fitness assessments (which are not mandatory for membership) in order to get an idea of where they measure up against norms for body fat, flexibility, strength and aerobic endurance so that they may begin building a workout regimen that suits their needs. There's even a juice bar for healthy, post-workout rehydration.

The hours are simple. The Fitness Center will be opened as long as the campus is open. (For specific hours, see the sidebar.) Membership forms and sign-up sheets are available at the PE building. The Fitness Center itself won't be opening until the end of January but it's better to come sooner rather than later in order to reserve the day and time that best fits your schedule.

"This center will be the pride of Schoolcraft campus!" gushed Patricia Donohue-Ebach, a Physical Education instructor here on campus. "We are looking forward to serving all of the students, faculty and staff and surrounding community in this state of the art center. We encourage everyone to come and check it out when we open at the end of January."

For any additional information regarding the center, visit www.schoolcraft.edu/fitnesscenter or call 734-462-4348.



Fitness Hours:

Mon-Thurs 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m.
Friday 5:30 a.m.-9 p.m.
Saturday 7 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Schoolcraft Fitness Center membership rates

Current active credit students/current active faculty and staff: \$15 per month
Current active CEPD students: \$20 per month
Community members: \$25 per month, plus a \$35 one-time enrollment fee.

Shooting still frames

A snapshot of the Photography Club

By TIERNEY SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Since the invention of the camera there have always been people who love to take photographs. For some it's what they live for. "The Schoolcraft Photography Club provides an informal, friendly and supportive environment for students at all levels of ability and with interests in all types of photographic imagery," explained the club advisor, Professor Rena Laverty, "The club offers means for members to share ideas and knowledge with each other and to promote an interest in photography throughout the community."

The club offers students a chance to hone their skills and improve their portfolios. The Photography Club also provides opportunities to capture the world on a still frame in a new way. Students can experiment with and learn about new angles, close ups and shadow play among many other techniques. "Experience is not necessary. Just a love of taking pictures and the desire to learn and improve your skills," said Laverty.

In addition to the learning and experience opportunities, the club also offers members the chance to hear feedback from other photographers about their work and networking opportunities. There is also some fundraising to go on a variety of trips. During meetings, members talk about the photos they have taken and work on projects. These assignments consist of taking pictures to go along with a particular subject or use a new technique that has yet to be explored or one that members need more practice. The group also helps answer any questions about shooting photos or anything else involving photography.

This club was started by Mandy Getschman in 2010 with the hope of getting students to come together

for one common purpose: taking pictures. Getschman used the experience to become the Layout Editor for The Schoolcraft Connection where she continues to put her photography talents to good use on a daily basis. "People should join the Photography Club to benefit from sharing ideas and opportunities from fellow photography enthusiasts of all skill levels," Getschman advised. "Everyone has something to offer."

The club is now run by Mathew Schwedt and meetings have changed from Wednesdays to Thursdays at 5 p.m. in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center. There are many trips and events that keep members active. Some of the annual trips include a visit to the Toledo Zoo and possibly an end of the year road trip. "On our Facebook page we are constantly posting events, competitions and places for people to shoot," said Schwedt.

A Studio Lighting Seminar is being put together as one of many events planned for this month. To stay updated on events and the latest club news, check out the Schoolcraft Photography Club on Facebook or inquire at the Student Activities Office located in the Lower Waterman area of the VisTaTech Center. If you have any questions, members are willing to answer them for you.



Who: Photography Club
When: Thursdays at 5 p.m.
Where: Lower Waterman of
VisTaTech Center

Secrets of the Quill

By PETER HELMS
STAFF WRITER

Student question: After a month of disappointing weather, class is back in session and I've already been assigned a paper. Of course, the professor had to start things off with a big speech about plagiarism. Every semester it's the same, so what's the big deal?

Answer: Plagiarism is a big deal in the academic world and everyone at Schoolcraft takes the issue very seriously. Despite the regular warnings, some students fall victim to the temptation to plagiarize. Forewarned is forearmed, so let's discuss this important topic a bit.

So what is plagiarism? It's the act of using the work of someone else and passing it off as your own original work. This can occur actively and knowingly, or passively and unwittingly. That's right, folks, plagiarizing can get you in trouble even if you don't know you're doing it, much like George Harrison, the former Beatle, with his song "My Sweet Lord." His song sounded similar to the song "He's So Fine" by the Chiftons, who won a lawsuit for just over half-a-million dollars. It may not be as bad if you do it but you can still lose scholarships, grants or be stuck with paying for a class you just failed.

Why is plagiarism so bad? For one thing, it's dishonest. In addition, it's stealing. While forgetting to cite a source may seem like a minor

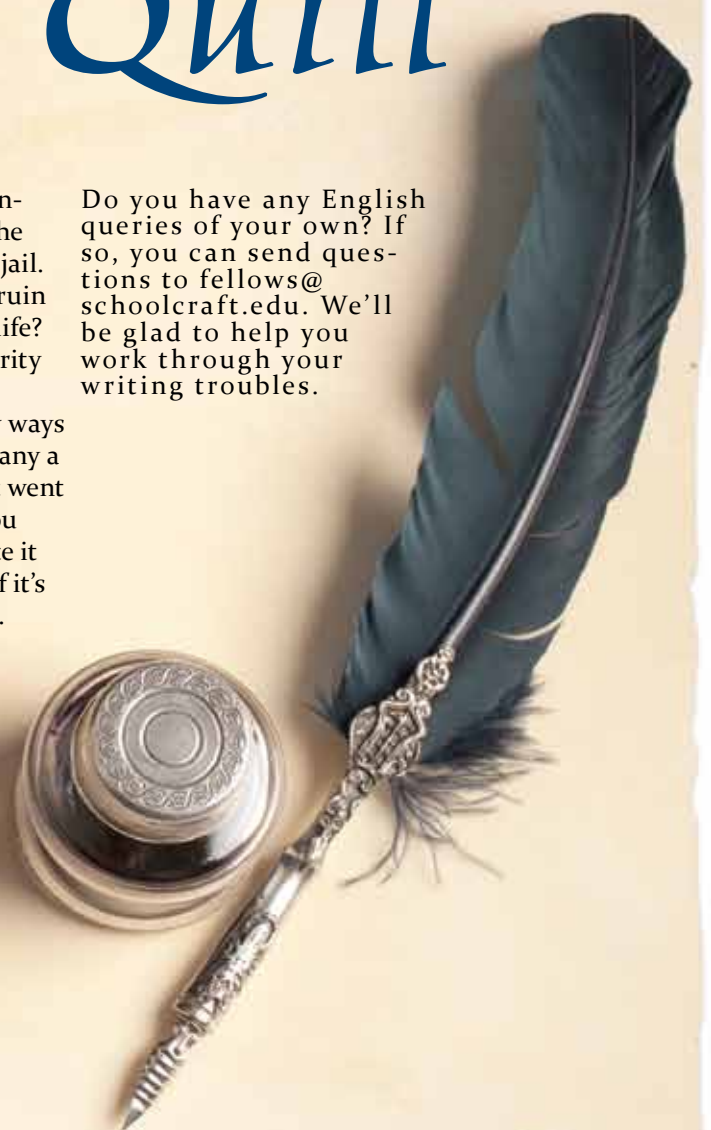
offense (whether done intentionally or accidentally), such an oversight can get you fired in the business world or, even worse, fined or put in jail. (That's called fraud.) Besides, do you want to ruin your credibility for the rest of your academic life? Academic integrity should be the utmost priority at all times.

Luckily for you and me, there are a few easy ways to avoid the stigma plagiarism. Take notes. Many a research paper has died when the juiciest fact went un-cited, thus ruining the entire project. If you find the perfect quote, article or passage, write it down *before* writing your paper. Remember: If it's not your own original idea, you need to cite it.

If you are still unsure of what needs to be cited and what does not, remember to turn to your number-one resource: your professor. Your textbook can also provide helpful hints. Additionally, the Writing Fellows are available 35 hours every week to assist you.

For an in-depth look at what constitutes plagiarism, plan on attending this semester's "Avoiding Plagiarism" Writing Rescue workshop on Monday, Jan. 30, from 1-2 p.m. in L110.

Do you have any English queries of your own? If so, you can send questions to fellows@schoolcraft.edu. We'll be glad to help you work through your writing troubles.



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That Time I ...

Worked on an assembly line

BY BILLY BLUETURTLE
STAFF WRITER

The alarm bleats at 4:45. You stagger through your normal morning routine. If you have time, maybe you brew a cup of coffee. By 5:45, you drive through the barbed wire gates and into the parking lot. It's a relief to see other people as hundreds of your coworkers march into the massive building. You take in a breath of bitterly cold air and relish it before following the throng into the factory.

If you're lucky, your job is close to the entrance. Others hustle past to grab a seat on a shuttle destined for the back of the plant – it's far too long to walk. There's a time clock to swipe with your ID card. You arrive at your station and get prepared. The chiming of some childhood nursery rhyme blares through your department signaling the start of the shift. Seconds later, the assembly line lurches ahead.

There is a wide variety of jobs to be held on an automobile assembly line. Some are extremely dangerous like working in the body shop where razor sharp body panels are fastened together. Some involve special breathing equipment like the paint shop. A few jobs are actually pleasant like driving newly assembled luxury cars off the line and into the shipping yard. Being new to the plant, you'll likely find a home in general assembly where the lowest paying, least desirable jobs await fresh employees.

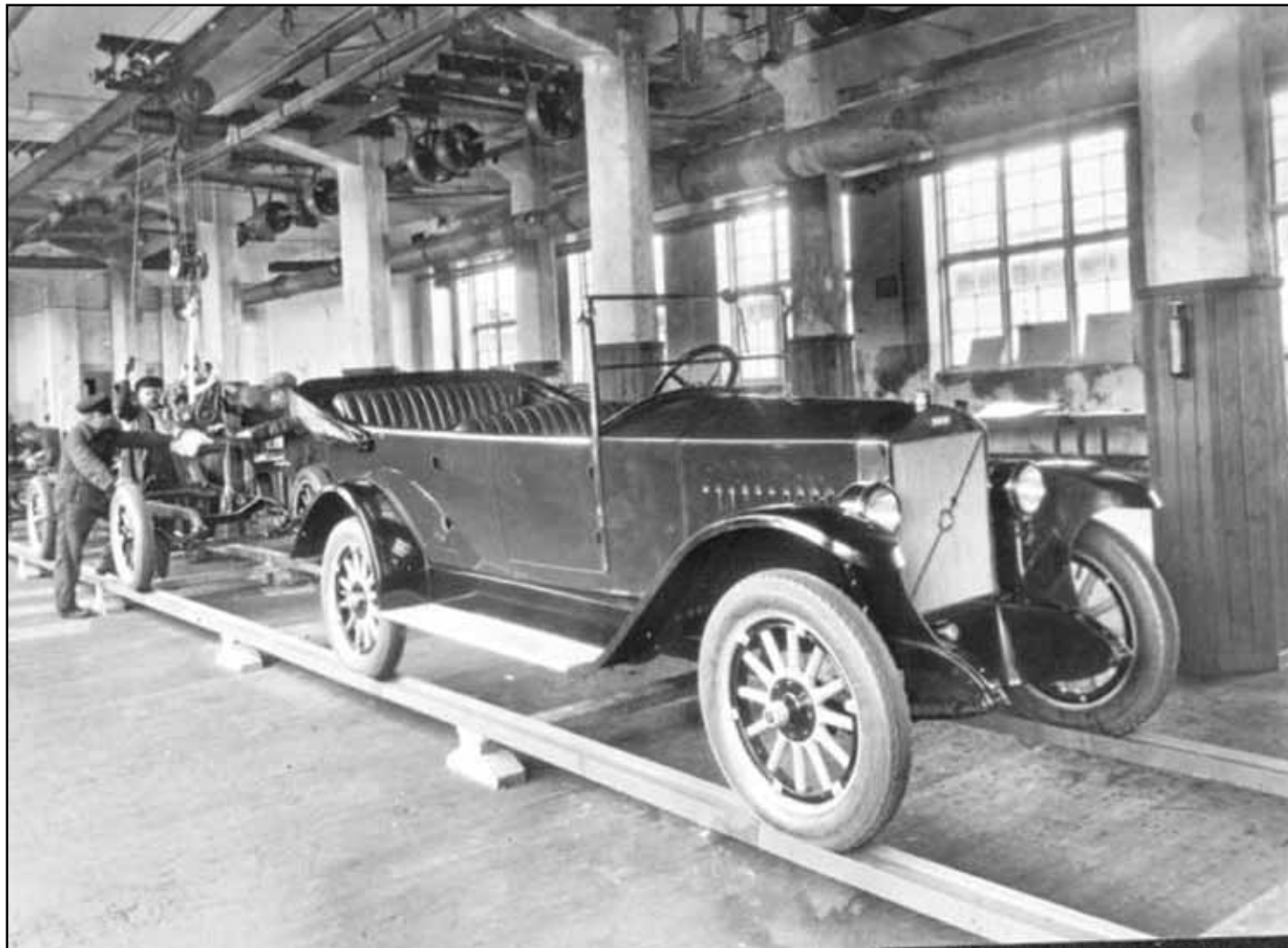
My first day on the job, I worked under the cars attaching a plastic shield to protect the engine and fastening the right tie rod. The shields were four-foot wide and had to be bent and forced into place. Then six plastic fasteners had to be popped in to secure the shield. Once that was complete, it was time to set the tie rod by attaching it to the wheel and using a power gun to secure the nut.

