







# Cheschookraft ion

VOLUME 25 ISSUE 01

Serving the Schoolcraft Community for 25 years

September 12, 2011



# Campus overhaul

Students currently must walk around the bookstore to the temporary side door entrance. An artist's rendering shows what everyone can look forward to once renovations are complete.

Students return to find school in the midst of remodeling

BY RAMON RAZO NWWEWS EDITOR

Students returning to campus after a long, hot summer are bound to have noticed a few of the new renovations and additions to the campus. The most noticed changes are the two renovation projects in progress at the Livonia campus.

During the first weeks of classes, it's nearly impossible for Schoolcraft students not to notice the construction currently being done on the bookstore. Renovations have been underway since July. The project will

bring more than \$900,000 in upgrades to the bookstore. The three-phase project will increase the size of the bookstore significantly.

"Phase one (the addition) is projected to be complete and usable by late October 2011. The other two phases will begin the end of January and be completed by mid-April," said Robert Wielechowski, Executive Director of Facilities Management. During construction, students are only able to access the bookstore via the emergency access ramp on the side of the building. This is to allow construction crews the time and the space they need during the first phase of construction.

With the new additions being

added, students can expect increased sales floor space which will ease traffic during checkout. There will also be a separate buy-back section for students looking to sell their books along with an improved and expanded tech zone. The Physical Education Building is also currently going through a major renovation. The College approved \$1.5 million for a fitness center. "The [facility] will be a state-of-the-art fitness center," said Wielechowski. "Approximately \$400,000 of new fitness equipment is being purchased for the center, with separate video screens provided at each piece of equipment. Various specific fitness areas will be provided including cardio, free weight, strength training

and intermediate training areas. Large expanses of glass are being installed at the south and east ends of room to provide natural lighting in to the space."

Once completed, the PE building's new and improved fitness center will be available via a membership to students, faculty and the public. The yetto-be-named fitness center is expected to be completed by the end of this year, and open for use in January.

See **Renovations** PAGE 5



President of the college, Dr. Conway Jeffress, announces big plans for Schoolcraft's upcoming year.

## State of the College

President Jeffress addresses faculty and staff

JONATHAN KING Editor in Chief

> Every year, Schoolcraft College holds a Welcome Back breakfast for all members of faculty and staff. This year the breakfast was held on Aug. 29 in the DiPonio room of the VisTaTech Center. The event featured a full breakfast buffet and several presentations. This included a keynote speech by Dr. Conway Jeffress, Schoolcraft's president, on the state of the College. The speech included what had happened over the previous

year and the future of the College.

Dr. Jeffress opened his address on a very positive note, naming off the new members of staff that were hired as of the fall semester. The number of new employees totaled 37, and covered just about every department, from Counseling to Information Services and Facilities Management. The list also included a new Assistant Dean of Sciences and a new Assistant Dean of Nursing. As Dr. Jeffress said, "We keep hearing bad news,

bad news, bad news ... well, it's not happening here."

The bulk of Dr. Jeffress' speech concerned the many new campus improvements and expansions. Consequently, the first issue he addressed was why Schoolcraft was deciding to do so much building and expansion during times of economic downturn. "The truth of the matter is that this kind of activity is ideal during bad times." Dr Jeffress explained that not only is it cheaper to

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# State of the economy What's been going on and why it matters to you

By Ian Gallagher Managing Editor

In 2005, The Economist referred to the housing bubble as the "biggest bubble in history." Explaining that since 2000 in developed countries, the total residential property values increased, "equivalent to 100 percent those countries combined gross domestic product." Three years later the housing bubble burst. This caused a high default rate among subprime mortgages, which have a higher credit risk and thus higher interest rates. These defaults led to a crisis where many banks required bailouts or went bankrupt, most notably Lehman Brothers. The bursting of the housing bubble and the banking crisis combined with high commodity prices - oil peaked at nearly \$150 a barrel - plunged the world into the deepest recession since the Great Depression.

The recession officially ended in June 2009 but, due to government spending in attempts to revive the economy, the federal deficit ballooned. According to the Congressional Budget Office, the deficit could reach 97 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) by 2021. The deficit is currently at 70 percent of GDP, whereas in 2008 it was 40 percent. After a long and heated debate over raising the debt ceiling, a deal was worked out where deficit reduction will come in two parts: The first is a \$1-trillion cut in discretionary spending over ten years. The second is a "trigger mechanism" where \$1.5 trillion in additional cuts will go into effect only if the recommendations of the 12-person, bipartisan "super committee" are not

enacted by Congress. The "trigger mechanism" cuts are split between domestic and military spending.

Critics of the supposed deficit reduction are quick to point out that the "cuts" will not reduce the actual deficit but, instead, limit additional expenditures.

Standard & Poor's downgraded the United States' credit rating from AAA to AA+, the only credit rating agency to do so, stating, "The downgrade reflects our opinion that the fiscal consolidation plan that Congress and the Administration recently agreed to falls short of what, in our view, would be necessary to stabilize the government's medium-term debt dynamics."

The news of the downgrade caused markets to fluctuate wildly, leading many investors to put their money into Treasury bonds. This sent Treasury yields, what the government pays back as interest, to record lows.

"The mindset is that rates aren't going to move any higher any time soon as we saw more bad employment figures on top of so many other bad economic signs," said Bill Cheoplis, a managing director at Deutsche Asset

yield as they can now." The economic outlook remains bleak. While consumer spending did pick up o.8 percent in July,

there was no job

growth in August

Management, to CNN

Money, "Investors are

trying to get as much

and unemployment remains high at 9.1 percent. According to CNN Money, "The Conference Board, a New York based business research group, said its Consumer Confidence Index for August fell to 44.5 percent, down from 59.2 percent in July."

The outlook for students remains similarly grim. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that in July, the employment rate for ages 16-24 was 48.8 percent. This is the lowest level since 1948, when recording began. July is usually the high point in youth employment. There are further risks to students than just being an unemployed youth. Graduating during a recession can result in large initial earning losses.

"In their first ten years of work, individuals experience 70 percent of their overall wage growth, change jobs frequently and often settle on a particular line of business or industry," wrote Matt Nesvisky for the National Bureau of Economic Research.

The young do have some advantages over older workers in that they are not tied to a career, can move more easily and did not take heavy losses to retirement plans. Young people also have time to make up the losses from early struggles in the workforce. Regardless of their long-term outlook, unless the economy turns around quickly, everyone - Schoolcraft students included - will continue to feel the economic crunch.

## In our news

By Ramon Razo

#### Worldwide news

Rebels in Libya found something they never expected in former Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's home. While going through his compound in Tripoli, looters found a photo album full of pictures of former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Dr. Rice had previously visited Tripoli in 2008 and Gaddafi has spoken highly of her ever since. He has endearingly referred to her as "darling" and has called her "Leeza" on some occasions.

State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland told The Associated Press that words like "creepy" and "bizarre" adequately describe the photo finds. However, she also said that Gaddafi's apparent affection with Dr. Rice is not that surprising since Dr. Rice played a major role in his short-lived political rehabilitation.

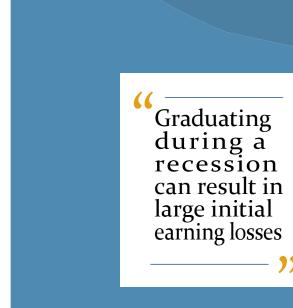
#### **National news**

In August, authorities arrested fugitive Lucas Wayne French on charges he received in July. French had been allowed to leave the county jail in Beltrami County, Minn, on work leave. French's charges included assault of a peace officer, child endangerment and reckless handling of a dangerous weapon. French and another man had engaged in a sword fight the month before. Lakeland News out of Florida reported that French and a co-worker, Paul Whaley, had an argument at Whaley's home after drinking. French struck Whaley and, in the ensuing scuffle, a display of samurai swords fell over. French grabbed a sword to attack Whaley, who in turn grabbed his own blade to protect himself. French then tried to leave but a 10-year-old boy who was with French refused to come with him. French then struck the boy on the arm with the sword, threatening to cut off Whaley's head if the boy didn't cooperate. Whaley was later treated for a minor injury and the boy was treated for a minor wound.

Upon his return to custody, French's companion, 31-year-old Carmen Faye Monroe, was arrested on charges of aiding a fugitive, CBS Minnesota reported.

### Local news

United Auto Workers (UAW) President Bob King told reporters that he felt "upbeat" about reaching contract deals with U.S. automakers, reported Reuters. Workers of the union have been trying to end the twotier system of lower entry-level wages that have been in place since 2007. King noted that it would be difficult to reach an agreement with GM, Ford and Chrysler before the UAW's contracts expire on Sept. 14 and that he would be disappointed if no agreement could be made. He said the UAW's main priority was to allow workers earning \$14 an hour to make about twice that amount. "I just feel like I can do better," said King.



## Student bridge collapses

New EBT standards leave some students behind

By Leah Esslinger Staff Writer

Last April, Michigan made it more difficult for students to obtain Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards. In the past, just being a student guaranteed acceptance into the program. As the state's financial situation worsened, the demand to weed out those in less need became

more necessary.

The EBT card, formerly known as food stamps and also called a Bridge Card, is a federally funded program meant to help low-income families make ends meet by providing money for food. According to the Michigan. gov website, the program takes into account things like wages earned, rent or mortgage, medical expenses and dependents. By limiting student access, the Department of Human Services expects an annual savings of \$75 million dollars, money that can be used to help those in true need.

"A lot of parents are pretty wealthy anyways, so I think a lot of students don't need it," says Smeet Parikh, a Schoolcraft student employee. "There are other parents that aren't so well off. Maybe the student is paying on their own. They should be able to get EBT," said Parikh.

But how can you tell which students really need it and which don't? Many dependent students do not qualify for any aide, such as the Pell Grants and Stafford loans. The guidelines for student dependency are very broad. According to FAFSA's Student Loan Network, to be considered a dependent student, the applicant must *not* be any of the following: over twenty-four years of age, married, a parent, orphaned, serving active duty in the U.S. military, a veteran of active duty, a

foster child after age thirteen, legally emancipated or homeless. Regardless of how broad FAFSA's definition is, the State of Michigan is taking a different tack.

Critics of the policy change say the program is not considered charity because taxpayers pay for it. According to the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), over half of the citizens in our country will someday need food benefits.

"I think there should be opportunity for everyone. It should be fair for everyone," says Jeff MacDougall, a parent of a Schoolcraft student. "If we all pay into it, why shouldn't we all get it? Your mom and dad pay for it just as much as I do."

However, in times of financial strife, government programs perceived to be wasteful draw the ire of citizens and stories of student abuse have been spread widely throughout the media.

"I have a lot of friends who abuse it," Parikh says.

Those in favor of the policy change believe it is important to teach self-sufficiency to young people and the money should be freed up for those in true need. College students are still welcome to apply but they simply have to meet the same standards as everyone else. For example, a student working at least twenty hours a week may still be eligible and so may single mothers. Most dependent students, however, will no longer be eligible.

If any Schoolcraft student has recently been dropped from the program, or if they are having trouble making ends meet, they are encouraged to visit the Transitional Center in the McDowell building or the Student Activity Office for information about the Schoolcraft Food Bank.

Photo Mandy Getschman



# Welcome Schoolcraft Students!!! It's NEVER too early to start planning your transfer!



Visit the Schoolcraft College Transfer Website at: www.schoolcraft.edu/transfer

or, visit the Counseling Center to meet with an advisor or counselor





## STEP 1:

Fill out a club application in the Student Activities Office.

## STEP 2:

Attend a club meeting before **September 30, 2011.** 

## STEP 3:

Be entered in to win for each S.A.O. club meeting attended.

Drawing will be held the week of October 3rd.



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

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## **CAMPUS CLIFFNOTES**

Compiled by Ramon Razo • News Editor

#### No Classes Canceled Guarantee

Starting this fall semester, Schoolcraft in implementing a new, innovative strategy for the benefit of students. Regardless of low enrollment, all credit classes this semester will run, guaranteed. The school has taken into account the frustration that most students feel when a class is cancelled due to low enrollment. Now, students will be able to sign up for classes worry-free, knowing turn-out will not affect their schooling. It should be noted that this guarantee does not cover unforeseen issues. For instance, if an instructor becomes unable to teach their class and the school is unable to find a replacement, the College still reserves the right to cancel the class. The plan is still being evaluated to determine whether or not the program will continue into the winter semester. Check schoolcraft.edu for upto-date information

#### **Event Planning** Certification

The Continuing Education and Professional Development Department is planning to start an Event Planning Certification Program beginning September 27. The course will begin with Introduction to Event Planning, which goes through the importance of budgeting, scheduling, planning and promoting. Other classes needed for certification will be Wedding Planning, Special Event Design and an Event Planning Practical Experience class, where students will use their skills and knowledge in planning by putting together an actual event.