All of this had to be done in 56 seconds.

While working above my head.

And walking backward.

People talk about how easy it is to make full union wage. Unfortunately, for every "easy" job in an assembly plant, there are *hundreds* of miserable ones. As a new hire, you can expect between \$15 and \$17 while the guy (or gal) next to you might have an easier job (after all, they have seniority) and nearly double the pay with better ben-



efits. The next union contract might address the inequity, but that's still three years away.

In the meantime, you have another car coming down the line.

There are few comforts to be found in an auto plant. When the line is running, it's very loud. Ear plugs are available but they become annoying after a short time. Headphones are a safety hazard so goodbye iPods. Radios are allowed but there's no place to plug them in and it gets expensive to replace batteries on a daily basis. Some of the veteran workers around you have radios with rechargeable batteries. Five radios within 100 feet of each other, none tuned to the same station. Their combined sounds simply pooled into the monotonous cacophony of life on the factory floor.

After a few hours, there was a 25-minute break. The cafeteria was a five-minute walk. Add five minutes to choose a meal and pay, then a five-minute return walk and I was left with 10 minutes to enjoy a meal – less if a visit to the restroom was necessary. Many workers

choose to sit down and wait for break to be over. Eventually the nursery rhymes blare and it's back to work.

The cars keep coming. If you have trouble inserting the shield or drop a fastener, you'll suddenly find yourself "in the hole." It's a desperate race to finish the car your working on before it drifts into the next work area. My station had an alarm that would squeal and stop the entire line if I fell too far behind. If it happens often enough, your area supervisor will have an unpleasant chat about your production. To pass the time, you challenge yourself to see how long you can go without tripping the alarm. Have a mishap, alarms sounds, you start over.

The line never ends. It just continues car after car. Minute after minute. Hour after hour. After a while, you want to see the outside world and breathe some fresh air. There are no windows. There is an area to step outside but it's for smoking. It's also a cage that prevents workers from sneaking out of the facility. I always felt like an animal in a zoo or a prison inmate when in there.

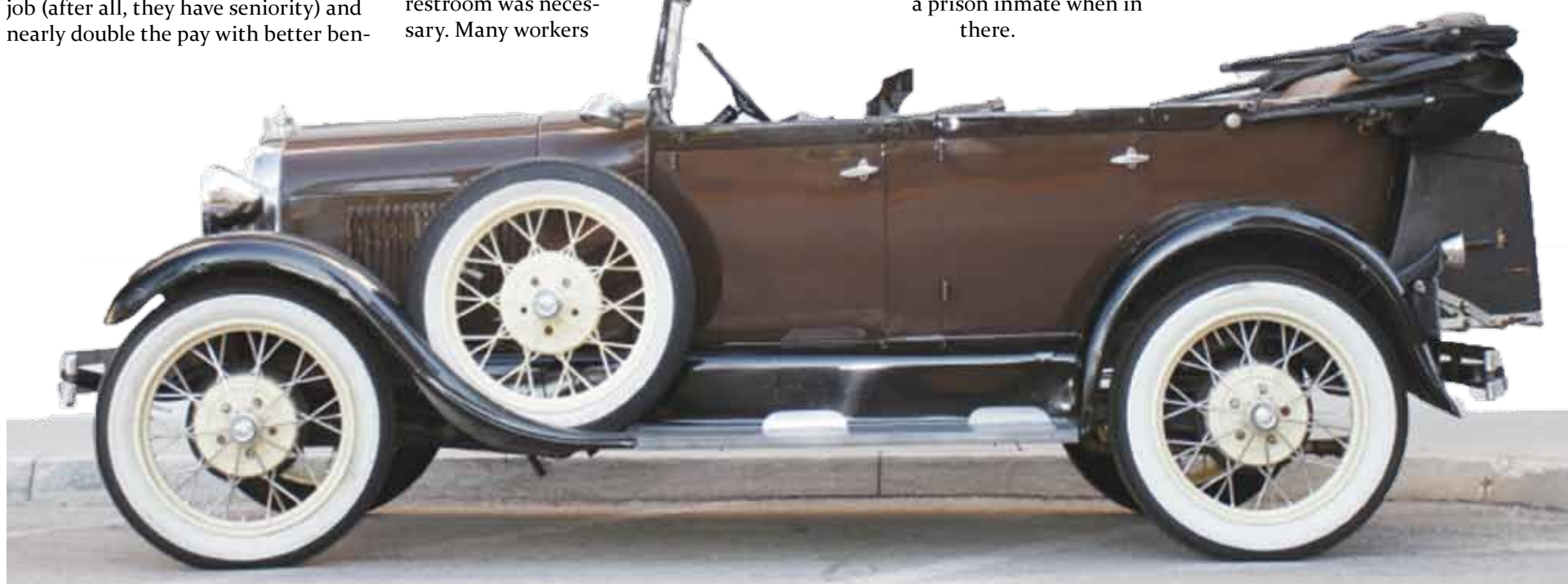
If I was lucky, the shift would end after only eight hours. Reality would set in when the area supervisor would make an announcement to his team leaders who would let the rest of us know our fate. Some of the old timers welcome overtime. They are used to the long hours. I just wanted fresh air.

Eventually the line would shudder and stop.

Another shift was over.

Tired, dirty and sore, I would punch out and make my way through the escaping crowd. My favorite moment of every day was that first breath of fresh air as I exited through the door. On one particularly steamy summer day I stepped out and nearly vomited. No matter how many times I looked forward to the fresh air, I would always forget that next to my assembly plant was a trash burning facility. Depending on the direction of the wind, my first gasp of freedom would often run headlong into air laden with the smell of burnt garbage.

I barely lasted six months. It felt like 20 years.



Attention Schoolcraft students! Are you looking for a fun way to pass the afternoon? Maybe you're looking for information on all the clubs offered here on the campus. If so, then you should stop by the Winter School Daze on Jan. 24 and 25. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Lower Waterman area will be transformed into a Winter Carnival. There will be games, food (including the reappearance of our friendly neighborhood snow cone man) and music from a live DJ. All the different clubs will each have their own table with stuff to hand out and members to talk to so that students can learn more about each one, and maybe decide to join. School Daze is sponsored by Novi Chiropractic, Henry's, Phoenix Theatres, Margo's Spa and Salon, Noodles and Company, Parkside Credit Union, Sprint, TCF Bank, T-Mobile. It's the event of the season so you should definitely stop by.

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"Romeo and Juliet" auditions

Schoolcraft College gets shakespearean

By **ALYS DOLAN**
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

No love story is more well-known than that of Romeo and Juliet, the star-crossed lovers doomed to tragedy. The beloved Shakespeare play is coming to Schoolcraft's campus in a work that has been adapted by the College's own Professor James Hartman, who has edited and reassessed the works of the famed author before in his textbook, "An Actor's Edition of Shakespeare Revisited." His interpretations of the pieces are practical and engaging – they allow the reader or audience member to understand the meaning of the text without getting lost in the heavy dialogue or antiquated language.

The auditions for the production will be held Jan. 17-18, at 7 p.m. The audition does not require previous knowledge of the show. One will be given a part of the script with a few moments to prepare and then be asked to read in front of the director. Auditions are open to students and staff of Schoolcraft College as well as the general public.

If you have ever dreamed of being in the spotlight or have not performed in a show for quite some time, this is the opportunity to dust off the old acting chops and give "Romeo and Juliet" a try.

A legend honored

SC celebrates Martin Luther King Jr. Day

By **ISHPREET KAUR**
STAFF WRITER

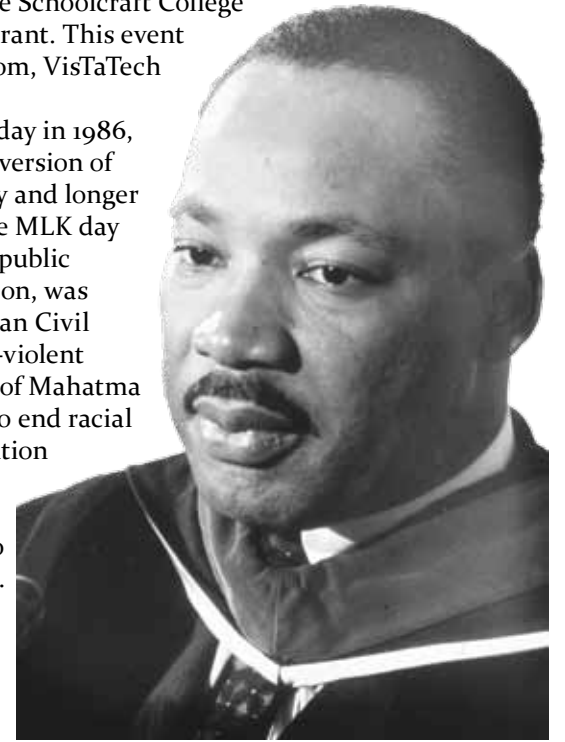
In the celebration and recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Schoolcraft College is hosting a series of events such as a festival of short films at the main campus in Livonia. In honor of Dr. King, Schoolcraft students who are currently studying films will be presenting a short film of their choice, followed by a short discussion. This event takes place in Room 200 in the Liberal Arts building at 9:30 a.m.

The Poverty Simulation event is sponsored by the campus group Bridging Barriers, which will be held in Room 200 of the McDowell Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This leads to a Poetry Slam at 1:30 p.m. in the same room.

Additionally, there will be a presentation and discussion on the Thomas Norman DeWolf's "Inheriting the Trade"-based documentary called "Traces of the Trades: A Story From Deep North," which is a Pageturners Book Club selection for January 2012. There will also be an exhibition of student artwork on the theme of "Civil Rights and Social Justice" that will be hosted by Bridging Barriers which is supported by the Schoolcraft College Foundation through a generous grant. This event will take place in the DiPonio Room, VisTaTech building.

Originally established as a holiday in 1986, it took years to create the federal version of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and longer for every state to finally recognize MLK day and make it a paid holiday for all public employees. Dr. King, a national icon, was a prominent leader in the American Civil Rights Movement, who used non-violent methods following the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. His tremendous efforts to end racial discrimination and racial segregation through civil disobedience and other nonviolent means lead him to become the youngest person to receive Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

To learn more about the events around campus, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.



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Club Events



Compiled by Kim Poma, Campus Life Editor

Billiard and Table Tennis Club

Do you like to shoot pool or play table tennis? Then this club is for you! Bring a friend and come join us as we just hang out and play. Be sure to keep an eye out for information about our upcoming tournaments. Want more information? Then stop by the Student Activities Office or give us a call at 734-462-4422.

Christian Challenge

Do you want to enrich the quality of your overall college experience ethically, morally and spiritually by challenging yourself to explore God's word? Then come to our meetings every Thursday from 12:00-1:30 p.m. in the Lower Waterman.

Beats and Music Faction

Want to make progress in personal musical talent? Then stop by the Beats and Music Faction meetings! During meetings you'll meet, teach and learn, as well as giving and receiving constructive criticism with those who share the passion of music. For more information on meetings, call the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

Campus Crusade

Are you interested in learning more about your faith and want to grow spiritually? Then join the Campus Crusade during their meetings every Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the Lower Waterman.

Eccentric Movie Club

Join SC's Eccentric Movie Club for some of the most odd, puzzling and just plain crazy movies produced by some of the most respected writers on TV. Each session is Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12-6 p.m. Schedules of movies can be provided upon request. Movies are watched in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center.

Gay/Straight Alliance

The Gay/Straight Alliance is a social connection for equality-minded individuals who want to create a safe environment to help change, support and educate our world one step at a time. Meetings are held on Wednesdays from 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Otaku Anime Japanese Animation Club

The Otaku Anime Japanese Animation Club provides an opportunity for viewing and discussion of Japanese Animation. Their next meetings are scheduled for Jan. 14 and 28.

Math and Physics Club

We want you to come ask us math and physics problems as you meet new people who love math and improve your problem-solving skills. Meetings will be held every Friday at 10 a.m. in the Biomedical Tech Center, Rm. 300.

Photography Club

Photography Club provides a welcoming environment for graphically-inclined hobbyists, graphic designers and students majoring in artistic fields.

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

The PTK meetings will be on Mondays from 12-1 p.m. and Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m.

PTK/ Biggby Coffee Fundraiser

Help raise money for Phi Theta Kappa by purchasing our specialty mug. It includes several coupons, including one for a free beverage. The mugs are available for sale now in the Student Activities Office for \$8. They are refillable at the new Biggby location in Livonia at the intersection of 7 Mile and Farmington Roads for \$1.25. For more information, please contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

Pizza Kit Fundraiser

Phi Theta Kappa is hosting another Pizza Kit Fundraiser starting on Jan. 16. Orders are due by Monday, Feb. 13. Members will receive one star for every \$50 sold. Kits will be delivered on Tuesday, Feb. 21 and can be picked up on that day anytime after 11 a.m. Order forms are available in the Student Activities Office. For more information, please the Student Activities Office at 734-762-4422.

Sports and Recreation Club

The Sports and Recreation Club is a new addition to the Schoolcraft Campus' clubs. They hold open play of any sport every Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the PE Bldg.

All events hosted by the club will be available to any Schoolcraft student or faculty member. For more information on joining either the club or one of the tournaments you may contact Ryan Marshall through: SCC.Sport.Recreation@gmail.com. You can also visit the Student Activities Office or call us at 734-462-4422.

The Schoolcraft Connection

Want to further your skills in writing, editing, photography and design? Then join the award-winning Schoolcraft Connection, a student-run newspaper. Staff meetings are every Monday at 4 p.m. in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center.

Student Activities Board

Want to get involved on campus? Then come and see how with the Student Activities Board. General meetings are Thursdays at 4 p.m. in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center. The Student Activities Board provides students and the college community with a variety of programs and activities that are educational, service-oriented, have entertainment value and provide a social environment where students can meet a diverse group of new people.

Table Top Club

Come and join the Table Top Club every Thursday from 12-10 p.m. The Table Top Club is Schoolcraft College's premier location for game players alike. Play a variety of card games ranging from Dungeon and Dragons, Solitaire and Cheat. Students can develop personal friendships and learn leadership skills.

Is your focus on Photography?

Join the Schoolcraft Photography Club and discover new techniques, share ideas with fellow photography enthusiasts, and let your creativity soar! The club meets every other Thursday for discussions, critiques, workshops, and more. Shutterbugs of all skill levels are welcome.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Jan. 19	Mar. 1
Feb. 2	Mar. 15
Feb. 16	Mar. 29

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Size doesn't matter

Classes no longer canceled due to low numbers

By **TODD WALSH**
STAFF WRITER

Last semester, Schoolcraft College launched a new program called the No-Classes-Canceled Guarantee. It is a program promising that classes will not be cancelled due to a low number of students in the class. The program was very successful last semester as it allowed students scheduling flexibility to earn their degree their schedule and even helped with adding new classes.

Schoolcraft College, like many two-year schools, boasts a handful of specialized academic programs. However, when the majority of students are focused on transfer courses like English 101 and Math 113, the specialized programs sometimes suffer from having too few students enrolled in what might be a conveniently-scheduled class. The No-Classes-Canceled policy guarantees that the class will still continue through the semester.

Before this guarantee was introduced, there had to be a certain number of students registered for the class for it to actually be taught. If there was a lack of students for a particular section, the class would be cancelled leaving many students without the requirements for the degree or certification.



PHOTO BY STEVEN GRILL

Having only a few students in a class can lead to better student-teacher interaction – a side benefit of the No Classes Canceled Guarantee.

There are additional benefits to the continuation of this program. Students in low-enrollment classes have the advantage of more instructor interaction. College students are always concerned with growing class sizes.

This policy provides more one-on-one time with the instructor in sparsely-populated courses.

The coolest thing about the program is that as sections of classes fill up, Schoolcraft uses just-in-time schedul-

ing to add sections based on student demand. For example, Contemporary Welding Sculpture (Welding 112) is a high-demand class and there is currently only one section offered. However, if it reaches a particular number on the waiting list, the school will create another section to make sure every student can take the class. Many classes in Art and Design along with English and Biology all have recently added classes due to the demand. These classes are not in the published Schoolcraft catalogue. The classes are found in the recently added Winter Course Schedule on the Schoolcraft website.

The No-Classes-Canceled Guarantee is really a fantastic policy to aid students in their quest for an education. It creates the opportunity for students to take whatever classes they want, whether they are completing a certain degree or just because they seem interesting. They can offer closer student and teacher interaction and lead to the student's higher GPA overall. More importantly though, it means that a student won't have to postpone their degree just because a certain class doesn't have enough people enrolled.

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2013 NORTH AMERICAN AUTO

A guide to

By Ian Gal
Managing

The North American International Auto Show is a must-see event in Detroit, and rightly so. It's a place where manufacturers show off what we do, while providing a platform for professionals and auto enthusiasts alike. The show is full of the showcases is awe-inspiring, featuring the latest technologies and designs and the interactive displays that demonstrate the latest that this storied industry has to offer. Here are some highlights of NAIAS 2012.

The Dodge Dart is the first car to result from Chrysler's pairing with Fiat, based on the architecture of the Alfa Romeo Giulietta. "The all-new Dodge Dart is a groundbreaking car that will surprise and delight customers who want a no-compromise, fun-to-drive car that's a great value," said Reid Bigland, President and CEO of Dodge Brand in Chrysler Group LLC.

The Dart will have three engine options. Two of them will feature Fiat's "MultiAir" technology which results in up to a 15 percent increase in low engine torque and roughly a 7 percent increase in fuel economy. The 2.4-liter Tigershark Engine with MultiAir 2 delivers 184 horsepower and 171 lbs of torque.

The styling cues carry over Dodge's design vocabulary, including the ring of LEDs running the length of the back end, first seen on the Dodge Charger. The front keeps Dodge's traditional crosshair grill, although it is smashed above the hidden bumper and gaping lower grill that has become a styling necessity of sporty small cars. Production of the Dart will begin in the second quarter of this year.



Dodge Dart



Hyundai Elantra

The Hyundai Elantra has taken home Hyundai's second win for North American Car of the Year following the Genesis in 2009. The Elantra epitomizes Hyundai's strategy of well-styled cars at reasonable prices. With two North American Car of the Year awards in four years, Hyundai is definitely a manufacturer to watch.

2013 Ford Fusion

The 2013 Ford Fusion was recently named Ford's most significant change to the Fusion since it debuted five years ago. This means that once again the Fusion is a car to watch, where this generation of the Fusion will be replaced by the new Focus ST (the sport model) and the



Ford

Ford has a pretty sleek set-up, with huge displays and a beautiful blue tint. One of the center attractions to the Ford section is the Blue Oval card. Attendees sign up for the cards at one of the electric kiosks. Afterwards, they can take their card to the various vehicle displays and "tap" their cards on the Blue Oval symbol. An online profile at blueovalcard.com keeps track of the vehicles, where card holders can view their spoils and check stats on the vehicles.

The cards also allow attendees to vote in a Ford demonstration, which discusses Ford's Zip Cars (vehicles that you can "rent" via credit card) and other things. At the center of the demo is the "Living Connected" video display. 12 seated attendees rise dozens of feet off the showroom where they are treated to a 2 minute video discussing the future of Ford, such as house-to-vehicle connectivity.



Toyota

Pillars of display screens populate the grounds in Toyota's showroom. As part of their interactive demos, there is a safety tech display. In it, viewers are taken to a virtual ride in a futuristic vehicle. It's a multitude of safety features, such as heads-up displays showing curves on the road (for night driving), hands-free internet access for the passenger, touch-screen read-outs on the windshield, and voice-activated features. While all these features are in the prototype stages, it's pretty exciting to dream about what tomorrow holds for the automotive world.

Also on display from Toyota is the Mirai, one of the many cutting-edge vehicles on display at the Auto Show. Aside from looking like a sedan version of the sleeker cars from "Tron," it will give owners the ability to customize the exterior of the car much like a laptop or phone wallpaper.



AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL TO SHOW

12

the 2012 NAIAS

Magher and Ramon Razo
Editor and News Editor

onal Auto Show is one of the most anticipated. It is a time when the Motor City gets to holding a glorious spectacle for industry professionals. The sight of COBO Center's exhibit hall is inspiring. The cars, the displays of new technological exhibits all blend together to demonstrate what the industry has to offer. Here are some of the



A complete overhaul from last year, the new Malibu brings updated styling both inside and out. The Eco is the first of the 2013 Malibu trim levels to debut - it will be available this spring. Capable of zero to 60 in 8.7 seconds, it has 182 horsepower with 172 lbs of torque, of which the generator adds 79 torques from the 115-volt lithium ion battery. A six-speed gearbox is controlled either as an automatic or with the sequential-gear mode, although the shift up and down buttons are in an odd position atop the gear selector stick.

Malibu Eco

The EPA has yet to test the new Malibu Eco, but GM estimates that it will get around 25 mpg in the city and 37 mpg highway due to it using the same technology as the heavier Buick. So when compared to the old Malibu, the 2013 model will see a 25 to 35 percent increase in fuel economy. The 2013 Malibu will go on sale early this year.



Range Rover Evoque

The Range Rover Evoque is the 2013 North American Truck of the Year. This new member of Land Rover's lineup is a compact sport SUV. This is the first North American Truck of the Year award for Land Rover. The Evoque was notably designed with input from Victoria Beckham.

NORTH AMERICAN CAR AND TRUCK OF THE YEAR

PREVIOUS WINNERS

- 2011 - Chevrolet Volt and Ford Explorer
- 2010 - Ford Fusion Hybrid and Ford Transit Connect
- 2009 - Hyundai Genesis and Ford F-150
- 2008 - Chevrolet Malibu and Mazda CX-9

Autoweek's Best in Show at the North American International Auto Show. The complete redesign marks the first radical departure for the 2006 model year. The most notable departure is the loss of the three-bar grill, a hallmark of Fords for the past five years. Ford is bringing in Ford's new design language, at least to the United States. The hexagonal grill has been used in Europe, as seen on the Ford Mondeo, following Ford's strategy of sharing vehicles across different markets. It also shares design cues with the Ford C-Max, a minivan-like vehicle based on the Focus. The 2013 Ford Fusion truly is the new face of Ford, again.

Smart



The Smart car section is very savvy. One of the main attractions of the floor is the various design contest winners. One of them is the Smart 342 Parkour, a vehicle designed to accompany a daring reporter on her journalistic exploits. Another vehicle on display has been turned into a functional art piece. Billy the Artist, a purveyor of "Urban Primitive Pop" from New York, took a marker to one of Smart's pure white models, drawing an array of intricate designs and shapes. Afterwards, people at the Gen Art Scope event were invited to add their own color and flair to the vehicle, filling in what Billy had already done. The finished product was the vibrant, drivable work of art. Even if most students will never be able to get one, it's nice to dream.

Chevrolet



The Chevy showroom is one of the most visually-consistent and easily navigable of the show, with a very cool logo-shaped video screen that parallels the archway leading to the area. Alone in the middle of the section is a little yellow vehicle called the EN-V, which stands for Electronic Networked Vehicle. It's reminiscent of a Segway, riding on two wheels with gyroscopic stabilization. The model featured at the show is a fully-functioning prototype hand-crafted by engineers. However, do not expect the EN-V to be hitting the streets any time soon. The vehicle operates purely on autopilot, and is designed to only work in an environment of other EN-Vs, meaning the entire infrastructure of our roads would have to change to accommodate it. The EN-V paints an intriguing picture of the future of transportation - a future that might not be that far off.

TINTIN ... worth the wait?

“The Adventures of Tintin” hits the big screen after 28 years

By CHAD PERKINS
STAFF WRITER

“The Adventures of Tintin” is a breathtaking new adventure flick that has captured audiences’ attention in a way that hasn’t been done since the “Indiana Jones” series. Being directed and produced by two of Hollywood’s biggest bigwigs, Steven Spielberg and Peter Jackson, “The Adventures of Tintin” should be a masterpiece, especially since the film was delayed from 1983 to 2011. After almost 30 years, is “Tintin” truly everything Spielberg dreamed it would be?

The movie opens with the young journalist named Tintin and his trusty terrier dog Snowy, browsing an outdoor market somewhere in Europe. Tintin discovers at a booth a model of a three-masted sailing ship (those who are familiar with the comics will recognize it as the Unicorn) and purchases it. The villain, Ivan Ivanovitch Sakharine, eyes Tintin’s treasure and demands the ship from our hero. Refusing the sinister Sakharine, Tintin and Snowy return home. However, the model ship is broken in a clumsy battle between Snowy and a neighbor’s

cat. Tintin falls into trouble when he runs into Sakharine again at Marlinspike Hall. He is shot at and eventually abducted by goons and imprisoned on the SS Karaboudjan. From there the adventure and mystery take off with Tintin, the Captain, Snowy and all the other classic comic book characters.

Despite the superb animation, Tintin isn’t quite able to climb out of uncanny valley. While Tintin and all of his companions have beautiful and fluid animation, what brings it down is the lack of souls in the eyes of each character being portrayed during the film. It almost feels like they are inanimate dolls brought to life and moving about.

Fans of the comics have seen how captivating and believable the stories are. The stunts and action sequences certainly help make Tintin feel realistic. However this film leaves more fantasy than believability. For example, in the scene where Tintin and Captain Haddock run out of gas in their plane while still in the air, instead of going out and risking his life to find gas to fuel the plane, the Captain simply burps into the gas tank magically causing the plane

to start. This scene could have had a more realistic and believable feel, but instead they chose to make it very childish and ridiculous.

The action sequences in the film are amazing and well mapped-out. Unfortunately the film does not shed further light on Tintin’s character, or breathe new life into the comics. There is little time for audiences to relate to him, or understand what kind of character he is. This could be disappointing to audiences who have followed this boy for most of their lives. A character like Tintin, who has spent 80+ years entertaining the masses, should be treated to more than just another typical “action flick.”

In a nutshell, “Tintin” will likely please audiences, whether one has been a fan for many years or is a newcomer. It’s not the deepest story but it is a visual treat, with some truly beautiful scenes and entertaining portrayals of each character. While it might not have been worth the three-decade wait, this movie should still be considered one of the top 10 best films of the year.