The program is being created in partnership with Christopher & Company of Walled Lake. Owners Christopher Gregorich and Joseph Martinez will be the instructors for the 54-hour course. To get more information, students can go to schoolcraft.edu/cepd/eventplanning, or call the CEPD offices at 734-462-4448.

#### School Daze

The Student Activity Office is proud to present the annual School Daze Fall Festival running Sept.13-15. School Daze is Schoolcraft's annual

festival that allows each student club and organization to showcase themselves and promote their group for the fun and benefit of other students. Attendees can win various prizes as they travel through the festival. Games and prizes will be provided by each of the school clubs in attendance. Amnesty International will also be coordinating a live music concert called "Jamnesty." There will be tons of food, ranging from 50-cent hot hogs to 25-cent chips and free Coke products. This year, students will also be eligible to win an Apple iPad. Students who fill out an application for the organization of their choice and attend a club meeting between Sept. 13 and Sept. 30 will be eligible. For more info, call 734-462-4422.

### Culinary Extravaganza

Coinciding with Schoolcraft's 50th anniversary, the VisTaTech Center will host a Culinary Extravaganza on September 25. Now in its 20th year, the event allows guest to sample various delicacies from notable restaurants and food vendors in the area. New this year is a wholesome, healthy food demo put on by Master Chef Jeff Gabriel. Guest can also partake in a wine tasting seminar, a silent auction and a raffle. Tickets for the raffle will be \$5 or three for \$10. Tickets for the Culinary Extravaganza are \$50 per guest and can be purchased by calling 734-462-4518.

## Small Business Boot Camp

The Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center is presenting a new series, "Export Boot Camp for Small Business," beginning September 15. The aim is to help guide small businesses to become relevant and competitive in the ever expanding global market. The class will cover insurance, product classification, risk assessment, marketing and supply management. MI-SBTDC experts will lead each class, offering their expertise to participants. The course is \$245 per person or \$196 for senior citizens. To register for the classes, or for more information, call 734-462-4438.



## Campus Crime

Compiled by Melina M. Chiatalas

#### Larceny

In the bookstore, on Aug. 31, a student placed her purse into one of the cubbies after being instructed to do so. She removed her wallet from her purse. After she was finished shopping, she retrieved her purse from the cubby and left the building. When she opened her purse, it seemed that somebody had tampered with it. In addition, her dark navy blue Exilim Casio camera was missing. Two

campus police officers and the Sergeant reviewed the video cameras and saw a female that, in the process of retrieving her own bag, appeared to be going through the complainant's purse. When the subject was finished, she kicked the complainant's purse away from her foot, then left the bookstore. The campus police have since identified the subject and will make contact with them.

## PRESIDENT continued from PAGE 1

build now but these projects provide work opportunities for construction crews who may be low on business as well as job opportunities for people who may be looking for work. According to Dr. Jeffress, "There's lots of opportunity to do good things during bad times."

The first major announcement was that of the acquisition of new Public Safety facilities in Livonia. This includes a large parcel of paved land to be used as driving pad for police training and a fire tower, which is a large structure used for firefighter training. There are also two buildings (totaling 50,000 square feet) to house classrooms as well as other training facilities such as a firing range. These facilities are located approximately eight miles from both the College's main campus and the Radcliffe campus, making it convenient for students.

Dr Jeffress then went over the renovations of the Physical Education building and the bookstore (see Campus overhaul, page 1). Finally, the new Health Professions Simulation Lab, which was constructed last year, is now up and running. The lab will see its first batch of nursing students this fall semester.

Unfortunately, the economic downturn has taken its toll on many colleges and Schoolcraft has not been unaffected. As of this fall semester, Schoolcraft is experiencing a 5%-decline in enrollment from last year, which is "not good but it's manageable." This marks the first significant enrollment decline in over a decade. While it may seem scary, Schoolcraft is still doing better than the regional average (which is at 6% decline) and the College remains committed to getting through these problematic times without diminishing the quality of education students have come

Overall, Dr Jeffress' speech was extremely promising. Despite some minor setbacks, Schoolcraft appears to be set up for another great year of academic achievement. Overall, Schoocraft appears to have a lot of surprises in store for faculty, staff and, most importantly, students.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MARKETING DEPARTMENT

Faculty listen intently as Dr. Jeffress explains plans for the rest of the school year



Schoolcraft will soon have a membership gym available not only to students, but community members as well.

## RENOVATIONS continued from PAGE 1

New expansions are also being added to the campus for the benefit of police and fire safety students. "These projects are located on Glendale and on Industrial Drive, between Farmington and Merriman in Livonia," said Wielechowski.

The first building, located at 31777 Industrial, was obtained by Schoolcraft in April 2010. The new renovations to the building included a pair of classrooms, office space, locker room space, storage for Public Safety Training vehicles and equipment. The locations also have a driving pad and a fire tower site, both of which were finished in June. The driving pad will allow police students to practice tactical driving. The fire tower permits fire safety students an environment to set and train in firefighting techniques.

Next door, the 31623 Industrial address was only recently acquired by the College. Currently, plans are being worked out for the building and its renovations. It is known that the facility will include a firing range and a firearms training simulator room, greatly expanding the College's ability to educate and properly train students. While some of these new renovations and additions might be a short-term hassle for students on campus, they will provide longterm improvements to Schoolcraft as a learning environment. If students can deal with the noise and dust for a little while, the new additions to the College will prove invaluable to their education.



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By Kim Poma Campus Life Editor kpmail7@yahoo.com

America is known wide and far as the land of the free and the home of the brave. So why is it so hard for our country to actually act as the land of the free and legalize gay marriage in all 50 states? It's 2011 ... we're past the stigmas of homosexuality being a contagious disease or a mental illness. A gay couple is one of the cutest and most loved pairings on television and Sean Penn won an Oscar for portraying Harvey Milk, an out-and-proud gay activist elected to office.

Only 12 percent of the states sanction gay marriage. That's six out of 50 states. Six states that somehow managed to realize marriage is a sanction between two people who truly love each other and it doesn't matter if it's between a man and a woman. two women or two men. A whopping 52 percent of the United States allows marriage between first cousins. That's 26 states that don't seem to have a problem with the fact that people who share bloodlines can get married.

## Six states down, forty-four to go

So, let's get this straight ... Someone can go ahead and marry their first cousin, then have potentially geneticallydamaged babies and live happily ever after. And our government has no problem with this? But, the government has a problem with two people getting married if they share the same reproductive equipment? Does this make

It's not just about getting married, though. It's about everything that goes with it. Gay people are basically treated like second class citizens because they aren't ensured the same rights as straight married couples. When people get married, they're automatically given each other's benefits, health coverage and more. Because gay people are not recognized as married in 44 states, they don't receive these benefits.

Say there's a couple—they're both guys—and they've been together for years. They both have jobs, but only one has access to get healthcare benefits. Well, let's say his boyfriend gets cancer. He doesn't have the money or the coverage to take care of himself. His boyfriend's health insurance would cover him but, because they're not

married, they can't share coverage. And he dies.

It's even worse when it comes to starting a family. Because a gay couple is not legally recognized as married, they cannot legally adopt children together. This could lead to a number of custody issues if the couple ever splits up or if something happens to the parent who legally did the

Say there's another couple both girls—and they've been together for years. They want to have a kid so one of them fills out the paperwork and they adopt a baby. Let's say the woman who did the adopting dies and her partner wants custody of the kid. It's too bad because she doesn't get the child because she isn't legally the child's other mother.

It's a bad system but it's getting better.

When New York legalized gay marriage, many people all over the country celebrated regardless of their sexual orientation because this was an amazing step toward total equality in our country. We're getting there. It might take us a couple more years but we'll get there.

## The stigma of special needs

By Mandy Getschman LAYOUT & DESIGN EDITOR

Throughout history, people have struggled to agree on a way to deal with those members of society that are unable to blend in with the rest. When they could not come up with a better solution, the decision was usually to ignore the problem. Take those people out of the society, segregate them. Cripples were left to beg on the streets. The retarded were locked away in secure establishments. This ignorant marginalization only promoted the hurtful descriptors that society threw at their largest minor-

As the Civil Rights Movement brought the devastation of racial slurs to light, activists realized that the disabled community was suffering just as badly. This led them to seek a new language that would avoid any offensive words and replace them with neutral terms. Political correctness forever altered the way modern society communicates. Instead of words such as cripple and handicapped, the term "special needs" now covers all forms of disabilities.

While encouraging the descriptor "special needs" was intended to generate a more considerate attitude towards disabled individuals, the term has instead become almost a synonym of unfortunate and pitiable. When we start referring to people as having "special needs," we are robbing them of many opportunities. The descriptor is laden with so many stigmata: feelings of pity, low expectations of success, complicated needs, even inferior mental capacity. Even though most "special needs" people have perfect cognitive abilities, make an informal survey discover that the average person automatically thinks of mental disability, rather than physical, when they hear the term. These people generally do not wait to be corrected. When they hear that term, they respond with an understanding, "No need to say more," thus depriving the individual of the chance to explain for herself. Simply saying, "She has special needs" offers way too little information to define any individual.

Since language is the fastest way to devalue a person, modern disability advocates have established a form of etiquette called "People First Language" (PFL). They argue against the "sticks and stones" myth saying that words do hurt. As explained on the website disabilityisnatural. com, respectful conversation "puts the person first, not the disability." Rather than referring to "the disabled," we should say "people with disabilities." People first. Instead of saying, "he's autistic," "he has autism." PFL is an attempt to steer away from labels.

While PFL is promoting recognition of the human behind the disability, it still lacks variety. Each individual's condition is different and often cannot be covered by a single descriptor. Acceptance and integration into society can only happen when people understand the needs of those around them. People with "special needs" should be respected for the hard work they put in to compensate for any handicap.

## **STAFF**

Jonathan King

Ian Gallagher

Managing Editor

RAMON RAZO

**News Editor** 

Photo Editor

SCHOOL

KIM POMA

**Editor In Chief** 

Adviser JEFFREY PETTS

Advertising Adviser TODD STOWELL



HEATHER GREENSHIELDS

TODD WALSH

CHAD PERKINS

Mandy Getschman Layout/Design Editor Brian Camilleri Assistant Layout/Design Editor

SUZETTE ZOIA Ad Manager STEVEN HUBBARD Circulation Manager

**Issue Staff** Arber Shehu

Andrew Kieltyka

COLE JANISCH

JONATHAN KING **Entertainment Editor** EHIMARE ARHEBAMEN STEVEN GRILL

**Campus Life Editor** 

The Schoolcraft Connection is the award-winning, student-run newspaper published semi-monthly as an educational experience by the students of Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48152-2696. The editorial offices of theSchoolcraft Connection are located in the Student Activities Office on the lower level of the Waterman Campus Center, 734:

The Schoolcraft Connection is a member of the Michigan Community College Press Association, the Colombia Scholastic Press Association, College Media Advisers, the Student Press Law Center, Community College Journalism Association and the Society of Professional Journalists.

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462-4422, or sceditor@schoolcraft.edu

## CONTACT US:

Letters to the Editor are welcomed and will be printed as written except in the case of obscenities, libelous information or personal attack. We reserve the right to edit for length. Letters must be signed to be considered for publication, though names may be withheld at the discretion of the Editorial Board.

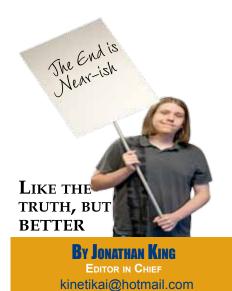
Send letters to: The Schoolcraft Connection, 18600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia, Michigan, 48152-2696.

Via Email: sceditor@schoolcraft.edu

The Connection staff would like to take the time to commemorate all those lost in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. We also owe a great debt of gratitude to those who rushed in to deal with the aftermath. We thank the brave men and women who willingly gave up their time, their safety and even their lives for the sake of human solidarity. Even ten years later, their brave and selfless acts still resonate within all of us.



## Fair and Biased



Hello. My name is Jon. I am economically left-wing and socially libertarian. The opinions contained within this article will likely reflect these ideologies. Please take this into consideration as you read the following paragraphs and come to your own conclusions.

See how much easier that makes things? Everyone has their own opinions, priorities, beliefs and philosophies that affect what information we share, how we share it and who we share it with. This set of facts extends to everybody, including those working in news. Whether we like it or not, every news show, every news website and every newspaper is a construct of biased people. (Except the Connection—we're completely unbiased and neutral.)

News organizations—especially newspapers—used to wear their political philosophies on their sleeve, displaying names like the Springfield Republican and the Tallahassee Democrat. However, nowadays the big trend is to pretend like you don't have an opinion as such and this has led to harsh critiques of many news sources. For example, the Fox News Channel has garnered considerable criticism for ostensibly displaying a bias toward conservative political points while claiming to be—to quote their trademarked slogan—"Fair & Balanced."