The history of “Tintin”

By TODD WALSH
STAFF WRITER

George Remior, better known to the world as Hergé, created the popular adventure comic books called “Tintin.” He first came up with “Tintin” for the Belgian Newspaper, “The 20th Century.” He pioneered his creation in a serialized comic strip, “Tintin and the Land of the Soviets.” A story of a young reporter named Tintin battling off the authorities in the Soviet Union. “Tintin” gained immediate success and received praise from fans all over Europe. When “Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark” premiered in France in the ‘80s, audiences saw similarities to Indiana Jones and Tintin. At the time, Spielberg was unfamiliar with the comics but the comparison caught his attention. After reading the “bande dessinée,” or comics, he fell in love with the youngster and his pup, calling him “Indiana Jones for kids.”

Hergé at the time was unhappy with other “Tintin” adaptations and after seeing “Indiana Jones” he thought Spielberg was the only person who could ever do the boy justice. Hergé passed away shortly after “Raiders” was released, but his widow decided to give Spielberg the rights to Tintin and his companions. Throughout the ‘80s, Spielberg fiddled with concepts for “Tintin.” Sadly though, he was unsatisfied with the script, and he put the production on hold. Spielberg waited for the advent motion capture and CGI mainly because of the character Snowy. First, he tried the idea of putting a digital dog with live actors with the help of Peter Jackson.

Jackson and Spielberg tested the idea – Peter Jackson played Captain Haddock and created a CGI Snowy to “show me what the digital dog looks like up against a human character,” Spielberg recalled. Snowy amazed Spielberg, and according to Jackson, “It was when Steven saw that plunker on screen that he decided this film could never be live action.” Peter Jackson, a huge fan, agreed and believed the only way to create a near perfect “Tintin” adaptation is by staying away from live action.

Today, motion capture is the principal form of animation for cartoon movies. Instead of drawing or generating images, a person is filmed like in a real movie. The camera captures the actor’s movements and facial expressions, then translates the actor onto a digital model, allowing animators to use the movements and expressions to create anything they want, from realistic humans to anthropomorphic characters such as in “Rango.”

The characters of “Tintin”



Tintin

Tintin is very intelligent and has a power for deduction that could rival that of Sherlock Holmes. However, he is absent-minded and constantly fails to notice his surroundings, which puts him in risky situations. Despite his round appearance, he is very athletic. He can ride horses and box with the very best. In the movie Jamie Bell, who previously worked with Peter Jackson in King Kong, plays Tintin.



Captain Haddock

Batman has Robin, the Lone Ranger has Tonto and Tintin has Captain Haddock. Haddock was originally created as a background character, but was later introduced as a major character in “The Crab with the Golden Claws.” He is the captain of Karaboudjan and like most seamen he has a very colorful vocabulary. The Captain is a highly competent mariner and navigator but his alcoholism and temperamental nature hinder him in most situations.



Thompson & Thomson

Thomson and Thompson of Scotland Yard are not the most competent characters in the comics, and have shown their bumbles since they first appeared in the comic “Cigars of the Pharaoh.” While they are extremely incompetent, horrible at disguises and bent on arresting the wrong person, even arresting Tintin on occasion, somehow they are entrusted with important missions like protecting Syldavian space project and saving Tintin’s life.



Snowy

Besides Tintin, the most recognizable character in the comics is Tintin’s loyal companion Snowy. He is a white fox terrier and travels around with Tintin. Originally he was a source of dry and cynical side commentary but after the introduction of Captain Haddock, he gradually shifted to a more light-hearted role, providing mild comic relief.



Whats the BUZZ

COMPILED BY
ALYS DOLAN
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Theater & Shows

Cirque Du Soleil: "Quidam"

A Cirque Du Soleil show comes to the Joe Louis Arena on Feb. 2 and stays till Feb. 5. It is a performance like no other, with mesmerizing stunts and colorful special effects. The show describes a young girl's journey through her imaginary world. It travels with the character, Young Zoé, into a world of enchantment, Cirque-Du-Soleil-style. A show like this one will have tickets selling out fast – they begin as low as \$48 and can climb up into the \$100 range.

"Million Dollar Quartet"

The smash Broadway hit comes to the Fisher Theater in downtown Detroit. Rock 'N' Roll icons Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins inspired this energized musical. The show takes the audience inside a real-life recording session with the boys while laying down the tracks for hits like "Blue Suede Shoes," "Fever," "I Walk the Line" and "Great Balls of Fire." The show runs Jan. 24 through Feb. 5 and tickets start at \$37.70.

Shen Yun Performing Arts

This company is based in New York and since 2006 has dedicated themselves to reviving 5,000 years of "divinely inspired Chinese culture." The group expands constantly with a growing dance troupe, orchestra and solo singers, and featuring musicians from world-renowned symphonies and conservatories. They are gracing the stage of the Detroit Opera House Jan. 26-29. The tickets for this event can get pricey, with the cheapest being \$93.70, but it promises to be a unique and immersive experience.

Concerts

LiveLavaLive

A comedic duo that launched into Youtube fame back in 2007 will be entertaining crowds on Jan. 25 at Saint Andrews Hall in Detroit. The Internet sensations, Kyle and Mitchell, have several skits and tricks prepared for Detroit and will leave the city in stitches. Tickets are fair-priced beginning at \$47.

Machine Head

The heavy metal band from Oakland, California takes the stage at Royal Oak Music Theater in Royal Oak on Jan. 21. The release of their most recent album "Unto The Locust" on Sept. 27 of last year makes this show a must-see for the heavy metal rockers. The tickets begin at \$74 dollars for floor seats, and the show assures to be powerfully haunting.

Events

Winter Beerfest 3

This chilly beer fest is being held at the Royal Oak Music Theater on Saturday, Jan. 28, at 8 p.m. They are offering an impressive 80 different ales brewed locally, regionally and internationally. For \$35 a lucky ticket holder will be able to enjoy 25 samples of various beers. Grab a buddy or two, and a designated driver, and head out for a trip through the world of beers.

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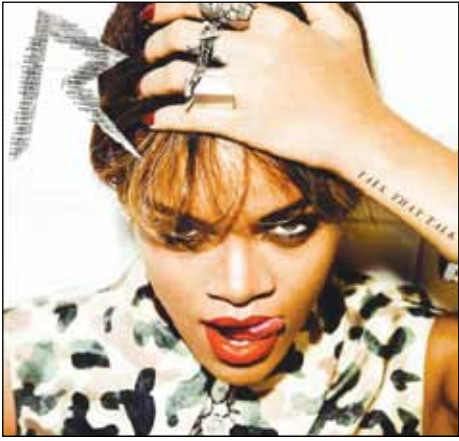
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Alternate Frequencies



Rihanna

"Talk That Talk"

Genre: R&B



BY BRIANNE RADKE
STAFF WRITER

"Talk That Talk" is the sixth album released by pop sensation Rihanna, whose explosive career has undergone a rapid evolution since her debut album, "Music of the Sun," which was marketed as reggae and met mixed reviews. Rihanna has proven herself to be a fairly versatile artist, incorporating dance-pop, R&B, hip-hop, dubstep, dancehall, house and electronica into her repertoire.

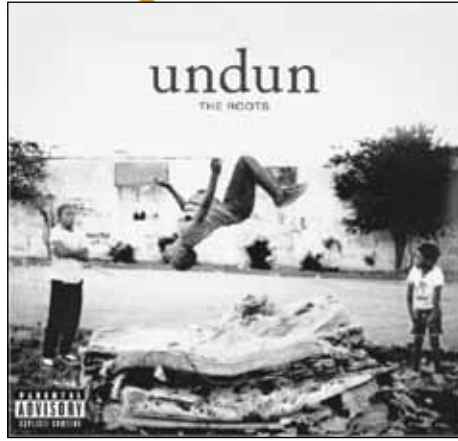
"Talk That Talk" is a lighthearted departure from the darkened tones of her last three releases, as if she has worked through all of the negativity surrounding her very public breakup with Chris Brown and is facing life with an untarnished perspective once more. If this album is a window to her soul, then Rihanna is in love with life again. There are moments in listening to this album that one will recall the innocence of the fresh-faced, free-spirited teen that released "A Girl Like Me" in 2006.

Like each of her albums to date, this most recent project is lyrically crafted around themes of love and relationships, and within the same progression established by her other releases, each album is a touch more vampy than the last. "Talk That Talk" has its share of radio-worthy tunes, but a large portion of this album is a tad brazen – maybe too unabashed for Rihanna's younger fan set. The title track of this album sets the tone for the "dirty talk" to follow with Jay-Z breaking the ice in his verse, but Rihanna's lyrics in "Cockiness," "Birthday Cake," "Roc Me Out" and "Watch and Learn" take her seduction to a very bold new plane. She balances the brash carnality by revealing her desire for affection in tracks like "You Da One" and "Drunk on Love."

Rihanna's Barbadian roots shine through in "Man Down," with its mesmerizing island beat that showcases her accent and intonation beautifully. A surprise track on this album is "We All Want Love," a ballad with light-rock guitar licks and choral element that adds a sense of unity to the piece. Finally, the album closes with "Farewell," another ballad, although its booming drums and moving keys make it a much larger song than "We All Want Love."

The Bottom Line:

"Talk The Talk" is another major hit from the "Good Girl Gone Bad." It is perfect poppy fun, with a dirty girl edge. Most of the tracks make great party music, although if you have turned on a radio or walked into a club anytime recently then you already know that.



The Roots

"Undun"

Genre: Hip-Hop



BY BRIANNE RADKE
STAFF WRITER

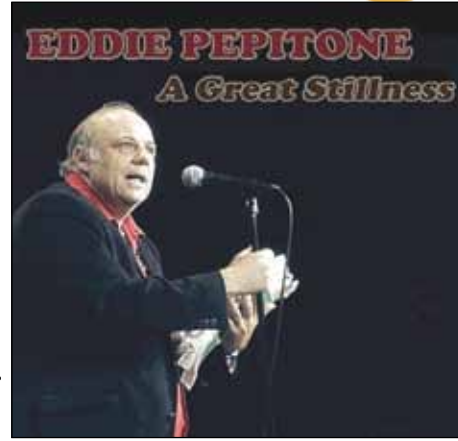
Philly's Legendary Roots Crew is at it again. Their creative juices have not been in any way hampered by taking up residency as Jimmy Fallon's house band. In fact, "Undun," the group's first concept album, reveals a sense of maturity from this perpetually innovative hip-hop band. The album's classic brand of storytelling brings artists like Curtis Mayfield to mind, and at some points the gravelly funk may even rival the likes of James Brown. Captain Kirk Douglas always brings a little Jimi Hendrix flair to the mix and the command that Questlove brings to the drums paired with Black Thought's ownership of the mic once again leaves listeners wanting more. The most unfortunate aspect of this project is that together the 14 tracks last only 40 minutes.

The subject matter is rather austere, actually, but the band members hope that this project will develop further into a theatrical or cinematic production. "Undun" is the story of Redford Stevens, a man whose life unravels through a series of unfortunate events. The theme of the piece surrounds the concept that no person is born a criminal, and that every man and woman lives a life made of decisions that lead to various ends. The material is deep, from the story line to the metaphors to the accompanying video. It is unfortunate that the album only lasts 40 minutes. It begs for further development of the main character. This is the factor, however, that makes "Undun" the perfect background for another project, and there is plenty of room for interpretation.

Musically, this album breaks new ground for The Roots. The album utilizes hip-hop, funk, psychedelic rock, blues and jazz influences in its composition, but is arranged in a way that is unique to hip hop music. The use of bass is incredibly sparse. It is not necessarily missed, however, as the keys, the drum kit and the electric guitar all step up at different intervals to carry that head bobbing rhythm that is imperative to the hip hop experience. The album is much more downbeat than the typical Roots album, and it is not their most easily swallowed work, but it is without question their most substantial and profound piece.

The Bottom Line:

The Roots strike again with their most accomplished work to date. If you have followed the group's career, enjoy a good story, or are simply looking for a unique musical experience, it is crucial that you pick this album up.



Eddie Pepitone

"A Great Stillness"

Genre: Comedy



BY JONATHAN KING
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Amidst applause and cheers, an overweight, misanthropic 53-year-old walks on stage carrying an enormous stack of papers, and proceeds to shout out, "These are my tweets! I love to tweet!"

After performing for decades, Eddie Pepitone has finally released his first live stand-up album, "A Great Stillness." Pepitone's act is loosely structured, highly improvisational, very loud and very angry. What is he angry about? Just about everything. From Wall Street and factory-farmed animals to the outsourcing of porn and TV show billboards, nothing escapes Pepitone's hilarious, meandering vitriol.

And yet, 15 minutes into his performance, Pepitone shifts from violent aggression to the relaxed cadence of a yoga instructor. "I'm sorry I've been yelling. My vocal coach is dead." Pepitone's unofficial title is "The Bitter Buddha," which perfectly encapsulates his constant modulation between the loud and the soft, the structured and the stream-of-consciousness, the thoughtful and the hostile. Throughout the performance, Pepitone interjects by reading off entries from his freshly-printed Twitter feed, which are both apocalyptically dark and utterly hysterical. "I am re-watching 'Faces of Death' with ice cream and a cuddle blanket. Then off to Pottery Barn."

The album culminates with a brilliant routine where Pepitone goes into the audience and heckles himself. The 10-minute sketch begins with some hilariously specific jabs ("Hey, Pepitone! How come you dream about red birds attacking you at night?") before diving into areas of surreal self-realization ("This is the height of self-sabotage! You have not been heckled all evening and yet you devise a bit in which you are heckled!").

Pepitone's act is unlike anything else in the world of comedy. Whereas Bill Hicks and George Carlin delivered anger with pinpoint precision, Pepitone's rage is free-flowing and unfettered, with all the finesse of a Brooklyn construction worker on ice skates. Intertwined with existentialist zigzagging and endless daisy-chained tangents, the result is unconventional, rambling and undeniably wonderful.

The Bottom Line:

If you've never experienced the Bitter Buddha before, now is a great time to start. "A Great Stillness" contains some wonderful material from one of the most unique voices in comedy.



Barenaked Ladies

"Gordon"

Genre: Pop



BY RAMON RAZO
NEWS EDITOR

Since their emergence to popularity in the early '90s, the Barenaked Ladies (or BnL for short) have distinguished themselves as being consistent proprietors of catchy melodies, creative lyrics, fantastic harmonies and being unafraid to write about whatever the heck they want to. Their debut album, "Gordon," doesn't just do a bang-up job of introducing people to the band, but it's also a darn good CD.

The album hits the ground running with the song "Hello City," featuring some great harmonies by front man Steven Page (who left the band in 2009) and guitarist Ed Robertson. "Enid" keeps up the pace with a lot of energy and a bridge that exemplifies the band's brand of creative lyrics.

One of the band's major strengths is creativity and humor. While the lyrics of their songs (at least on this album) aren't necessarily deeply emotional or terribly insightful, it's the wit behind the words and the stories that they tell that give them meaning. Songs like "Grade 9" are about the awkwardness of the experience and not just the horrid memories (some of us might have) of that time in our lives. The album also features the original version of "Brian Wilson." Most people are more likely familiar with the live version featured on the album "Rock Spectacle" (the band has, in fact, recorded five different versions) although the original is still fabulous.

"Gordon" also excels in energy and flat-out catchiness with the songs "King of Bedside Manor" (which has a fantastically bombastic finale) and "Be My Yoko Ono," which is likely to bring a smile to the faces of Lennon and Beatles fans. However, halfway through the album, things start to slow down, with "What a Good Boy" showing that the band still can provide great melodies at a slower pace.

Of course, the classic track on the record is "If I Had \$100,000." The back-and-forth interplay between Page and Robertson is both tuneful and extremely funny. It's no surprise the song has become a staple of BnL's live shows and one of their most-loved tracks of all time. It perfectly showcases what the band is all about: having fun and kicking out the jams.

The Bottom Line:

"Gordon" is a terrific collection of songs and a wonderful introduction to this ever-amusing Canadian outfit. The crisp melodies and playful lyrics make this album energetic, fresh, a little silly and a whole lot of fun to listen to.

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Battle of the sitcom families



VS.



BY BRIANNE RADKE
STAFF WRITER

Family life has long been fodder for sitcom material. “The Cosby Show,” “Leave it to Beaver” and “Married... With Children” are all illustrations of legendary television programs that have been based entirely on the family dynamic. It is a dynamic that lends a perfect structure to a series, as writers can contrast light-heartedness and drama, play with situational humor, give attention to current issues and develop and add characters with ease. Perhaps more importantly, we, as viewers, love our family sitcoms. The scenarios are relatable and the characters are endearing.

Enter “Last Man Standing” and “Suburgatory,” two of this season’s new sitcoms. Both are centered on family, specifically the relationship between a father and his daughter(s). They are both well written and feature dearly loved actors. However, the similarities end there. The two shows cater to very different audiences, deliver very different messages, and depict two different styles of American family.

Tim Allen is an executive producer and plays the starring role in “Last Man Standing,” and if you are familiar with his work in “Home Improvement,” this is all you need to know. Allen, who plays Mike Baxter in LMS, admittedly did his very best to recreate the feeling of his last television series that spent its eight seasons in the Top Ten and left the air rated number one. This may not be a terrible move. Mike and Vanessa Baxter (Nancy Travis) share their home with three daughters and a grandson. Mike appears more desperate to cling to his masculinity than Tim Taylor ever was, judging by his slightly maniacal rants on the video blog that he manages for the Outdoor Man sporting goods store where he answers to his equally masculine and equally comical boss, Ed Alzate

(Hector Elizondo). While it seems that the inclusion of a fatherless grandson is an attempt to modernize the family, there is nothing even remotely edgy about this clan. LMS is loaded with stereotypical jokes and the type of cornball humor that kept “Home Improvement” fans in stitches. The age-old battle of the sexes remains at the hub of the writing and the situational comedies surround topics like menstrual cycles, male-female communication barriers and the perceived endangerment of the “manly man” species.

“Suburgatory,” on the other hand, is as trendy as the American family sitcom can be. It is the story of 16-year-old Tessa Altman (Jane Levy) and her single father George (Jeremy Sisto) who has traded the urban lifestyle of New York City for the extreme suburbia offered in Chatswin in an effort to keep his teen daughter out of trouble. Tessa despises the new digs, and George even expresses frustration with the conflict at every turn. Spoofing the suburbs is the main comedic effort, and the dialogue drips with sarcasm, especially Tessa’s pithy narration. The show has its touching moments as well with small acts of kindness from the otherwise superficial neighbors, but especially in the sweet relationship shared by Tessa and George. Truthfully, the selling point of this sitcom is the hilarious cast of characters. In addition to two stellar starring actors, “Suburgatory” boasts a supporting cast of cult favorites like Cheryl Hines (“Curb Your Enthusiasm”), Allie Grant (“Weeds”), Rex Lee (“Entourage”) and Alan Tudyk (“28 Days”).

In a nutshell: “Last Man Standing” is laugh-out-loud funny for any former fans of “Home Improvement.” “Suburgatory” will elicit a few appreciative sneers from the more critical set, paired with a general sense of delight at the array of amusing personalities.



2011 in games

A look back over the past year of video games

BY CHAD PERKINS
STAFF WRITER

2011 was a landmark year in gaming. A sequel to “Portal” shattered expectations, Nintendo handhelds went 3-D and “Skyrim” set the world on fire. Here are some of the best entries the world of video games had to offer us from the last year.

“Batman: Arkham City”

Released on Oct. 18, “Batman: Arkham City” was one of the most highly anticipated games of 2011 after the success of its predecessor, “Batman: Arkham Asylum,” in 2009. “Arkham City” broke the record as one of the fastest selling games ever created.

The game takes place immediately where the last game left off, with Bruce Wayne being arrested and thrown into Arkham City. The city is inhabited with every classic Batman villain including Two-Face, Scarecrow and The Joker. The Joker is dying from a poison that he injected into his blood during the first game. The Joker tricks Batman and infects him with the contaminated blood forcing Batman to team up with the Joker in order to find the cure, which is in Mr. Freeze’s possession.

“Batman: Arkham City” takes a risky approach combining stealth, action and mystery into one game.

The gameplay is more or less unchanged from “Arkham Asylum,” with a few new elements like playing as Catwoman in a subplot and Robin if

one buys him as downloadable content. “Batman: Arkham City” is sure to keep you playing for days since there are over 300 sub-missions to play, leaving this game with over 100 hours of gameplay. If you’re a Batman fan or just someone looking for a great action game, “Batman: Arkham City” is a wonderful treasure for your collection.

“Ultimate Marvel vs. Capcom 3”

Released on Nov. 15, “Ultimate Marvel vs. Capcom 3” (“UMvC3”) is made from pure fan-service. It allows the players to fight against each other as their favorite Capcom character or Marvel superhero. This game puts a new perspective on combat games, making it one of the most competitive fighting games in the world.

“UMvC3” is the updated version of “Marvel vs. Capcom 3” (the original known as “Vanilla MvC3”) that was released in Feb. 2011. There was some controversy over the game’s release, Capcom said that Tsunami in Japan gave them no choice but to make a separate game. “Ultimate” adds 12 new characters and several new game modes instead of just downloadable content.

“UMvC3” was well received by critics who praised the game’s more in-depth play structure and how carefully each of the 12 new characters were selected. “UMvC3” will keep the player experimenting for hours with each playing style for all of the characters and is definitely worth picking up. Who doesn’t want to play as Phoenix Wright and punch Spiderman in the face?

“Super Mario 3D Land”

He’s one of the most iconic characters in the video game universe and his games always deliver the best gameplay on any Nintendo

system. His name is Mario, and his latest adventure, “Super Mario 3D Land,” is no exception. The beautiful graphics and the catchy music provide a refreshing antidote to all the hyper-violent games that focus solely on guts and gore.

“Super Mario 3D Land” combines the original “Super Mario Bros.” 2-D side-scrolling gameplay with the 3-D free-roaming elements of “Super Mario 64.” Nintendo has always been diligent on keeping each game they create true to the series. The storyline is about Bowser capturing Peach, but this time with a twist. The Tanooki leaves from “Super Mario Bros. 3” are spread throughout the land and change every living creature into Tanookis, making it difficult for Mario to fight Bowser’s minions.

“Super Mario 3D Land” is a wonderful 3DS game for your collection. No matter if the player is young or old, this game is sure to please anyone who is looking for a great handheld platformer.



FRIDAY NIGHT RENTALS

Best of 2011

BY TODD WALSH AND CHAD PERKINS
STAFF WRITERS

The New Year is upon us and this means a whole new year full of entertainment. Audiences will get a chance to see the Dark Knight rise, a set of unlikely heroes avenge the world and Snow White return to the big screen. With all the excitement over the new movies, it is understandable that audiences might forget about the classics of 2011. Therefore, we have decided to do a recap of some of the greats from the previous year.

“Winnie the Pooh”

What is there to be said about our favorite bear in the red shirt? Winnie the Pooh is an anthropomorphic bear created by A. A. Milne. The first collection of stories about the character are from the book “Winnie-the-Pooh” (1926), which was soon followed by “The House at Pooh Corner” (1928). It wasn’t until 1961 that the rights were given to Disney. After Pooh was adopted into the Disney family he became a childhood friend for audiences everywhere.

The plot of the latest “Winnie the Pooh” is simple: Eeyore loses his tail, the gang searches for it and Christopher Robin goes missing. The film is one long narrative, distinguishing it from the 1977 Pooh movie, which was four separate short stories. Production for the film began in September 2009 with John Lasseter striving to create a film that would “transcend generations,” and the response from the fans confirmed just that. Fans of the beloved Pooh bear were pleased how the film kept true to the warmhearted nature of the classic childhood friends of Christopher Robin.

“Winnie the Pooh” is a movie that everybody can enjoy no matter how old they are. Full of fun and laughs, this is a movie worth seeing – a heartwarming silly story about a bear and his band of close friends.

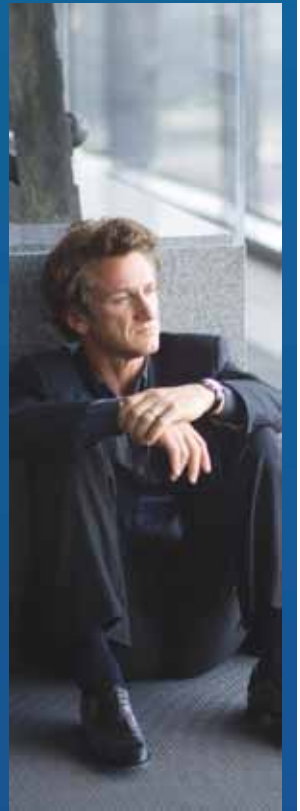


“The Tree Of Life”

“The Tree of Life” project began in late 2005, however filming did not start until 2006 and the film was initially scheduled for release in 2009. The film was not completed until 2011, when it was shown at the Cannes Film Festival. There it received immense praise, winning the Palme d’Or, the highest award at the festival. It stars Sean Penn and Brad Pitt.

“The Tree of Life” centers around a small family in Texas, and is about the creation of life and understanding life’s meaning through the eyes of an 11 year old boy named Jack. The movie drifts through childhood with the boy and his brothers, and shows the relationship he had with his mother and father. His mother represents innocence and mercy, while his father tries to teach him the harsh truths of the world. As the boy grows and begins to see life through the eyes of adulthood, he realizes what his father was trying to do and forgives him for how hard he was on his family.

“The Tree of Life” is a magnificent artistic endeavor. The visuals are wonderfully developed and the story hits home. This movie will make you realize how hard the world can be on humans. If you are looking for a beautiful and creative film, be sure to check this one out.



“Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2”

As Professor McGonagall prophesied, “This boy will be famous. There won’t be a child in our world who doesn’t know his name.” Over the last 15 years Harry Potter has become a worldwide phenomenon. The books, written by J.K. Rowling, broke new ground in children’s literature with its coming of age story of a likeable magical hero, and in 2007 the last installment to the books was released. A favorite childhood hero had finally grown up. The movies took full swing ahead after the final book. Sadly but inevitably, Harry Potter came to an end with “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2,” featuring the final battle of the Dark Lord and the Boy Who Lived.