This has led to a surge of calls for increased objectivity in the media. Of course, liberal sources claim the conservatives are out of whack, while the conservatives claim that the problem lies with the liberal media. Meanwhile, third party critics are quick to say, "Whoa, guys, quit arguing. You're both wrong." The outshot of all this is that it becomes very apparent that creating a completely objective news source if

difficult ... perhaps impossible. Call me naïve, but it seems like a much simpler solution would be to just admit your ideological orientation and proceed from there.

The whole argument is so simple that it can be crystallized by a pair of magicians. From 2003 to 2010, magical duo Penn and Teller hosted "Penn & Teller: B.S.!": a show in which they provided a critical and skeptical counterpoint to many subjects in the realms of pseudoscience, social issues and politics. When asked about how they handle guests on their show who have opposing views to their own, Penn Jillette responded by saying, "We are trying to be fair and extremely biased, which is not in any way a joke. It is exactly what I think all news should be. ... Yes, it's our show. Yes, we have the last word. And yes, it's tilted very much in our favor. ... But they get to go on TV and state their point of view."

The point is it's entirely possible to have an opinion—and a strong one at that—and still provide information that is accurate and fair, as long as you don't distort the image by claiming you favor both sides equally. Stating one's political affiliation doesn't invalidate an organization's ability to provide news. In fact, it makes it easier for readers. viewers or listeners to separate fact from opinion and understand why, in their view, certain facts may take precedence over others. Also, knowing that a news source has a particular political bent will also make it easier for the truly critical thinkers among us to seek out opposing views to get a better understanding of the issues at large.

That's not to say we can't stop chasing that dream of a news source that is completely neutral and objective. Online news sources are making great strides in that department. However, it would be counterproductive at best to live under the delusion that we've reached that apex already. The news is biased, and that's okay. We just have to admit it. So maybe we should go back to the days of hearts-on-our-sleeve journalism. Maybe this newspaper should be called the Schoolcraft Liberal, or the Campus Conservative.

To quote Jillette, "I would like all news to start, 'Good evening. I'm Bob Jenkins, I hate George Bush and here's the news." Imagine what a world that would be.

## Miami's game face



By EHIMARE ARHEBAMEN Sports Editor earhebamen@yahoo.com

Miami is an incredible city to live in and to experience. It's a place to see and be seen from its rich cultural traditions, based on Caribbean and Latin influences, to its stunning coastal views. There are unlimited activities and sightseeing opportunities to keep anyone entertained. A typical day can start out on one of the city's many beaches with surfing, water-skiing or just simply relaxing in the sun and sand. Not enough excitement? Then you can dress up and head to South Beach for the vibrant nightclub scene.

Despite all of the city's charm and beauty, anyone interested in Miami's professional sports scene may not be feeling sunny after a disappointing 2010. It seems that Miami is having a hard time showcasing any of their sports teams without embarrassing their fans. Witnessing the season had by the Florida Marlins, and the prospects for the upcoming NFL and NHL seasons, it's a tough time to be a Miami sports

Historically speaking, the Miami Dolphins have been a great team known for a Hall of Fame quarterback and the only undefeated season in NFL history that culminated in a Super Bowl title. However, it's been a long time since that 1972 title and Dan Marino now spends his time endorsing weight-loss programs. The 'Phins have only made the playoffs once since 2001 and endured a 1-15 season in 2007. Even diehard fans are getting impatient, going so far as to booing the starting quarterback during preseason practices.

As bad as the Dolphins have been, other Miami teams have not fared any better in easing fan frustration and indifference. The Florida Marlins have

actually been a very successful baseball franchise in their short history having won two World Series titles in their 18 years of existence. Despite such incredible success, they have a hard time connecting with their fans. After their first title, the team traded away every fan favorite player to cut costs and a terrible season followed. The Marlins don't spend any money on the team to maintain success and they have finished last or to close to last in fan attendance for the last 13 years. Desperate to boost sales, the team sold the unused tickets to a no-hitter—thrown by an opposing pitcher—that had already taken place. That's Miami sports marketing in action!

So how about the Florida Panthers, Miami's professional hockey team? The Panthers are another team that achieved great success early, having gone to the Stanley Cup Finals in only their third season. Since the turn of the century, however, they haven't been doing so well at all. They set an NHL record with their failure to reach the playoffs for 10 consecutive seasons and they don't seem to be going any-

where anytime soon.

The Miami Heat is the city's best hope for its fans. After adding Chris Bosh and Lebron James to play alongside Dwyane Wade, how could this team do any wrong? Well, first by holding a tasteless celebratory press conference after the big signings and then boasting how many championships they would win. (Lebron predicted more than seven!) Their talent isn't in question—it's what they do around and off the court. The arrogance and sense of entitlement of players only makes enemies of other teams and cities, who enjoy nothing more than taking the Heat down at every chance. With all of their hype and animosity, losing in the NBA Finals proved to be more devastating than not being competitive at all. And with an NBA lockout looming, the Heat might not have a chance to avenge their defeat.

In the end, being a Miami sports fan can't be easy. Then again, how hard can life be with an ocean to play in, a tropical breeze and the nightlife of South Beach to serve as distractions?



## **Riot tomorrow!** #socialchange

With the buzz of a phone, thousands of people assemble in cities across the world: to protest, to have pillow fights, to loot and to riot. Social networking technologies allow people to share information at a rate unprecedented in human history. While too many people might use this technology to share what their cat did with friends and family, social media can also be used to enact sweeping changes, as the Arab Spring stands testament to. However, while the rebels in Libya were still fighting for control of Tripoli, others took cues from the protests of the Arab world.

In San Francisco protests began against the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) after BART Police fatally shot Charles Hill, who was holding a knife, at Civic Center Station. The initial protests to the shooting led BART to block cell phone coverage which, in turn, led to more protests. Even the hacker group Anonymous was motivated into action. The protests have since died down with SFPD Chief Greg Suhr stating in the San Francisco Chronicle that there were "as many reporters as protest-

Perhaps their fears of protests turning out of control were founded as unrest in north London—again, in retaliation for a police shooting—turned into all-out, multi-day riots across Britain. The rioters used social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and Blackberry Messenger to communicate and orchestrate the disorder. "[British Prime Minister] David Cameron said the government would look at limiting access to such services during any future disorder," as reported by the BBC. Four young men from across Britain, ages ranging from 16-22, have been convicted for "online incitement," according to the BBC, with sentences ranging from four months to four years, with the 16-year old still awaiting

sentencing.
In Philadelphia young people also used social net-

working tools to organize riots. Unlike in San Francisco and Britain, they did not begin as protests, although some suggest the riots were a reaction to youth unemployment. Perhaps because of this the reaction has been the most severe—implementing a curfew for those under 18 in certain areas of the city.

The ideal situation would be no restrictions whatsoever, but the public always demands that something be done. The restrictions seem a bit pointless. The Arab Spring has shown that attempts to block communication can be overcome. Further, the various authorities and police agencies undoubtedly already monitor information that is open to anyone over social media and even a lot of what is less open, thank you Patriot Act.

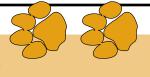
The protests in the Middle East have already set a high bar as to what great positive transformational effects social media can have, which leaves many asking what the difference is between the police and other western authorities and Mubarak and Qaddafi? Or what is the limit of restrictions on communication the police and other authorities can place to protect communities and their property?

The ideal answer to the latter question is none at all, but we live in a much more complicated world than that. Restrictions will be placed, although they will have limits, and if our government takes too many ideas from Orwell's "1984," we can always have mass protests to



## OCELOT OPINIONS

friendly to undocumented immigrant students. Do you agree with Schoolcraft's policy?



Compiled & Photos by Steven Gril





Wieczorek Major: Undecided

Danielle

"Personally, I believe illegal immigration is wrong, but kids brought by their parents have no choice. Who are we to take away everything they've ever known. They've grown and developed here, why not let them continue to do so?



Adam Smith

Major: Business



**Danielle** Mcleay

Major: Public Relations to get that education







of allowing students who fall under the Dream Act because they are privately owned."



Kathryn Lenhardt

Major: Science

"All students should be legal citizens that contribute to our country; meaning paying taxes, in your military or becoming a citizen le-

gally."



Seth Michaels

Major: Broadcast Communication

"I support Schoolcraft's choice in this regard but I also believe a school should have this choice and not have the decision forced upon

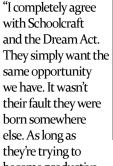
them."

should support



**Zachary Childress** 

Major: Aviation Management

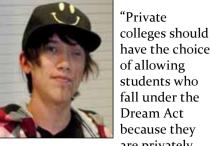


enroll to get a higher

education."

whereever you wish."

become productive, hardworking citizens,



Major: Undecided



Matt Mauldin

I say let them stay and Major: English

"My mom moved to the States when she was 17 and just passed her test for citizenship and is no longer an English citizen. I strongly support the Dream Act.



## Re/b/el re/b/el



misterrazo@gmail.com

Revolution, rebellion and rioting have been all the rage in the news recently. While the concept is as old as there have been powers to overthrow, a new face is emerging in the realm of social change. In fact, they don't even have a face at all (aside from their Guy Fawkes masks). They're called Anonymous.

Originating in 2003 on the image board website 4chan, Anonymous is an unspecified group of thousands of hackers ("hacktivists") who seek social change through web-based civil disobedience. One of their first moves that garnered worldwide press was a campaign in early 2008. Labeled "Project Chanology," the group went after the Church of Scientology for what Anonymous claimed to be violations of free speech. More recent Anonymous activity was when the group released emails they claimed to be property of Bank of America containing supposed evidence of "corruption and fraud" relating to

improper foreclosures, BusinessInsider. com reported in May of this year. Another instance was "Operation Facebook." There is rumor of an Anonymous plan to take down Facebook on November 5 to coincide with Guy Fawkes Day.

Probably a more substantial case was about a month ago, when UK Business News reported that Anonymous had released data taken from Pentagon and FBI contractor, Vanguard Defense Industries (VDI). A statement released by Anonymous (anonymously) claimed they were doing this to cause the company embarrassment and to send a message to the hacker community.

Anonymous' mentality is to bring forward all the corruption that big business, big government and big banks seem to get away with all the time. This is good, no?

Well look a little deeper into the VDI info leak the sort of data released might be more harmful than good. The documents belonged to VDI's senior vice president Richard T. Garcia. As well as information about VDI's employees and "office use only" documents, the materials also contained information regarding counter terrorism and were labeled "law enforcement sensitive." Does that sound like information we want just floating around the Web?

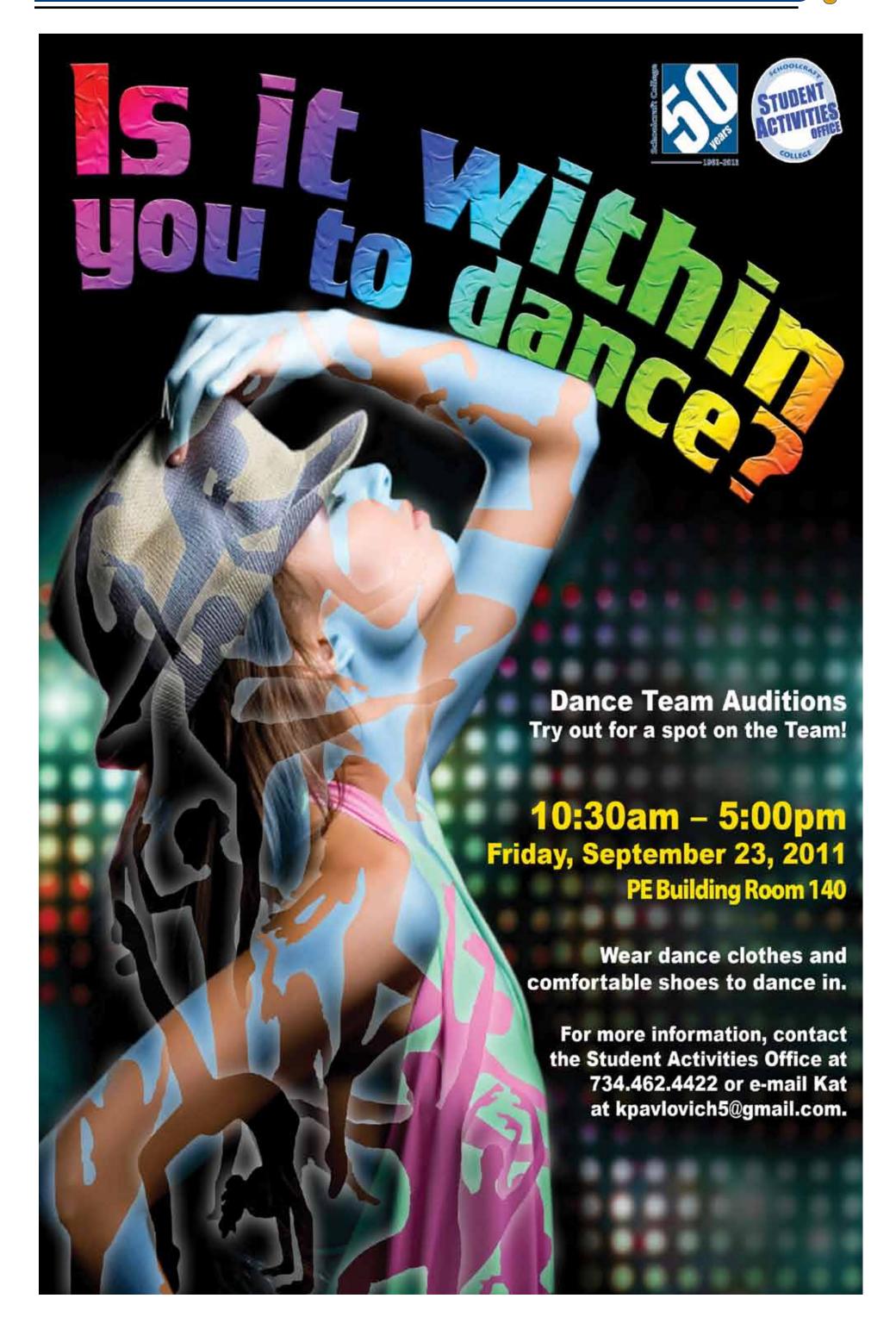
Anonymous claims that they're fighting for social change. They say that you and I are Anonymous. They're not. They're like "Fight Club" without the fighting. They're Web-based bullies unable to enact real social change and instead choose to do it

in ways that won't get their hands dirty. Robert Strohmeyer of Informationweek. com wrote so accurately, "Even as the group proclaims its opposition to oppression, it resorts to little more than online bullying in pursuit of its aims. In purporting to advance the cause of freedom, the group brings its own brand of oppression to bear." He went on to point how Anonymous stands for little more than demanding that people do what they want them to do or the hacktivists will ruin their public image, their company and might even mess things up for their customers.

That's the most troublesome thing about Anonymous—they never take into account the people they affect. They stand as a collective, a loosely knit organization of radicals with a like-minded cause, but that does not mean they stand for everyone. They sure don't represent me. If they want radical social change for the common man, they must find a way to do so that doesn't tread on the common

And with all that said, if you'll excuse me, I'm going to change ALL of my passwords.





## Pilsner glass contest

By Jonathan King Editor in Chief Want to write for the paper? Like free stuff? Well then join us at the Connection newspaper and be entered for a beautiful hand-blown pilsner glass. Simply come to a Connection meeting and you'll be entered for the one-of-a-kind glass, created by a master glass craftsman. The Connection meets every Monday at 4 p.m. in the Lower Waterman. We'll be holding a drawing for the glass on Monday, September 26. We hope to see you there.



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## Fun & games under the Big Top

By Leah Esslinger Staff Writer

For three days, Sept. 13-15, nearly every student club and organization will be camped out between the Liberal Arts and the Forum buildings telling people about their organizations and inviting those that are interested to join. To further serve the student population, there will be 50-cent hot dogs and chips for a quarter. Need something to wash those down? No problem—free Coca Cola products will also be available. If that isn't enough to tempt you, perhaps the promise of free entertainment and prizes will do the trick. This is the event Schoolcraft veteran knows as School Daze.

The purpose of annual festival is simple: "Spreading awareness for students and letting them know, 'Hey, these are the kind of things you can do on campus," says

Brian Camilleri, one of the event's many student

make the event as fun as possible. This be out with several televisions equipped with Xbox games open to the public. Complementary Internet will be accessible at the Bright House Network trailer and free massages will be available via the Schoolcraft Massage program. There will also be psychics, a caricature artist and a henna artist—a special gift from the Asian Student Society. "Students can come in during their break, after class or even before class to check out what we have to offer. They can play some games and have a good time," said Camilleri.

On Wednesday, Sept. 14, the fair will be open for extended hours to serve the students of night classes. During this time, all students are encouraged to come and check out Jamnesty, a concert featuring live music from local talent that spreads awareness about the College's chapter of Amnesty International. "This is a good way for us to get our name out, meet some people and get some people involved," said Kailee Sosnowski, President of Schoolcraft's chapter of the human rights group. The show is free, though donations are welcome.

"We try to tailor events to what is happening now," said Todd Stowell, Schoolcraft's Student Activities Coordinator. The Health and Wellness Initiative, organized by Phi Theta Kappa, hopes to educate students about the various resources available to help them achieve fitness goals. There will also be many local businesses present.

This year's School Daze theme is "The Games People Play." These "theme days," which have long been a part of the fair, are "like a side fair inside of a fair," said Stowell. All of the participating groups are encouraged to come up with mini games for their tables and there will also be a "Minute to Win it"-style game show held every 20 minutes, where audience members can participate to win prizes. Also, signing up for clubs and attending meetings makes you eligible for the big prize this year: a brand new

So if you're interested in the activities around campus, or if you just want to have some fun, grab some food and maybe walk away with a prize or two, stop on by the Big Top. School Daze starts on Tuesday, Sept. 13 and runs through Thursday, Sept. 15, from 10-2 p.m., with extended hours on Wednesday, from 4-7 p.m. To find out more information, stop in the Student Activities Office in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center.



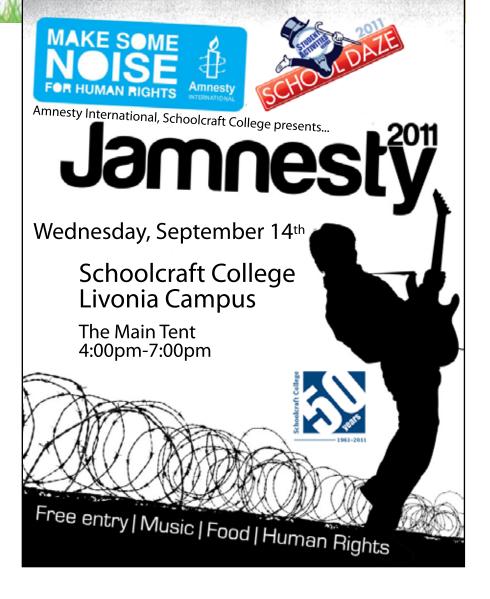
## SAO iPad raffle!

By Jonathan King

Want to explore the clubs on campus and be entered to win a free iPad? The Student Activities Office (SAO) will be raffling off a brandnew Apple iPad. In order to be eligible, all you have to do is attend a meeting of one of the many student clubs on campus. You can sign up for clubs at the upcoming School Daze event or you can contact the SAO for more information. Every time you attend a student club meeting, you will be entered into the raffle. The more meetings you attend, the more chances you have to win.

The iPad will be raffled off on the week of October 3. Contact Student Activies at 734-462-4422 for more information





# College Positive Volunteers

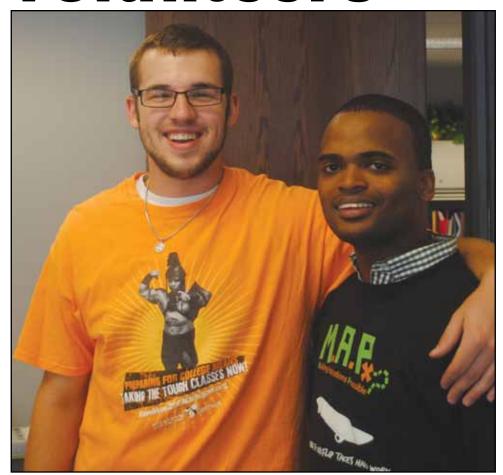


PHOTO BY COLE JANISCH

Volunteers Brad Belesky and Michael Matthis are always willing to help encourage local youths to pursue a college education.

BY COLE JANISCH STAFF WRITER

The Michigan Campus
Compact, a group made up of 43
member colleges and universities, is interested in encouraging every Michigan student to
reach their academic potential.
One way they follow through
on their continuing mission is
through sponsoring programs
like College Positive Volunteers.
At campuses across the state,
these volunteers are focused on
helping children as young as
thirteen see college in a positive
light.

"A college education is essential in today's economy. What better way to improve our state than by investing in its greatest resource, the younger generation? We do more than just prepare kids for college – we're the first step in preparing citizens to engage the rest of the world," said Michael Matthis, the leader of the College Positive Volunteers, better known as Making Aspirations Possible (MAP).

Matthis works in the Student Recruitment office in a position funded by the Michigan Campus Compact College Coaching Corps AmeriCorps Program. He coordinates with Emerson Middle School to set up presentations to get 8<sup>th</sup> graders excited about college. The helping these children realize their full potential is such a high priority that the program continues tracking participants throughout their high school years. College Positive Volunteers is the result of a big push by the state to increase the number of students enrolling in college. The program at Schoolcraft is specifically designed to get students to attend the College when they are old enough. Regardless of what college they choose to attend, students are given full support from the members of MAP.

One such member is Schoolcraft College student Brad Belesky who got involved in MAP through his work for the Student Ambassador program. "It's a lot fun working for this group. It might even be called groundbreaking for these kids to learn about what college is like," said Belesky.

The program is not without success as colleges and universities across the state have experienced peak enrollment over the last few years. In addition to the impact of students reaching their potential, the program also takes on the challenge of raising the economic value of the next generation benefitting the community as a whole. For volunteer participants, it's also a way to share their positive experiences with new students looking for a path to follow into their futures.

Unfortunately, due to budget cuts in the AmeriCorps program, Matthis' paid position is being eliminated and he will be leaving in October. He does, however, hope that the program will be continued by volunteers after he leaves. It's very easy to volunteer and anyone can do so. All they have to do is contact Matthis and set up an appointment. For more information about becoming a College Positive Volunteer, contact Michael Mattis at 734-462-5328.

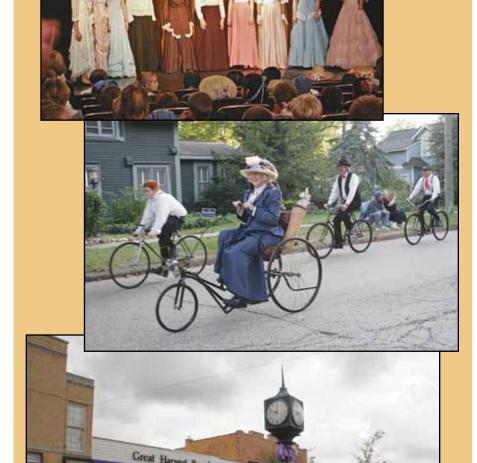
## Northville Victorian Festival

By Jonathan King Editor in Chief

Step back in time and explore the 1800s at the 23rd annual Northville Victorian Festival. For three days, downtown Northville will be transformed into a Victorian village; filled with art, music, history and fun. Guests can enjoy food, shopping and live entertainment by fully-costumed performers. The festival will also include a number of delightful events, including a Victorian fashion show and tethered hot air balloon rides.

The Victorian Festival is hosted by the Northville Chamber of Commerce and is going on from September 16-18 in downtown Northville.





PHOTOS BY MANDY GETSCHMAN

## Helping students one paper at a time

The Writing Fellows provide assistance and opportunities for writers on campus

BY BRAD BELESKY

Have you ever needed an extra set of eyes for your English papers? Or have you just wondered where you could go to show your love for writing? Look no further than the Learning Assistance Center (LAC) in the Bradner Library for the Writing Fellows, one of the many tutoring programs offered by Learning Support Services. Going to Writing Fellows is an excellent way to help you strengthen your writing abilities and make sure you excel in any class that requires writing a paper.. A fellow will offer tutoring on proper grammar usage and also provide techniques that will take your writing to the next level. The Writing Fellows are available in the LAC from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. On Line papers can also be submitted. Check the Writing Fellows website (fellows@schoolcraft.edu) for directions.

"Students can not only benefit from our services, but they will marvel at all the additional tutoring assistance provided free of charge at



PHOTO BY STEVEN GRILL

Writing Fellows Amy Hall (left) and Morgan Ranauer (right)

the LAC," said Niran Kheder, Writing Fellows Coordinator.

If you are the English buff in your group of friends, or if you simply have a knack for and enjoy writing, you may want to consider becoming a writing fellow. To be eligible, an applicant must be at least 18 years old, maintain a 3.5 GPA or better, have completed English 101 and English 102 or equivalent, and, enrolled in at least six or more aca-

demic hours per term,. Other eligibility requirements will be discussed at the interview with the coordinator. That may sound like a lot, but the benefits of being a fellow make it a truly worthwhile endeavor. You will gain great work experience which will be an important addition to your résumé. Also, being a writing fellow is a paid position. So if you enjoy English, this is your chance to help other class-

mates on campus, meet new people and get paid for doing the things you like to do.

"Writing Fellows have the privilege of working with a diverse population. The rewards are plentiful and the experience is invaluable." said Kheder.