The film delivers the finale of the epic story in a fantastical manner. Each actor truly takes hold of their character and gives an amazing performance. Harry Potter returns to his once-safe home of Hogwarts one last time, only to find it overrun by the man that killed his beloved mentor, Dumbledore. Potter and his companions take back the school, and begin setting up perimeters of defense for the greatest battle the wizarding world has ever seen. The visuals are stunning and the ending is both heartbreaking and hopeful, making way for a glorious new beginning for the young wizards and their families. The movie includes an epilogue and gives Potter fans a glimpse into the future for the beloved characters. 15 years after its inception, the amazing series ended just as it began: with a magical and glorious adventure.



“Crazy, Stupid, Love.”

Shakespeare once said, “Love is a wonderful, terrible thing.” His words ring true in the 2011 comedy, “Crazy, Stupid, Love.” Steve Carell of “The Office” fame plays Cal, who becomes depressed after his wife Emily (Julianne Moore) asks for a divorce. Cal tries to drink his problems away, and one evening he meets Jacob (Ryan Gosling), a ladies’ man who takes Cal under his wing.

Romantic comedies are hard to sell, as most of them are stale, full of clichés and horribly predictable. “Crazy, Stupid, Love.” breaks the mold and revives this genre. It plays upon clichés to help motivate the story, the characters are dynamic and the ending has a unique and original twist. Much of the film’s success comes from Steve Carell. He is truthful and believable – but not over-the-top – and brings the right amount of humor to the part, similar to “Dan in Real Life” and “Little Miss Sunshine.” It’s crazy, sometimes stupid but altogether a remarkably lovable film.



Adapted to win

Men's squad keeps rolling

BY DANIEL PEAKE
SPORTS EDITOR

Schoolcraft students have had more than two months to jump on the men's basketball bandwagon. There aren't any excuses. Amongst the plethora of gifts and gadgets received by the Connection readers over the holiday break, one gift clearly stands out above the rest. The winning record of the men's squad still remains intact!

Why is 10-3 so worthy of celebration? While the Lady Ocelots have enjoyed much success in recent years, the men's team has often struggled to find its way. This year's early accomplishments means one important thing, the team is getting closer to reaching the postseason and making less-successful campaigns of the recent past little more than unpleasant memories.

Over the holiday break, the men faced two well-equipped opponents in Glen Oaks Community College and conference rival Kirtland Community College.

On Dec. 30, The Ocelots were hosted by the Glen Oaks Vikings for an end-of-the-year, overtime extravaganza. The Vikings were indeed a formidable opponent for the Ocelots, as both teams were evenly matched throughout regulation play. Ocelot Karl Moore came to play in this match, as the 6'7" forward scored 28 points and 12 rebounds. This show of talent, coupled with starting point guard Mohammed Elhaj's 12 assists, were key to prevailing in overtime.

The men started the New Year with a bang by playing host to the Kirtland C.C. Firebirds; a hot team who were enjoying a 9-1 run through the non-conference schedule, and were eager to score an away-game win to kick off the conference slate. The entire Ocelot team came to play that night, seemingly using the game as a way to gauge themselves to victory. Starting forward Daniel Hill racked up 12 points, 4 rebounds and 2 steals, as freshman guard Lenderick Witcher delivered 12 points and 11 rebounds. Center Lydell Mason tallied up 12 points and 8 rebounds, this offensive show effectively demonstrated how the team

can produce from all over the court. The Ocelots prevailed 75-67.

With a 7-3 non-conference record, the Ocelots are ready to continue their winning ways in the competitive MCCA Eastern Conference.

The Ocelots then doled out an early January defeat to the 4-8 Delta College Pioneers. The Pioneers have struggled thus far in the season and things didn't get too better as they headed onto the sensationally dangerous Ocelots home court. All three of Schoolcraft's main big men (Mason, Moore, Hill) scored in double digits. However, freshman guard Lenderick Witcher led the entire pack maximizing every offensive possession. He finished the game with 22 points and 17 rebounds.

After a successful two-month run, the men's team is looking to continue their winning ways. If the Ocelots keep moving at this pace, the region title could be within their reach for the first time in years. Schoolcraft fans should keep watching because the best might be yet to come.



FILE PHOTO

Guard Lenderick Witcher (top) rising above the defensive blockade



FILE PHOTO

Sean Mccraney (left) showing off his deft footwork and slick handling skills

Men's upcoming games

Wed. Jan. 18
vs. Alpena
7:30 p.m.

Sat. Jan. 28
vs. Mott
3:00 p.m.

Semester break averages

Karl Moore	Daniel Hill	Lenderick Witcher
24 PPG	12 PPG	12 PPG
11 RPG	6 RPG	6 RPG

Shooting through the holidays

Lady Ocelots basketball update

By CHARLIE HARRISON
SPORTS WRITER

The Lady Ocelots come into the new year on a roll after finishing the month of December with a 3-1 record. The women started December strong by winning in a blowout against Columbus State Community College 77-43. In their next game up against Kalamazoo Valley Community College, things took a turn for the worst when the Lady Ocelots received a taste of their own medicine en route to losing 77-95. The team, however, quickly recovered and won out the pre-holiday slate of games by beating Owens Community College 70-57, and then winning in a close one against Edison Community College, 67-64.

Sophomore Domonique Jones played a key part in the team's recent success by averaging 16.7 points, 8.5 rebounds, 1.7 assists and 1.2 steals while hitting 72% of her free throws through the month of December. In the game against Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Jones registered a double-double, snatching away 10 rebounds while putting up 17 points in the process in addition to a pair of steals on the defensive side of the court.

Teammate Shawnicka Thomas was also in the giving spirit, averaging 14.7 points, 6.7 rebounds and four assists to go along with 1.2 steals. In their bounce back game against Owens Community, Thomas was three assists shy of a triple-double, posting 17 points while pulling down 13 rebounds to go along with seven assists. Thomas registered two steals in the game as well.

With more than three weeks off from actual games, there was some concern that the women would stumble coming out of the winter break.

There was little reason to worry.

In just the first few weeks of January, the Lady Ocelots have tallied a pair of impressive blowout wins over Kirtland and Wayne County community colleges before dropping a tightly contested 65-64 game to Delta on Jan. 9 at home.

The women are looking to get back on track and finish the remaining six games this month on a hot streak before the final stretch of February games and, afterward, into the post-season.



FILE PHOTO

Shawnicka Thomas taking a leaning shot in heavy defense.

Women's upcoming games

Wed. Jan. 18 vs. Alpena 5:30 p.m.	Sat. Jan. 21 vs. Macomb 1:00 p.m.	Wed. Jan. 25 vs. St. Clair 5:30 p.m.	Sat. Jan. 28 vs. Mott 1:00 p.m.
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STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Located in the Lower Level of the VisTaTech Center

Breaching

Whalers lunge upward in standings

By MANDY GETSCHMAN
LAYOUT & DESIGN EDITOR

In the wild, whales are known for launching themselves skyward much to the delight of onlookers. In Plymouth, the Ontario Hockey League's Whalers have become a delight for fans as they propel themselves toward the upper reaches of the league standings. With only one loss since the month of November, the Whalers have been more like high-flying birds than their namesake mammals.

Just passed the halfway point of the season, the Whalers are riding an incredible streak that saw the team win 11 of 12 games including an impressive 6-1 victory over the OHL's top team, the London Knights. The expectation-raising run through December and January has been fueled by wide-open offense, tallying 56 goals, in combination with stingy defense and goal-tending amounting to only 29 goals against.

It's a credit to the Whaler's team-oriented style of play that they can have the second-most-potent offense and yet not a single player ranked in the top 20 of league scorers. Nine Whalers have already tallied double-digit goals led by centers Alex Aleari (23 goals) and Mitchell Heard (20) and right winger Stefan Noesen.

In their own zone, defensemen Colin MacDonald and Beau Schmitz have been steady protection (+24 +/- each, among the league's best) while contributing to the offensive flow. The consistent defensive play has helped Whaler goaltenders Scott Wedgewood and Matt Mahalak concentrate on their own game. Mahalak's has been especially miserly to opposing scorers as the netminder boasts a .938 save percentage, the second-best league-wide.

With two months remaining in the regular season and the other four teams in the West division falling further behind, the Whalers can start thinking about the postseason. When the Jan. 10 trade deadline passed without a move by General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci, the organization demonstrated their comfort level with the current makeup of the roster.



PHOTO BY MANDY GETSCHMAN

Of course, with the excitement of the March and the play-offs still two months away, Whalers fans will simply have to bide their time watching their favorite team continue launching itself toward the top of the standings and a better post-season position.



The Plymouth Whalers have had a lot to celebrate in their impressive winning streak.

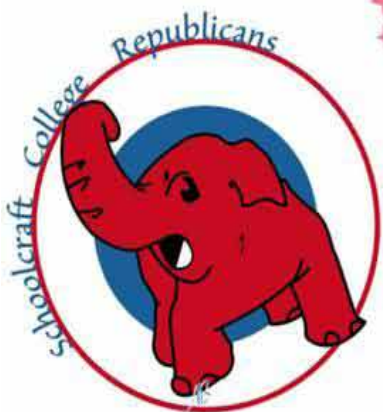
Upcoming Plymouth Whalers home games

- Monday, Jan. 16
Windsor
2:00 p.m.
-
- Saturday, Jan. 21
Sault Ste. Marie
7:05 p.m.
-
- Saturday, Feb. 4
Windsor
7:05 p.m.
-
- Saturday, Feb. 11
Kitchener
7:05 pm

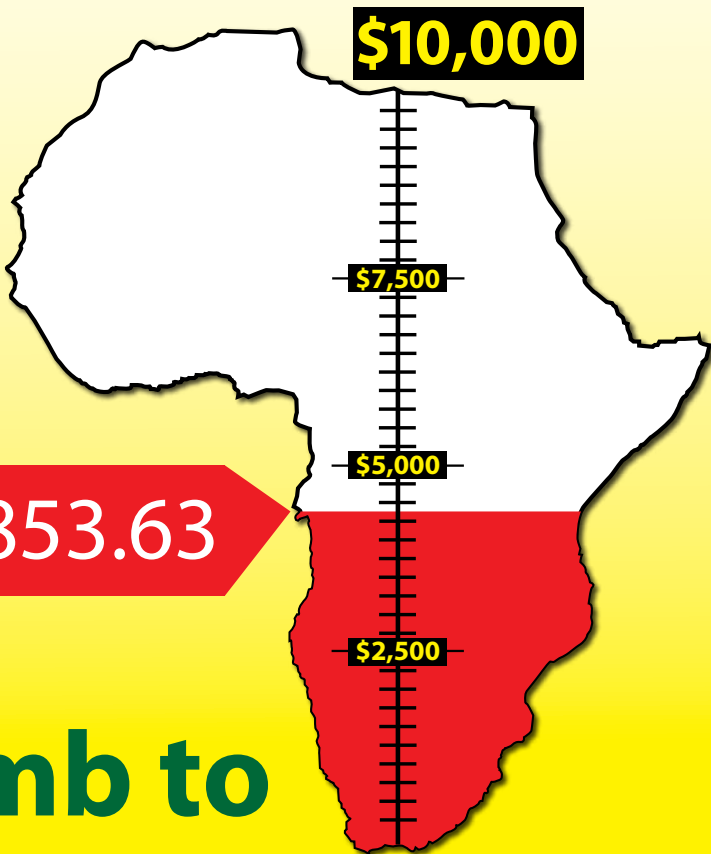
Super Tuesday

Election Night Party

March 6, 2012 - Schoolcraft College
Vis Ta Tech Center - Lower Level
7:30 pm - Free Food & Refreshments



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Schoolcraft College

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Aishwarya Rai

Shahrukh Khan

Salman Khan

Katrina Kaif

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Tickets available from the Student Activities Office in person or by phone: 734-462-4422

SERIES EVENT #3

PRO LIFE v. PRO CHOICE: A DISCUSSION

Tuesday, February 14, 2012
Noon - 1 p.m.

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE STUDENTS FOR LIFE

STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE

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SERIES EVENT #1	SERIES EVENT #2	SERIES EVENT #4	SERIES EVENT #5	SERIES EVENT #6
<p>Wednesday FEB. 1, 2012 Suffragan Bishop D.L. Bradley 7-9 p.m.</p>	<p>Wednesday FEB. 8 2012 Pastor Christopher Brooks 7-9 p.m.</p>	<p>Wednesday FEB. 15, 2012 Bishop Charles H. Ellis III 7-9 p.m.</p>	<p>Wednesday FEB. 22, 2011 Elder Dr. Levon R. Yuille 7-9 p.m.</p>	<p>Wednesday FEB. 29, 2011 Rev. Daniel Trapp 7-9 p.m.</p>
<p>@ BETHLEHEM TEMPLE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH 22645 Quinn Road Clinton Township, MI 48035 + DIAPER DROP-OFF</p>	<p>@ EVANGEL MINISTRIES 13660 Stansbury Street Detroit, MI 48227 + DIAPER DROP-OFF</p>	<p>@ GREATER GRACE TEMPLE, CITY OF DAVID 23500 W. Seven Mile Road Detroit, MI 48219 + DIAPER DROP-OFF</p>	<p>@ THE BIBLE CHURCH 611 E. Cross St. Ypsilanti, MI 48198 + DIAPER DROP-OFF</p>	<p>@ ST. AUGUSTINE AND ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH 4151 Seminole Street Detroit, MI 48214 + DIAPER DROP-OFF</p>

BONUS EVENT: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 - DIANE BROOKINS PRESENTS "LIFE OF A PEOPLE" NOON - 1 p.m.
@ VisTaTech Center Presentation Room, SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
Pro Life v. Pro Choice: A Discussion and *Life of a People* @ SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE are presented by Right to Life of Michigan and Schoolcraft College and sponsored by Students for Life and Catholic Students Association.