The rewards of Writing Fellows expand far past Schoolcraft's doors. The skills and writing prowess gained carries the student far into their next academic road. Ashley Carley, a former Schoolcraft student, was once a proud member of the Writing Fellows. "Writing Fellows really encouraged me to apply what I had learned from class to real life," Carley says, "It taught me how to be professional and comfortable with diverse groups of people. I was able to take a sense of confidence in myself and my writing with me to my new school."

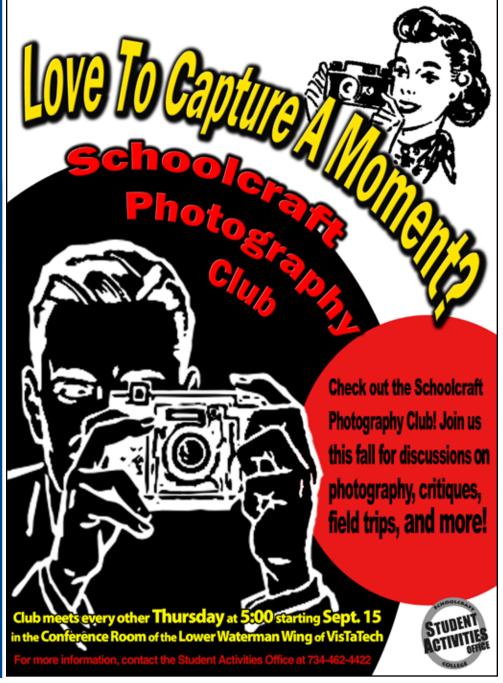
Whether you are looking for some additional help, or have a desire to assist others, then take your college writing to the next level by taking advantage of the services offered by – or joining – the Writing Fellows. Professor Kheder added, "I am always looking for that highly motivated, extremely able student who will be the next Writing Fellow."

Students may send an email (nkheder@schoolcraft.edu) for further details.

So, if you love to write, need help with your writing, or have a passion for learning, then Writing Fellows might just be the ticket!



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## Parlez-vous anglais?

## Continuing Education offers programs for English language learners

By Kim Poma

The English language is sometimes a confusing mess. There are so many different grammar rules and odd ways of spelling words that even a native speaker can have trouble remembering which "there" they need in a sentence. It is only a million times harder for someone coming into the United States for the first time, never having spoken anything but their native tongue. Schoolcraft's Continuing **Education and Professional** Development (CEPD) department's English as a Second Language (ESL) program has found a way to help by expanding to offer two more work-

The English as a Second Language course is definitely where most of the work and effort goes. In order to get into the class, the participant must

take a free placement test to identify their strengths and highlight their weaknesses. They are then placed in one of five levels in the class, one being the participants who need the most help and five being those who need the least, and classes begin. It is a twelve week program during which grammar, reading, writing, vocabulary, speaking and pronunciation are covered. The first workshop is the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Preparation. This class aides the participant in test-taking strategies and reviewing all required points for a test. There will be a provided textbook and CD-ROM with computer adaptive tests, helping the participant surely succeed with flying colors. The nine-week course begins on Saturday, Sept. 24, running from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

The Accent Reduction Workshop is perfect for those for wish to assimilate more into American culture. It will help attendees perfect their English accent and they will have a chance to interact with others striving for the same goal. This particular workshop begins on Sept. 17 in the Liberal Arts building, room 475. It runs for 12 weeks, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. There is no placement test required for this workshop

The best part about the program is that it is not exclusive to Schoolcraft students. Anyone can come in and take a crack at improving their English. This program is ideal for those who have just moved to the country or even those who are looking to brush up on their grammar in order to have more stimulating conversations with

friends or co-workers. Those who join the program manage to find a certain kinship with their classmates, developing friendships that go far beyond the classroom.

"These classes are invaluable," said Assistant Dean Leslie Petty, "We see the change in students. Their smiles widen and their confidence grows as they continue to learn the English language." It's a wonderful program and a great opportunity so spread the word to anyone that might be in need of some additional help with navigating the English language in the classroom. For more information concerning placement test schedules, or on the program itself, visit www.schoolcraft. edu/cepd/esl or call 734-462-4448.



## Campus Life Calendar

Sunday	Monday Tuesday		Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
	Connection Staff Meeting LW 4pm	School Daze 10am-2pm	School Daze 10am-2pm Jamnesty 4-7pm	School Daze 10am-2pm		Phi Theta Kappa Orientation Radcliffe Center Rm 135 11am-12pm		
	SCII: Mountaintop Removal VT 425 7pm-10pm		Phi Theta Kappa Orientation (Livonia) VT 550 7-9pm	Movie Night: Kite Runner LW 6-9pm	Dance Team Auditions PE 140 10:30 am-5pm	St. Leo's Soup Kitchen SAO 8am-1pm		

## **Club Events**



Compiled by Margie Wisniewski. Staff Writer

#### **School Daze**

Come join us under the big tent, located between the Forum and Liberal Arts Buildings, and meet all the clubs and organizations of Schoolcraft. Join us for lunch with 50 cent hot dogs, 25 cent chips, free beverages, games and much more.

#### **Detroit Tigers Game**

Join the Student Activities Office for a fun-filled evening at Comerica Park as the Detroit Tigers battle the Baltimore Orioles on Friday, September 23. The game starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are available for purchase in the Student Activities Office for only \$15. For more information, please contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

#### **Asian Student Association**

The ASA will be hosting a Navratri event on Saturday, October 8 from 7 p.m. until midnight in the lower level of the VisTaTech Center. Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$12. For more information, please contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

## **Baptist 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 12-1:30 p.m. in the Lower Waterman. The next meetings are scheduled for September 15, 22 and 29.

#### **Beats and Music Faction**

Want to make progress in personal musical talent? Then stop by a Beats and Music Faction meeting. During meetings you'll meet, teach and learn, as well as give and receive constructive criticism with those who share the passion of music. The upcoming meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, September 14, 21 and 28 at 1 p.m. in the Lower Waterman located in the VisTaTech Building.

#### **Dance Team**

The Dance Team will be holding auditions for the season on Friday, September 23 from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Physical Education Building, room PE140. Please come prepared and dressed in dance clothes. If you have questions, please contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

#### **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. Schedules of movies can be provided upon request. Movies are shown in the Lower Waterman Wing of the VisTaTech Center. Meetings/viewings are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-6 p.m.

#### **Pageturners**

Join the Pageturners book club as they discuss this month's book, "The Art of Living: The Classical Manual on Virtue, Happiness, and Effectiveness" by Epictetus. Phi Theta Kappa members will receive a quarter star for attending or one star for facilitating. The next meetings are Monday, September 26 from 1:15-2:15 p.m. in the McDowell Center room MC200 and Thursday, September 29 from 4:00-5:00pm at the Radcliff Campus in RC645.

#### **Photography Club**

Photography Club provides a welcoming environment for graphically-inclined hobbyists, graphic designers and students majoring in artistic fields. The next meetings are scheduled for Thursdays, August 15 and 29 from 5-7 p.m.

## Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

## St. Leo's Soup Kitchen

PTK's monthly trip to the St. Leo's soup kitchen will be on Saturday, September 24. Please meet in the Lower Waterman at 8 a.m. Carpooling will be available. Members will receive one star for full attendance.

#### Pizza Kit and Fruit Basket Orders Due and Delivery

Phi Theta Kappa is hosting another Pizza Kit fundraiser. Orders are due by Wednesday, October 17 and Friday, October 21. Members will receive one star for every \$50 sold. Pizzas will be delivered on Tuesday, October 25 and Fruit Baskets on Wednesday, October 26. The orders can be picked up on those dates anytime after 1 p.m.

## Phi Theta Kappa Orientation

The Phi Theta Kappa orientation will be on Wednesday, Sept. 21 from 7-8 p.m. Eligible students are invited to attend this informational orientation to learn more about Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. Please make sure to RSVP for this event by stopping by the Student Activities Office or calling 734-462-4422.

## 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.

#### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

Join the Red Cross and donate blood to help save lives. By donating one pint of blood, you can save up to three lives. The American Red Cross will be collecting blood donations on Thursday, September 29 from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. in the Lower Waterman of the VistaTech Center. Please call Student Activities at 734-462-4422 to schedule your appointment.

#### Save Our Youth Task Force

Want to make a difference in today's youth? The Save Our Youth Task Force is an informative yet empowering organization engaged in helping our youth make positive social choices, such as going to college, completing volunteer work and enacting social justice. Meetings will be held on Wednesdays in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Building. Their next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21 at 5 p.m.



#### **The Schoolcraft Connection**

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

#### **Student Activities Board**

#### **General Meetings**

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.

## American Red Cross Blood Drive

Schoolcraft College

Thursday, September 29

9:00 a.m.

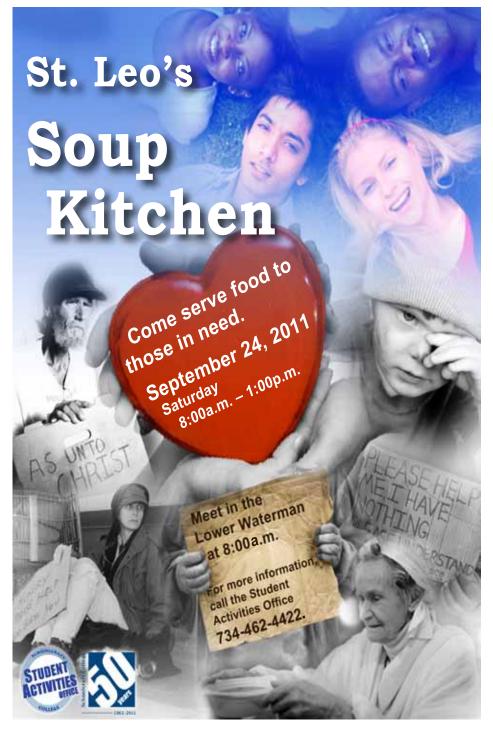
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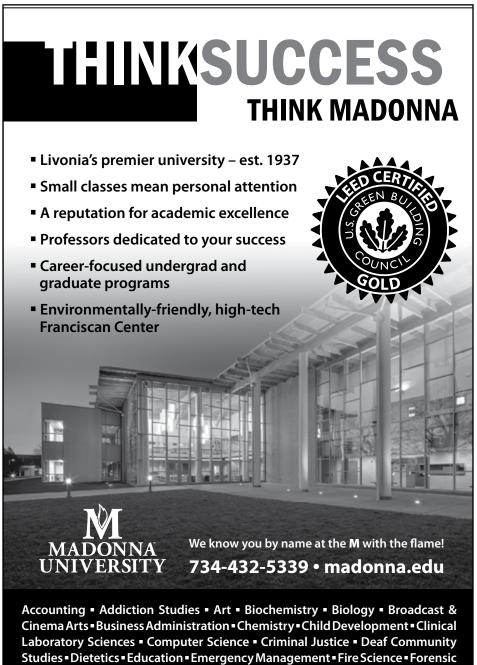
To schedule an appointment, please call Student Activities at 734-462-4422. Walk-ins are welcome:











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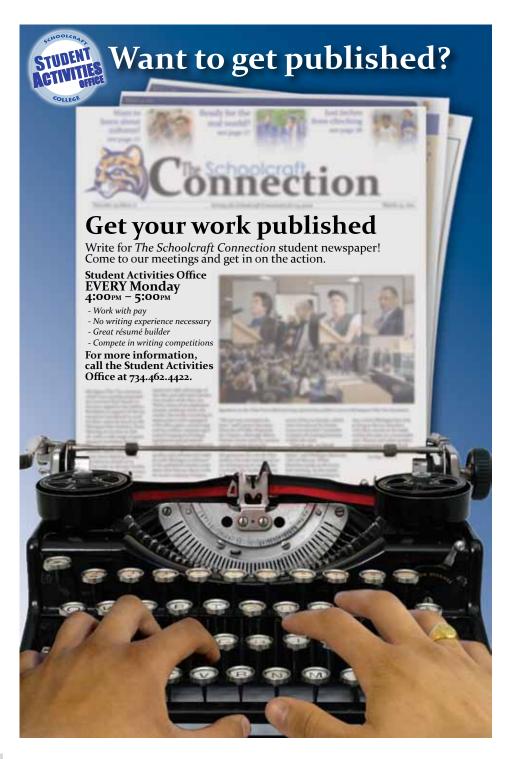
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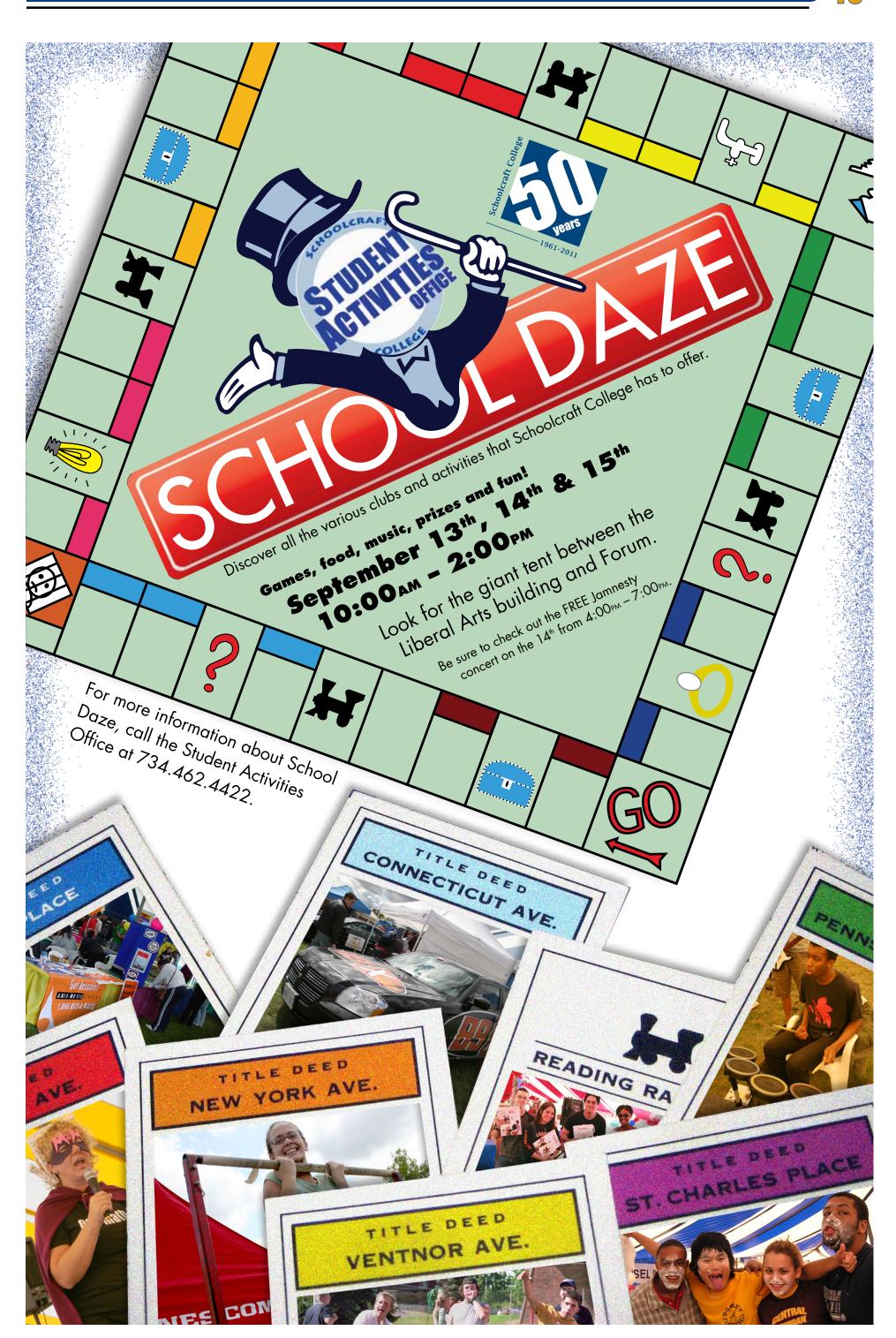
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The TechZone stocks many academically priced software titles and will place special orders for titles not regularly stocked. For more information about software, our TechZone staff can be reached at books@schoolcraft.edu.





## That Time I...

## ... Went medieval at the Renaissance Fair

BY KIM POMA CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

On a recent sunny weekend, I went medieval. I don't mean that I picked up a giant axe and ... well, actually, we'll come back to that. Annually, the Michigan Renaissance Festival returns to Holly, Michigan where visitors are encouraged to step back in time and immerse themselves in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

I'd never considered going to a Renaissance Festival before. It wasn't my thing, dressing up and playing a character. I was not about to walk around speaking in 'ye olde English' for a day, while others stared at me like I was insane. However, in the name of dedicated journalism, I accepted my assignment and made my plans.

Being as this would be my very first Renaissance experience, I didn't know what to expect so I compiled a list of suggested activities from veteran festival goers. Many of the items listed were vague, mysterious hints that nobody would explain. I was stuck. I was going in blind and everyone else knew what was coming but me.

Upon arriving in "the shire," the first thing I did is a staple for festival regulars: I dressed up in period clothing. It wasn't anything too extravagant—a simple blue-and-white dress and a modest crown. Compared to many of other costumes, including someone in a coyote outfit and, of course, the workers dressed to the nines as knights and royals, my outfit was fairly pedestrian. It's amazing to

see the thought and care so many people put into their ensemble. And especially their characters.

I must have heard "milady" a hundred different times from all the people shuffling through the crowded streets. Not one person broke character and it is almost impossible to tell the difference between the workers and those participating for fun. No one could top the Queen. Elizabeth, actress Caroline Jett of Florida, the reigning nobility of the Shire of Hollygrove, endured a steady stream of questions from an uninitiated commoner and she was wonderful about the whole thing. Thankfully, I remembered to curtsy ... no beheadings for being an insolent peasant.

Axe tossing is a favorite pastime of festival goers. May I just take a minute to point out I will never be mistaken for a lumbering Norseman. I am all skin and bone and a daily battle in my life is simply twisting the cap off a bottle of pop. So, imagine my surprise when I threw that axe and it stuck. It stuck to the wall! I threw a deadly weapon hard enough to stick to the wall!

Smoked turkey legs are an extremely popular Hollygrove delicacy. Passersby must have been stunned to see a peasant girl nibbling away on a turkey leg that was as big as my arm. Being a diminutive person with a Lilliputian-sized stomach, I was no match for the great leg. (My crew fell upon the discarded leg like Viking raiders.)

No trip to the festival is complete

without taking in a few of the many shows put on throughout the day. The best of these is The Ded Bob Show. Think Jeff Dunham—the guy with the puppets—only a lot racier. He was extremely funny though. Bob is a skeleton puppet who has a certain set of rules and doesn't mind making the audience look a little foolish. He'll pick three people in the audience who he

feels "disobey" It them up on stag (like hypnotizin Zombies, eventupartake in funndidn't get to tak hijinks, I was lu "Bob-matized" r show with the re After the show, puppeteer, was with stragglers at tions.

Of the many s hawking their w ing shop, The Re is a crowd favor enough to parti stration. Childr at home withou sion. Adults: Do





ially having them y tasks. While I e part in any stage cky enough to be near the end of the est of the audience. Clark Orwick, the kind enough to pose and answer ques-

hops and dealers ares, the glassblowoyal Glass Maker, ite. I was fortunate cipate in a demonen: Do not try this t adult supervin't try this at home

shaping it into decorative objects. I went into the workshop and I immediately started to sweat-their furnaces were sweltering. The shop owner, Chris Nordin, a local artisan with a Dearborn-based studio described it as "playing with something that's practically as hot as lava."

I got to make a glass flower and it wasn't easy. The iron tools heated up quickly and my hands remained warm long after I was done. And when it came time to "pinch" the glass to make the petals, the professional artisan had to help me. But, I walked away without thirddegree burns and a pretty purple

definite highlight from a busy day.

When I walked into this thing, I had no expectations. And I'm kind of glad I didn't. I was able to form a solid and unbiased opinion about the festival. I enjoyed it—and I can understand why others do too. It's a fun escape, going back in time and hiding behind a costume. The people who work there, and the people who attend, they really get into it. Many people have ways to escape the doldrums of life. Some prefer the massive world of online video games. (I love Harry Potterand I would love to spend a day in that universe.) In the case of the Michigan Renaissance Festival,

It's a really cool thing. All in all, it was an amazing time and an opportunity everyone should try once. I would definitely go back again ... if only to hone my axe-throwing prowess.

The Michigan Renaissance Festival will continue to run on weekends through Oct. 2 and promotional tickets-that's "free" to you and me—are available in limited supply through the Student Activities Office located in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center. Grab a couple of tickets, a few friends and head north to Holly for some medieval entertainment.



# An idiot brother, a special movie

"Our Idiot Brother" is smarter than it looks

By Brian Camilleri

Sometimes it takes an idiot brother to make us realize that the true idiot is the one staring back at us in the mirror. Directed by Jesse Peretz, who previously did "The Ex", "First Love, Last Rites" and "The Chateau"; "Our Idiot Brother" is a comedy about an easygoing pothead named Ned whose life is falling apart and who seeks the help from his three diverse sisters. Ned is the family member that no one wants to deal with, but everyone feels obligated to help. Together they all realize what is important in life and, in the process, grow closer together.

Judging from the trailer, an audience might expect a laughout-loud, sides-hurting, eyeswatering comedy, but this movie is far from it. The film is more of an emotional revelation laced with offbeat characters comparable to the Hoover family in "Little Miss Sunshine." There are some hilarious moments, to be sure, but the humor is much more subdued and derived from the quirkiness of the characters.

If there's one point of criticism, it's that the first half of the movie is overly long and struggles to find a point. However, once you get

past the drawn-out beginning, it is worth sitting all the way through. The ending ties everything together with a great message to walk out of the theater with. The whole thing leaves you feeling satisfied, which is more than can be said for a lot of films these days.

The all-star cast deserves a lot of credit for creating relatable and funny characters. Paul Rudd, Elizabeth Banks, Zooey Deschanel and Rashida Jones have all been known for their outstanding comedic roles in the past. Putting them together in one movie is an explosion of great improvisational humor. True comedy is revealed when actors can push the limits of characters through improvisation. These four really sell that they are a real set of bickering siblings and it makes the experience all the better.

The unique look of the movie is also worth pointing out. The cinematographer for "Our Idiot Brother", Yaron Orbach, shot this movie in a different way than most comedies are shot. Comedies usually look bright and vivid,

SEE IDIOT PAGE 25





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The



September 12, 2011

## Alternate



The War on Drugs

#### "Slave Ambient"

Genre: Indie Rock





Starting with the backbone of guitarists Adam Granduciel and Kurt Vile The War on Drugs began showcasing their unique brand of indie folk rock in 2005. After two EPs, they released their debut album "Wagonwheel Blues' in 2008. That year the band's lineup faced a major overhaul, with the loss of three members (including Vile, who went solo and recently garnered critical acclaim with the album "Smoke Ring For My Halo") and the addition of drummer Mike Zanghi. Now a trio, The War on Drugs has banded together to release their second fulllength album "Slave Ambient."

The album opens with a tide of swirling guitars on "Best Night," paving the way for what seems like a psychedelic dream-pop voyage. However, it isn't until the second track that the true nature of the album is revealed. On "Brothers," Granduciel breaks out his best Dylan-esque drawl and cements the notion that, beneath the affected guitars and dreamlike atmosphere, "Slave Ambient" is a folksy road-trip album at heart.

The merging of shoegaze and folk is truly fascinating and it makes for some interesting listening. Several of the tracks are beyond the five- or six-minute mark in order to focus on building a wall of kaleidoscopic sound. In addition, in between the vocal tracks are several instrumental interludes. The first such is "The Animator," which drifts like a piece of Brian Eno ambience, featuring glistening synths and beautiful horns.

However, for every out-there indulgence there's a straight-up channeling of Bob Dylan or Neil Young. "I Was There" features bluesy guitars, piano and harmonica. While the more dynamic, fast-paced numbers like "Your Love is Calling My Name" and "Baby Missiles" carry all of the energy and fervor of a Springsteen rocker. Meanwhile, the stellar closing track, "Blackwater," brings everything back to earth in an ambient guitar ballad.

"Slave Ambient" is a great piece of experimental rock and a wonderful slice of 21st century Americana. Its 12 tracks make up a musical cross-country road trip that hits every unique stop along the way. The album draws from the old soul of classic folk but presents it in a package that is fresh, ear-catching and simply irresistible.

#### The Bottom Line:

"Slave Ambient" is a pleasant surprise to say the least. The War on Drugs doesn't skimp on the soul but also doesn't forget to keep listeners interested. This weird and wonderful psych-folk hybrid is definitely worth a listen.



The Swellers

#### "Good For Me"

Genre: Pop punk



By Heather Greenshields

Hailing from Michigan, The Swellers are best known for their pop punk sound and true-to-life lyrics. The group started playing in Flint, MI, during the late '90s and since then they have progressed into touring machines and become a part of the music scene throughout the world. Since 2009, they've found a comfortable fit with the label Fueled by Ramen alongside bands like Paramore and Cobra Starship. Recently they released their third full-length album, "Good For Me."

The record opens with the song "Runaways," which starts with an energetic guitar intro and quickly builds up to introduce the lyrics. The track sets the mood for the album with its catchy guitar riffs and infectious vocal melodies.

The themes of the album are about growing to do better by examining the past while still focusing on the here and now. In the song "Better Things" the lyrics describe how existentialism can change one's outlook and let one look ahead to better things. The rhythm throughout the track is crisp and mellow, blending the guitar and vocals together, while the melody is soothing with sad undertones.

The first hit off of "Good For Me" is "Best I Ever Had," which is the most uplifting and inspiring song on the record. The track is about how your past can transform you into what you are today. Conversely, in the song "Prime Meridian," the lyrics explain how a person can be so depressed but at the same time reluctant to accept the advice others and make changes in their life. The timing of this album's release is great, with the tail end of summer providing an outlook of change to look forward to.

On this record, The Swellers show some maturation lyrically yet the instrumentation remains stagnant. The drums and guitar sound do manage to find a solid groove ... it's just all been heard before. Lead vocalist Nick Diener shows no sign of searching for new melodies. That doesn't stop "Good For Me" from being a good listen, but it certainly isn't breaking any new ground anytime soon.

#### The Bottom Line:

The Swellers come out with another solid album full of their signature poppunk sound. The lyrics are relatable and deal with mediocrity and being okay with it. Overall this album is worth the listen.



Eyes Set To Kill

#### "White Lotus"

Genre: Metalcore

A A A A A



By Heather Greenshields

Emerging on the metalcore scene in 2006, Eyes Set To Kill are making a name for themselves. Signing on to a new label, Forsee, they have come out with third full length debut "White Lotus." This record was a surprising release considering there was little marketing for the album. This was partly because the band played the 2011 Warped Tour throughout the summer. However, the band members are now actively supporting their new release online.

Eyes Set To Kill are known for fusing heavy guitars with the bright vocals of sisters Anissa and Alexia Rodriguez, and then underlining everything with the fiery screams of Cisko Miranda. "White Lotus" very much sticks to this formula. The record enters with the song "The Secrets Between," which fades in to the full max of sound with pounding drums leading to the guitar and bass. This song uses a lyric from their last album, which tends to be a frequent motif for them. This is believed to have the albums be tied together with common themes and lines.

The song "Harsh" starts off with a pounding drum line, quickly introducing the vocals which deftly rise up over: the crunching guitars. "Harsh" tells a story about how the vocalist wants to prove that what was once a relationship is now in the past and that life is better because of it. There's also an acoustic version of of "Harsh" at the end of the record. This stripped-down version of the song plays quite differently and you can feel it in Anissa's passionate and raw vocal performance. The lyrics are underscored by simple layered guitars, giving the song a pure, brilliant energy.

The album artwork portrays a single, pristine white lotus with black paint spilled onto it. This is very representative of how the record has developed from something simple and pure but has taken over by their own style and muse.

Musically, Eyes Set To Kill has grown considerably but they still have time to mature. Nevertheless, this album is a good listen and is sure to please fans who have kept up with the band.

#### The Bottom Line:

"White Lotus" mixes the sweetness of female vocals with the clash of metalcore and then stirs in some acousticdriven songs for good taste. This record exemplifies Eyes Set To Kill's signature sound, which is far from perfect but still very engaging.



**Trivium** 

#### "In Waves"

Genre: Metal



By Chad Perkins

Trivium is a four-piece metal band that mixes melody with screams and growls. The band was formed in 1999 and their first album, "Ember to Inferno," was released in 2003 by Roadrunner Records. "Ember to Inferno" was not well-received, scoring low in most major music magazines. It wasn't until their second album "Ascendancy" that they started to receive some notoriety. The album won the Album of the Year award from Kerrang! and topped the U.S Billboard 200 at 151. Their next two albums, "The Crusade" and "Shogun," featured a mix of melodic singing and thrashing riffs and were both received well. 'Shogun" in particular was considered the band's best album to date.

This brings us to their current fifth album, "In Waves," which sounds like a wild mixture of everything Trivium has released so far. Is this catchall approach a good thing? Perhaps.

Unfortunately, at first listen, the album doesn't sound that great. The first track "In Waves" begins with a fast pace but the drums, riffs and screams are all repetitive, making it boring and even unbearable to listen to until about the minute mark. Luckily, after that point, the album really starts to open up.

This album has a song for everyone, from the heart-attack rush of "Dusk Dismantled" to the slow ballad "Of All These Yesterdays." This is what Trivium has been looking for – that perfect mix of melodic tone and hateful screams emanating from vocalist Matt Healy's mouth.

Trivium really gave the album a great effort but there are still some missteps, such as some of the same repetitive beats appearing multiple times. An example would be the songs "Dusk Dismantled" and "Black." When first listening to them the beginnings the instrumentals sound the same – it takes a good 30 seconds for any distinction to show up.

Trivium has had some hits and misses in the past, and while this album is not perfect it is far from a miss. "In Waves" is a wild ride that contains all the elements Trivium fans have come to expect. While it begins kind of weak, it picks up quickly and ends up as another satisfactory entry in the Trivium collection.

### The Bottom Line:

"In Waves" is recommended for heavy metal fans as well as people who are just starting off into the metal world. It hits the nail on the head for being another solid album in the Trivium collection, and metalheads should definitely give it a shot.



COMPILED BY LEAH ESSLINGER

#### Concerts



Chris Brown On Sunday, September 18, Chris

Brown will bring his energetic, soulful R&B to the Detroit area. "F.A.M.E.," which means "Forgiving All My Enemies," is the artist's fourth album. It was released in late 2010 and has gone platinum in both the U.S and Canada. His previous albums have also done well. "Run It!," his first album's single, made the Billboard Hot 100. Brown was the first unknown male artist to have done this since

Montell Jordan in 1995. The F.A.M.E. tour hits Detroit Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$85.75 to \$125.75.



**Foo Fighters** 

Named after the aerial phenomena reportedly seen by World War II fighter pilots, Foo Fighters were formed in 1994 by former Nirvana drummer Dave Grohl. Aiming just left of mainstream; the group's last six albums were all nominated for Grammys. Their latest, "Wasting Light," debuted at number one on the Billboard 200. Their music is raw and full of angst, a nod to their punk roots. They almost fall into emo at times, but the aggression with which Dave expresses himself makes the band accessible to a wider audience. They play The Palace of Auburn Hills on Monday, Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. Tickets go from \$49.50 to \$60.40.

#### **Fleet Foxes**

This group owes their success to the information age and they are a testament to all that is good about the internet. Since they do not receive much radio play; their music spreads through word of mouth. Robin Pecknold, the band's front man, has been known to attribute his success to illegal file sharing. This group is folksy, with weird and creative undertones. When experienced live, their music makes one feel as though they have left behind the mundane and stepped on the set of some spectacularly witty indie flick. Boost your indie street-cred and check them out at The Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor on Sept. 29, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost between \$34 and \$43.65.

## Comedy

#### Frank Caliendo



Known for his impressions and sketch comedy, Frank Caliendo will bring his

to the Detroit area this October. Good news too, because by this time most students could do with a laugh. Caliendo has become famous for his dead-on impersonations; which include John Madden, William Shatner and Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton. He joined "MADtv" in 2001 and stayed with the show until 2006. He has also been on such shows as "Frank T.V.," "Comedy Central Presents," and "Mind of Mencia." He can be seen at The Palace of Auburn Hills, on Oct. 8, at 8 p.m. Tickets are between \$34 and \$43.65.

observational humor

#### **Conventions**

#### **Detroit FanFare**

The geeks are coming ... and they're bringing friends! On Saturday, Sept. 24, and Sunday, Sept. 25, Cobo Hall will be transformed into a comic-culture epicenter as it hosts Detroit FanFare

2011 Comic Book Convention. Looking for a place to speak openly about your life-long obsession with the "Ninja Turtles"? Wondering how to perfect your technique for manga? Or just trying to get your work out there? With seminars such as "25 Years of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" and "There is an Alternative,' and classes like "Drawing Manga" and "Letter and Design," Detroit FanFare will take you from casual consumer to fanatic overnight. This event takes place Saturday from 10-7 p.m., and Sunday from 12-6 p.m. Weekend tickets go for \$15, although the hardcore fans will want to check out the VIP passes starting at \$99.99. To purchase tickets, or to get more information, check out detroitfanfare.com

## DIOT

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because humor tends to bring about a light, happy, positive feeling. By sharp contrast, this movie looks washed out and dark. However, this is not necessarily a bad decision. Ned is an awkward stupid guy, whose humor spawns from bringing about uncomfortable situations. It makes sense to shoot the movie with that same feeling of awkwardness to match Ned's character. It really is a clever way of filming which gives personality to the movie.

"Our Idiot Brother" is certainly not for people with a conservative sense of humor. The movie is rated R for a reason, so be sure to keep the kids away. When it all comes down to it, this is not a movie that people will brag about but it is a movie

that people can enjoy. It is a great movie that has funny parts, but it relies more on the value of family then just

trying to get a laugh. And in the end, that's not such a bad thing.

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

continued from PAGE 23

although Shigeru Miyamoto has confirmed "Pikmin 3" and there has also been mention of a new "Super Smash Bros." title. A new "Zelda" title also seems inevitable and Mario surely can't be far behind.

Ultimately, this appears to be a console brimming with potential for revolutionary gameplay ideas. Unfortunately, there's also a lot of potential for gimmicky controls and the same incompetent third-party antics that cost the Wii its hardcore consumer base. Whatever happens, the Wii U is destined to have a tremendous impact on gaming as we know it. The system will hit living rooms in 2012.

## **PlayStation Vita**

E3 also gave way to the PlayStation Vita, which up until then was referred to as NGP or Next Generation Portable. The PlayStation Vita is the next evolution of Sony's handheld consoles which started with the PlayStation Portable (PSP) in

2004. Vita means "life" in Latin and that's just what Sony needs especially considering how their previous handheld, the PSP Go, fell dead in the water.

So what's new? Well, the overall design is very similar to the PSP, although the Vita features a larger five-inch screen as well as two analog sticks in comparison to the PSP's lone analog "nub." However, the big coup, design-wise, is the introduction of a touch screen on the front of the device as well as a touch pad on the back. When combined with the same Sixaxis controls found in the PlayStation 3 controller, the Vita appears to be bent on featuring every kind of tactile control possible. This could prove to be a very good thing as it means the Vita could potentially outplay competing handheld products such as the iPhone at their own game. It could also just as easily lead to gimmick city.

Whether the Vita will

be a gaming revolution or just a souped-up PSP with an excess of bells and whistles, initial gameplay demonstrations are promising, especially "Uncharted: Golden Abyss." In terms of hardware, the Vita is the most powerful handheld system the industry has seen yet, with crisp graphics and gameplay that blurs the line between a traditional console and a handheld.

held.
In addition to
"Uncharted," several
big names have been
announced for the Vita,
including "Killzone" and
"LittleBigPlanet." There
have also been announcements of as-yet-untitled
additions to the "Assassin's
Creed" and "Bioshock"
franchises.

The PlayStation Vita will be hitting North America in 2012 and will retail at \$299 for Wi-Fi and 3G support or \$249 for just Wi-Fi access.



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## Friday Night Rental

Going back to school

By Todd Walsh and Chad Perkins

Staff Writers

Summer has ended and students are heading back to school. It's a time that can be exciting and fun, but it can also be a little scary and stressful. If you're feeling overwhelmed, why not take the edge off with a great movie? Here are a few classic flicks that show Hollywood's take on the pressures of returning to the classroom.

## "Rebel Without a Cause" (1955)

"Rebel" is an all-time classic. The film is a drama about a rebellious youth named Jim Stark (played by James Dean) who enrolls at Dawson High School. There he befriends a student named Plato and has an encounter with the local bully, Buzz. Jim ends up getting chased by Buzz's gang, tearing his family apart in the process, and having his friend go off the deep end, which brings about one of the most suspenseful endings in movie history.

There are two reasons why "Rebel" is a classic. The first is the striking performance by James Dean, whose method acting techniques are reminiscent of Marlon Brando (who was the original choice to play Jim Stark) but with a healthy injection of steroids. His portrayal of a confused teenager is breathtaking. The second crucial element of "Rebel" is the story. The film goes far beyond your average tale of a teenager enrolling into a new school, making friends, dealing with bully and getting the girl. Instead, it deals with family issues and provides commentary on the corruption of American youth. This was one of the first films to show delinguent youth in a middleclass, suburban environment As such, it remains a landmark piece of social commentary and is one movie you simply cannot miss.

## "Back to School" (1986)

What would a list of back-to-school movies be without,

well, "Back to School"? This '80s comedy stars Rodney Dangerfield as Thornton Melon, a millionaire clothing manufacturer who has no formal education. After finding out his son, Jason Melon (played by Keith Gordon) didn't make it onto the diving team at school, Thornton decides to help his son by enrolling in college with him. Of course, the elder Melon thinks college is one big laugh, so he spends his time throwing parties, hiring people to do his homework and using his money to become the big man on campus. It's all fun and games until he gets caught cheating. With the threat of expulsion over his head, Thornton has to hit the books and hope he passes his final exams.