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General Information Meeting
Tuesday, January 28, 2012 at 11:00am
Radcliff Center in Room 135

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734.462.4422.



Friday
February 17, 2012
7:30 PM
Tickets \$32 each

Schoolcraft Dance Team
 Pre-game Performance
6:15



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January 21, 2012
 February 18, 2012
 March 31, 2012
 April 21, 2012
 8:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.

Meet in the Lower Waterman at 8:00a.m.

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I'm like a Lion

It's a brave new world for Detroit football fans

BY DANIEL PEAKE
SPORTS EDITOR

If someone had told us in 2008 that in a span of three years the Lions would organize an NFL threat on par with some of the league's elite, the generic public would have smacked that person across the face. Yet as shown by a remarkably inspiring season, time does heal all wounds. This season, the 82nd franchise year of the Detroit Lions, hope was indeed renewed in the hearts of many fans that, over the years, seemed to have simply given up on their faithful footballers. Nonetheless, the lack of faith was washed away by the new and improved Detroit Lions. Despite a short playoff run and a lopsided 45-28 loss to the New Orleans Saints, the organization made a big stride toward success.

Coming into the 2011 season, there was a lot of talk concerning this year's Lions roster. They were stacked with the type of talent other football fans have been enjoying for decades. Three years ago, the Lions took a big financial risk by selecting potential franchise quarterback Matthew Stafford. During his first two injury-riddled campaigns, Stafford only played in 13 games. Backed into corner because of his massive contract, the Lions stuck with Stafford. The third time was the charm as the young quarterback passed for more than 5000 yards turning the Lions' offense into a scoring machine. With Stafford under center, no lead was safe for opponents.

Of course, throwing the ball is only halfway to a completion. Down the field, the Lions have arguably the greatest pair of hands since Randy

Moss. Standing at a remarkable 6'5" and 235 lbs, receiver Calvin Johnson simply could not be contained by any defender and sometimes two or three opponents were inadequate. Johnson's size, speed and body control all work together to make him the best wide receiver in the NFL, finishing the regular season with 96 receptions, 1681 yards and 16 touchdowns, earning him the nickname "Megatron."

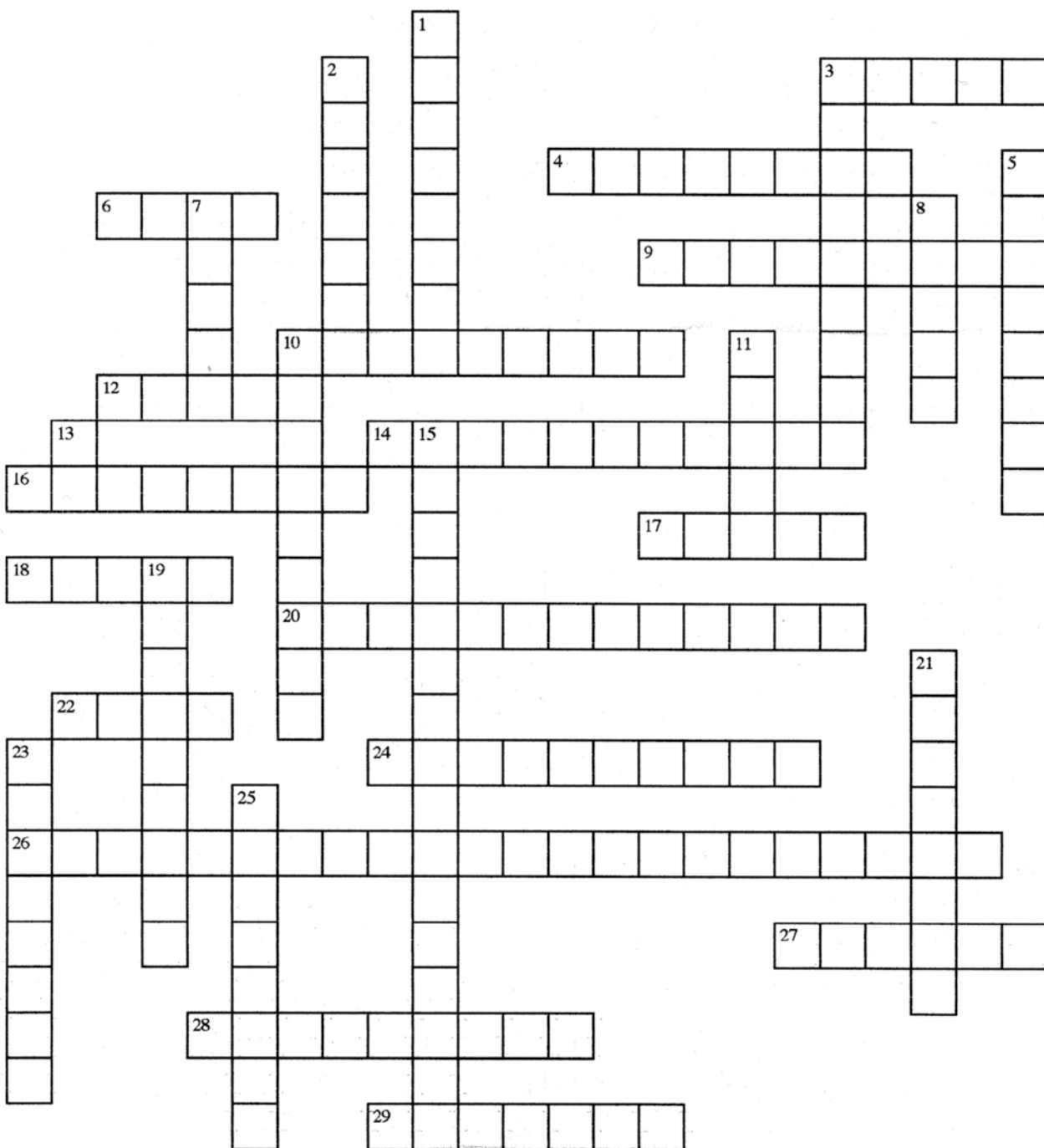
On the defensive side of the field all eyes were on big man Ndamukong Suh. The defensive tackle from Nebraska was to be the centerpiece of a newly-rebuilt defensive line. With an impressive rookie year filled with accolades and awards, Suh was expected to come into this season feared by every opposing quarterback and offensive coordinator. Unfortunately, poor discipline on Suh's part – specifically, a Thanksgiving stomping incident – led to a suspension and increased scrutiny from officials. It makes one wonder if the late-season swoon by the defense was due to the decreased effectiveness of Suh and his defensive line teammates.

All this talent led to one thing for the Lion this year: success. It was a complete flip from last year's 6-10 record and, based on the team's youthful core, there is the potential for more successes. If Stafford can stay healthy and more parts are inserted around him (like even a mediocre running game), Detroit fans can start dreaming of the Super Bowl rather than past failures.

One thing's for sure, these aren't your "same ol' Lions."

Connection Crossword

By Brian Camilleri



ACROSS

- 3 An animal that holds large amounts of water
- 4 Slogan: It's the S!
- 6 One of the five elements
- 9 8 ball game
- 10 Bananas contain
- 12 A block stacking game
- 14 A hamburgers companion
- 16 A big angry ape
- 17 A brand of wrist watches
- 18 Island in the Mediterranean Sea south of Sicily
- 20 The first astronaut in space
- 22 Cat's lives
- 24 Tom Hanks best picture winner
- 26 CMYK Stands for what?
- 27 Small blue people
- 28 Home of the Lions
- 29 One ring to rule

DOWN

- 1 Old Dominion State
- 2 The Windy City
- 3 2011 World Series Champions
- 5 Famous Jack Russell Terrier
- 7 Constellation with a belt
- 8 Mr. Garrison's friend
- 10 Chum lee is on...
- 11 Mario's brother
- 13 3.14
- 15 The final Star Wars movie ever made
- 19 The name of the mall in the movie "Back to the Future"
- 21 Lowest hand in Poker
- 23 Slogan: Open happiness
- 25 Mark Zuckerberg

See answers on page 34

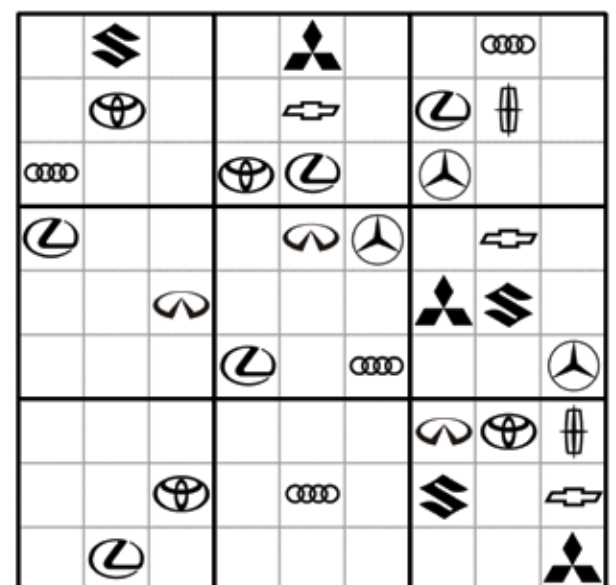
The Word Search Of Schoolcraft Clubs

W T G S I T L J R S R Z F U K P E B F L
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- AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
- BEATS AND MUSIC FACTION
- BILLIARDS CLUB
- CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST
- DANCE TEAM
- GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE
- MATH PHYSICS CLUB
- NATIVE AMERICAN CLUB
- PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY
- PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB
- PROJECT PLAYHEM GAMING CLUB
- ROLLER HOCKEY TEAM
- SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION NEWSPAPER
- SCHOOLCRAFT LARPIAN CLUB
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- SKI CLUB
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See answers on page 34

Autodoku



See answers on page 34

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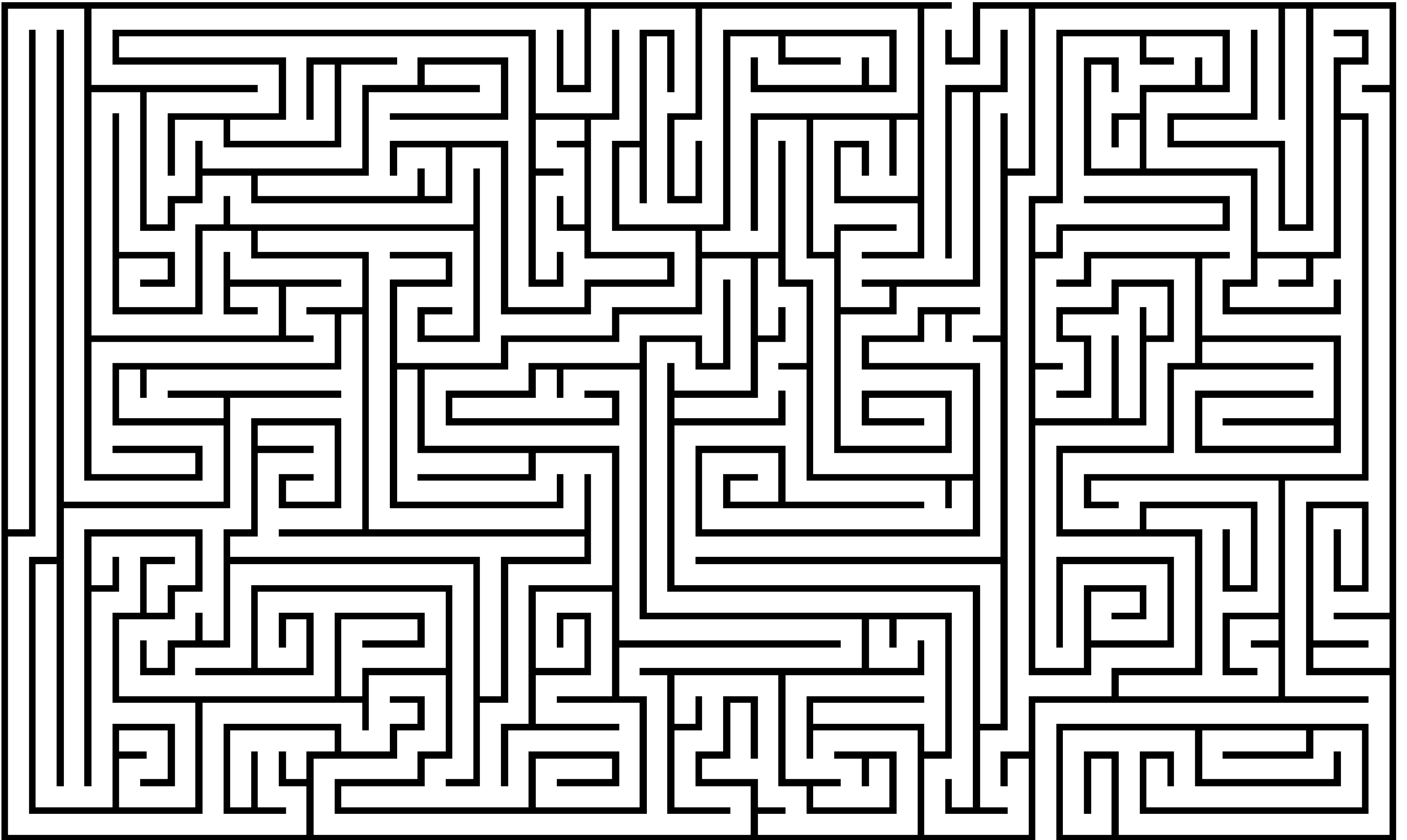
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Crazy School Daze Maze

Don't forget School Daze! January 24th and 25th,
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Finish

Surviving 2012: Post Apocalypse Tips

Part 1: Pre-cataclysm preparations

By JONATHAN KING
APOCALYPTIC EXPERT

Well, it's 2012, and you know what that means! Yep, the world is about to end. Dec. 21, 2012 marks the end of the Mayan calendar, and therefore the end of civilization as we know it. (Really, what more proof do you need?)

But it doesn't have to be all doom and gloom. We're here to provide a few helpful hints to make your post-apocalyptic life a happy one. We'll begin with a few tips on ways to prepare before the gods rain death and destruction upon us all.

Tip 1: Build your underground dream home

The end is less than a year away, but you still have plenty of time to build your perfect underground safety bunker. The first rule to remember is you can't go deep enough. 100 feet is good – a mile is better. Aside from better protection from the hazardous elements on the surface, the lower you go, the more natural warmth you receive from the swirling molten rock at the planet's core.

Stocking up on food is a necessity. Now is a good time to start practic-

ing your post-apocalypse cooking techniques. You'd be surprised what delicious dishes you can make with freeze-dried gravy and canned bread. With a little work and know-how, you could become the Rachel Ray of the wasteland. Be sure to stock up on Hostess products, which are scientifically proven to remain moist and delicious after decades of neglect and radiation.

With a little work, a subterranean death cave can be as pleasant and cozy as a seaside villa. Some tasteful decorating and feng shui will make your new home so welcoming that you won't care that you can't remember what the sky looks like. Also, be sure to get some plants. Not only will they add color and oxygenate the room, but they'll give you something to talk to after your family gets burnt to a crisp in the fiery hellstorm.

Tip 2: Ready your weapons

The end of the world isn't all fun and games. The time may come where you have to fend off a horde of road warriors or mutant bear-sharks. Now's the time to make sure you have

the skills and the wherewithal to show those bear-sharks the taste of your cold, cold steel.

Try and work bladed weaponry into your daily exercise routine. Swinging an ax or a broadsword will not only make for an excellent upper body workout but also make you a force to be reckoned with when the armed marauders raid your shelter for gasoline and supplies. Of course, you don't have to limit yourself to off-the-shelf armaments. With a little ingenuity anything can become an instrument of death. A hockey stick wrapped in razor wire, nunchaku made from wooden legs ... the possibilities are endless. It's like shopping in a thrift store or scrapbooking – all you need is some creativity and you can have some amazing results. In the meantime, add "MacGyver" to your Netflix queue and practice your kenjutsu.

Tip 3: Say goodbye to your pets

This is the toughest tip by far, but it is necessary. Before the apocalypse hits, you're going to have to say your final goodbyes to Petey the Parrot,

Timmy the Turtle and any other animal friends you may have. When all is said and done, pets are just going to weigh you down. Unless your pet has a marketable skill, such as a wolverine that can hunt small game, it's just going to be a burden.

(Note: this tip also applies to the elderly.)

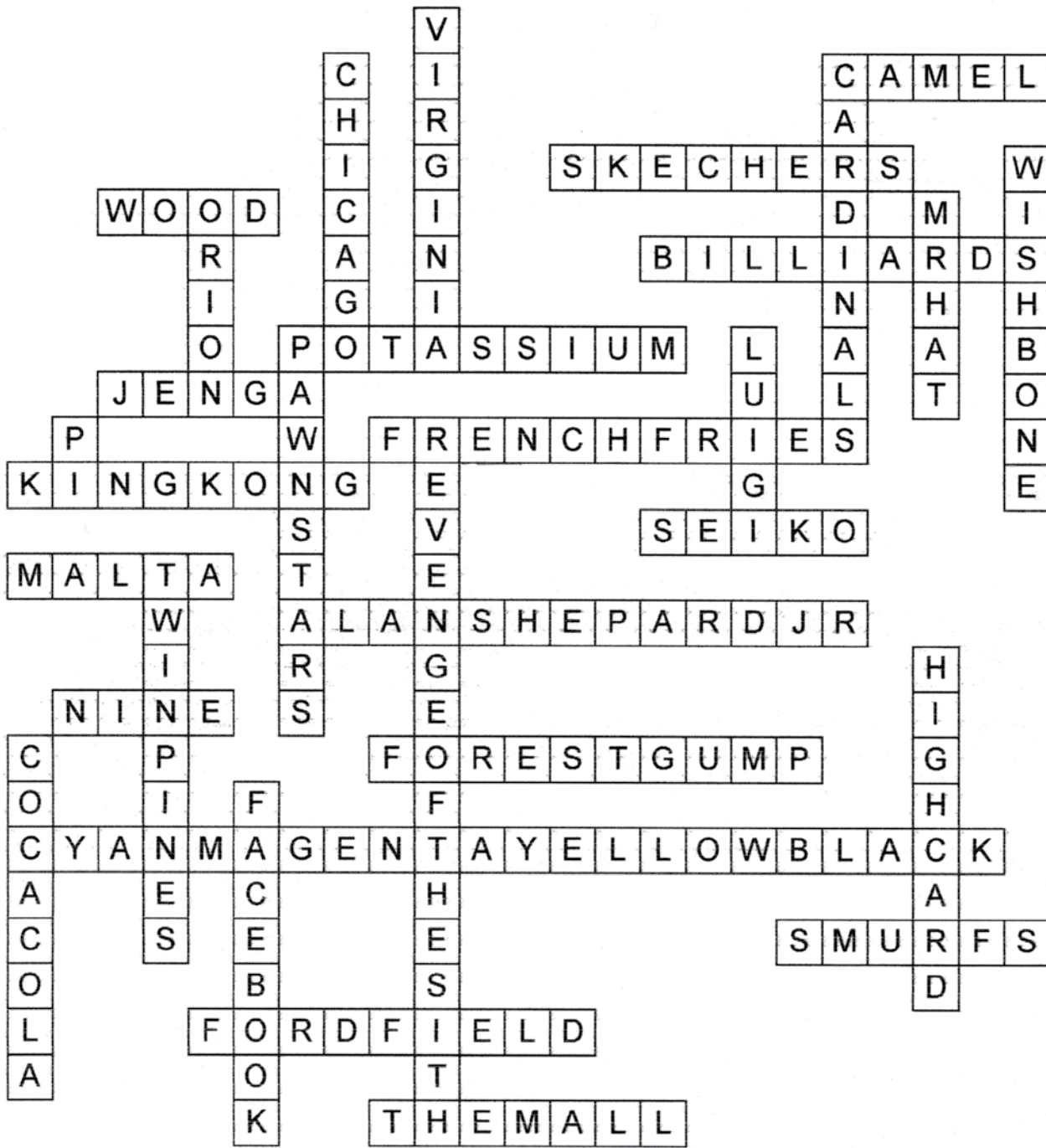
Of course, there's no point putting those lumps of meat and fur to waste. Deceased pets can provide a multitude of practical uses. Don't think "dead ferret" – think "attractive natural-fur doorstop." Besides, it's what they would have wanted. A stylish poodle coat will let Fido know from beyond the grave that his life was not taken in vain. He gets to spend his days wagging his tail and chasing cats in doggy heaven and you get a fashionable piece of winter wear. It's a win-win.

It might be the end of the world, but if you follow these tips, you'll be feeling fine. Next issue, we'll cover transitioning to your new life in Part 2: Adjusting to armageddon.



Connection Cross Word

By Brian Camilleri



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Solution

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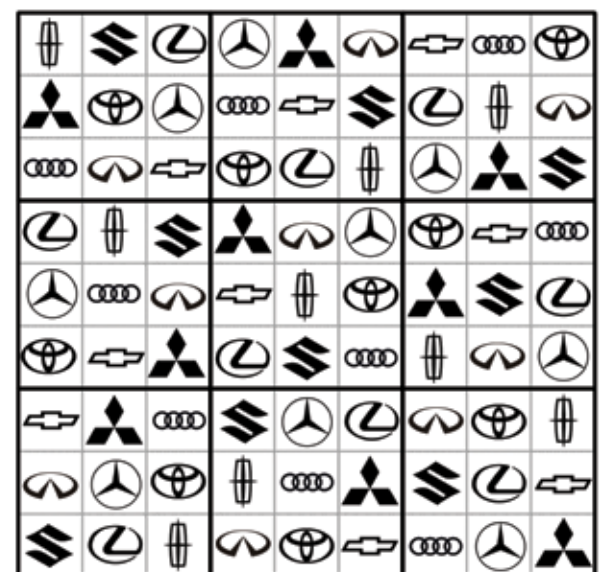
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+T++++PE+U++HI+++
+SL++++SN+L++EL+++
+IC++++WT+C++TL+++
+RR++++EA+I++AAS++
+HA+B+NC+K++KTN++
+CF+UMNT+S++AHA++
+RT++LAOI++++PGC++
+OL+CTIV++++PII++
+FA+GHTI++++AAL++
+ERN+NPT++++HRB++
+DPA+IHEI++++OTU++
+AIT+MYNE++++NSP++
+SAI+ASNS++++OYE++
+UNV+GIOB++++RAR++
+RCE+MCCO++++SGT++
+CLAAESTA++++O+F++
+SUMMHCFR++++C+AB+
+UBENYLAD++++I+RU+
+PREAUR++++E+CL+
+M+ISLBCM++++T+LC+
+A+CTP+L+A++++Y+OY+
+C+AYT+O+E++++OH+
++++NIC+O++++T++++HP+
++++CNE+H++++E++++CA+
++++LTJ+C++++C+SR+
++++UEO+S++++N+G+
++++BRR+++++A+O+
++++NP+++++DT+
BEATSANDMUSICFACTION
TABLETOPGAMINGCLUBH+
++++I+++++P+
++++O+++++P+
STUDENTSFORLIFE++++
+++MAETYEKCOHRELLOR
+++BULCSDRAILLIB+++
BULCNOITCUDORPOEDIV+
    
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(Over, Down, Direction)

- AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL(6,20,S)
- BEATS AND MUSIC FACTION(1,33,E)
- BILLIARDS CLUB(16,39,W)
- CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST(3,26,N)
- DANCE TEAM(18,32,NW)
- GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE(17,19,N)
- MATH PHYSICS CLUB(8,10,S)
- NATIVE AMERICAN CLUB(5,14,S)
- PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY(16,1,S)
- PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB(19,35,N)
- PROJECT PLAYHEM GAMING CLUB(7,32,N)
- ROLLER HOCKEY TEAM(20,38,W)
- SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION NEWSPAPER(9,30,N)
- SCHOOLCRAFT LARPIAN CLUB(4,1,S)
- SCHOOLCRAFT REPUBLICANS(18,29,N)
- SKI CLUB(12,10,N)
- STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD(10,1,S)
- STUDENTS FOR LIFE(1,37,E)
- TABLE TOP GAMING CLUB(1,34,E)
- VIDEO PRODUCTION CLUB(19,40,W)



Autodoku



Solution



Spot The Difference!

Theme: Buildings on Campus

1: McDowell Center

2: Biomedical Technology Center

3: VisTaTech Center

There are 6 differences in each of the 3 sets of pictures. Look closely and see if you can mark off all 18 differences.

for solutions call 734-462-4422.





Designed by Henry Ford in 1908, the Model T was the first vehicle to be produced using an assembly line. The line at Ford's Highland Park plant allowed for cars to be assembled quickly and efficiently as one worker completed the same task on every vehicle. The Model T was also the first car to be affordable to the average American, including the workers who built the T thanks to Ford's five-dollar-a-day wage. Henry Ford once quipped that customers could get the Model T in any color they wanted – as long as it was black, chosen because the paint dried faster.

The past is forever



The Wright Flyer

The Wright Brothers began their experiments in flight at the very end of the 1800s, building gliders of different sizes. In 1903, they used a ramp to launch a manned and powered craft into the air. The flight lasted for 12 seconds.

Radio

The original inventors of the radio intended it to be used to as communication between two points. However, the emergence of the National Broadcasting Company brought radio into mainstream American life with news and entertainment.



IBM 5150 Personal Computer

After several unsuccessful attempts, IBM released the 5150. While not officially the first personal computer, it was the first to be commercially successful, enlightening the masses to the power of computers.

Light bulb

Thomas Edison was not actually the original inventor of the light bulb. He did, however, improve on the idea of incandescent light, using carbon filaments to make a better bulb than what had come before.