What makes this movie special is Rodney Dangerfield being Rodney Dangerfield. He is the same lovable smartalec from "Caddyshack' and "Easy Money" ... he just now happens to be in a college setting. The film uses Dangerfield's great one-liners to point out the absurdity and importance of college life. The supporting cast also helps the movie shine. There's Robert Downey Jr. as a drugged-out pacifist who protests campus life, Sally Kellerman as an English professor turned love interest and comedian Sam Kinison as an over-the-top history professor who screams like a banshee at his students. Overall, "Back to School" is a classic piece of comedy and a must-see for any collegebound student.

## "Teen Wolf" (1985)

High school can be a troubling time for some teens. Your body goes through changes, girls start mattering and everything seems out of whack. In the 1985 fantasy comedy "Teen Wolf," Scott Howard (played by Michael J. Fox) goes through a change far worse than puberty. The film opens up with Scott as your average, everyday basketball-playing

student who just wishes he was special. As it turns out, he is special—he's a werewolf! After some wallowing and complaining, Howard eventually comes to terms with this and uses his affliction to become the most popular werewolf on campus, flaunting his werewolf abilities like a complete jerk. Of course, he learns the hard way that showboating your way through high school has its downsides.

"Teen Wolf" is a fairly harmless bit of '80s goodness. If nothing else, it's the movie that led to Michael J. Fox starring in the "Back to the Future" series. If you're the type of person who isn't into the gritty, gothic side of werewolf lore, then this movie is definitely one to pick up. Or, if you're just looking for a heartwarming movie about a monster and his troubles, then you could certainly do worse. "Teen Wolf" will leave you guessing in all of its awkward glory and will make for a fun addition to your Friday night.

#### "Mean Girls" (2004)

The film stars Lindsay Lohan as Cady Heron, a home-schooled teenager from

Africa who is forced to go to North Shore Public High School. There she meets two social outcasts named Janis and Damian who teach her about the various cliques in school. Specifically, they warn her about the exclusive clique known as the Plastics, a trio of girls who run the school with an iron fist. However, the Plastics accept Cady into their group and Janis decides to use Cady to plot revenge on them. Over time though, being in the Plastics makes Cady become spiteful and she begins to abandon her values and her true friends.

Unlike other high school comedies like "She's the Man," "Prom" and "John Tucker Must Die," "Mean Girls" is actually funny. More importantly, it's smart. The script was written by Tina Fey of "Saturday Night Live" and "30 Rock" fame and favors sharp humor and witty dialogue over teenage movie clichés. Fey takes the reality of high school and exaggerates it into a ridiculous piece of dark humor that still has a message. Once you can get over Lohan as the lead—and that does take some timeyou'll find "Mean Girls" is actually a solid piece of





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## Lady Ocelots maul Bruins

## Schoolcraft dominates Kellogg in 9-0 shutout

BY EHIMARE ARHEBAMEN
SPORTS EDITOR

On a soggy night on Sept. 7, the Schoolcraft College women's soccer team beat the Lady Bruins of Kellogg Community College in a 9-0 shutout. For a team ranked 10<sup>th</sup> nationally in a preseason poll with aspirations for a deep run into the postseason, this was just one of many wins necessary for the Lady Ocelots to stay atop the standings.

Playing through a cold, drizzling rain, the Ocelots set a fast tempo. The Bruins, a team with only a 14-player roster comprised entirely of freshman, had a difficult time handling the seasoned Ocelots. The Schoolcraft team had no problem taking advantage of an opponent still looking to find its way in the highly competitive Region XII.

Every time the Ocelots had a chance to score, they eagerly pressed the attack. Lauren Badalamente started the scoring at the 1:20-minute mark. Renee Boudreau followed it up at the 9:00-minute mark. Badalamente scored again in the 13th minute. The Ocelots poured on the pressure and took advantage of cracks in

the Bruins' defense. Boudreau scored again at 22:40.

"The great thing about our girls is that they are just hard workers," said Schoolcraft Assistant Coach Michele Kitta.

In spite of the weather, the Ocelots used the second half to continue to flex their offensive prowess. Sam Zerilla, Ashley Welch, Jenna Williams and Badalamente all scored to put the Bruins away.

"I think that we really were trying to pass it around more," said Zerilla, referring to the second half of the game, "and there is always room for improvement."

Even in the face of a lopsided 9-0 outcome, both teams displayed a great deal of respect for each other. As the Ocelots looked forward to their next opponent on their trek to the postseason, the young Bruins learned a little about what it takes to compete on the pitch at the collegiate level.

For the next two games, the Lady Ocelots travel to Owens, Sept. 14, and Delta, Sept. 17. The next homes games for the team are against UM-Dearborn, Sept 21, and Concordia on Sept. 24.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN GRILL



TOP: #19 Sam Zerilla ignores the torrential downpour and pushes past the Kellogg defense.

LEFT: Renee Boudreau, #23, struggles past Kellogg to gain control of the ball.



ABOVE: Lauren Badalamente, #8, rushes a Kellogg opponent to help her team.

RIGHT: Lindsay McMullen, #4, battles against Kellogg at the beginning of the game





# Breezing by the competition

Cross Country gets running

BY EHIMARE AHREBAMEN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Schoolcraft Cross
Country team is heating up
the track on their competition. The Ocelots' first official meet was Sept. 2 at the
Golden Grizzly Invitational
at Oakland University. The
team also met up for two
preseason meets in August.
The preseason meets helped
the runners hone their skills
before the start of the season.

The women's team was in mid-season form right from the starting gun. Their 4-kilometer (2.49 mile) runs cooled the competition even in the 90-degree weather. The team co-captain, Maddy LaFave came in 2nd place - only 44 seconds shy of the gold – but surpassed her 2010 record with the two preseason meets. Newcomer Erica Modzy had her first official win for the team. Two other runners for the team, Hailee Azizi and Mariam Mrouch, were huge assets for Schoolcraft.

The men's Cross Country team, who had a 6-kilometer (3.73 mile) run, started one official runner, Mark Walker. The other runners on the men's side were Mike Greer, Shawn Van Dyke, Luis Montenegro and Nate Wise.

The Ocelots had to deal not only with the other runners but with the heat. While other competitors passed out from exhaustion, none of the Ocelot runners let the heat beat them during their runs. Considering the elements and the opposition, simply completing the race meant every finish was triumphant.

1<sup>st</sup> place: Erica Mozdy: 17:47 (7:09 pace), 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Maddy LaFave: 18:34 (7:28 pace)

Hailee Azizi: 19:48 (7:58 pace), Mariam Mrouch: 20:30 (8:15 pace)

1<sup>st</sup> place: Nate Wise: 23:43 (6:22 pace), Mark Walker: 27:18 (7:19 pace),

Mike Greer: 28:01 (7:30 pace), Shawn Van Dyke: 29:36, Luis Montenegro: 32:05 (8:36 pace)

## SLAMMING INTO HISTORY

## Yankees make record in grand fashion

BY EHIMARE ARHEBAMEN
SPORTS EDITOR

THE SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

The New York Yankees have become the first team in major league history to hit three grand slams in one game. Oddly, they needed all three and more to beat the Oakland Athletics.

This was the Yankees' highest-scoring game since playing Boston in 2000 when they tallied 22 runs. Three Yankees hitters – Robinson Cano, Russel Martin, and Curtis Granderson – all stepped up to the plate and each delivered a massive blow

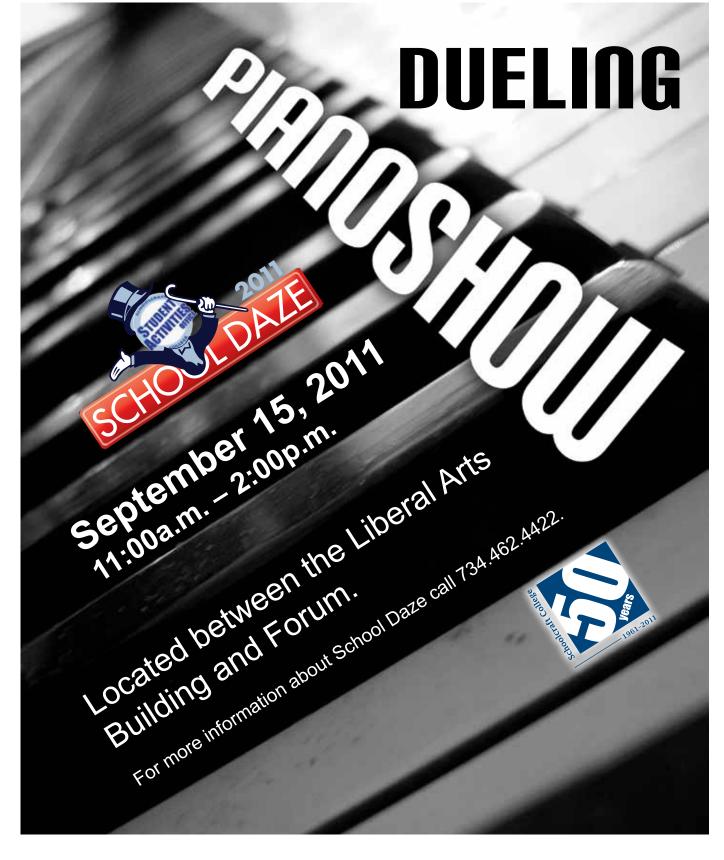
At one point in the game, the Yankees were trailing 7-1 before the offense kicked into high gear. Martin started off the Yankees' conquest with a home run in the fourth inning. Cano smacked

his grand slam in the 5<sup>th</sup> inning to bring the game back to 7-6 Athletics. Martin put the Yankees ahead in the 6<sup>th</sup> with his blast. Granderson's historic slam came in the 8<sup>th</sup> and put an exclamation point on an already historic night in the Bronx.

Yankee captain, Derek Jeter said having three grand slams in a single game is something, "...you can't explain..."

Martin had two homeruns and stole second base, increasing career highs with six hits. Granderson and Cano made it a point to drive five runs.

The Yankees won the game 22-9, crushing the Athletics. The Yankees' 22 was the most number of runs permitted by the Athletics since 1955. This was The Bronx Bombers biggest comeback since 2006. But the main reason that the game was so incredible is that the Yankees are now going down in history as the first team to have three grand slams in one game.



## Back to the Pitch

Men's soccer looking to return to prominence

By IAN GALLAGHER

After placing second in last year's NJCAA Region XII tournament with a record of 17-4-1, Schoolcraft Men's Soccer is back. This year the men are aiming for their sixth-straight MCCAA title. The Ocelots are once again a multinational effort with players from four different countries donning the blue and gold. Ryan LeMasters and Doug Beason are back after injuries cut their seasons short last year.

An Aug. 31 win against Jackson Community College came in large part to an 11<sup>th</sup>-minute goal by Gino Pasquali with Anthony Lourenco assisting. On Sept. 2, the Ocelots crushed Lakeland Community College (Ohio), 5-o. Phil Strachan, Doug Beason, Brent McIntosh, Adrian Tash and Gino Pasquali all scored. Anthony Lourenco has two assists. Keeper Tom Duquette held the Lakers scoreless.

The Ocelots demolished Cuyahoga Community College, another Ohio team, 10-1 on Sept.



PHOTO BY STEVEN GRILL

Venezuelan-born midfielder Marco Lobo, #18, gains control of the ball from his opponent.

5. McIntosh had a trio of goals along with three assists. Marco Lobo scored twice while Anthony Lourenco and Nate Motta each chipped in with a goal and assist.

Tom Nevill, Damjan Stamenkovik and Gino Pasquali ensured Schoolcraft's dominance with a goal each.

The men's team will host Delta

College on Saturday, Sept. 17 at 1 p.m. before going on the road to Muskegon for a match on Saturday, Sept. 24 at 3 p.m.

Setting up for a big season

SC volleyball on the rise

BY COLE JANISCH

This year's volleyball team is looking forward to having a breakout season. The team has been training together for several months and the hard work is starting to pay off. They have already beaten two teams in scrimmages as well as Columbus State.

This year the women's volley-ball team recruited by using what Head Coach Brumfield coined as a "three-prong system" which is based on a balance between academics, boundaries, organization and athletic skill. A key strength of this team is their depth and ability to play multiple positions.

This year's team includes: Taylor Kerr of Livonia; Kara Kempiski, Livonia; Monika Rudis, Livonia; Lauren Macuga, Canton; Kelly Macdonald, Plymouth; Nicole Kempinski, Livonia; Jessica Macari, Riverview; Lauren Meadows, Waterford; Chrissy Maleske, Livonia; Brooke Rycerz, Farmington; Brittany Sprinkles, Carleton; Kayla Boose, Warren; Amber Aldrich, Fowlerville; Sarah Suppelsa, Livonia and Nicole Molnar, Canton.

Coach Brumfield said that the team would not be as good as it is without the help of his assistant coaches. Chris DePoy, who played on the university level and is the team's lead strategist, is planning the team's plays down to a science. Lauren Braun is a Schoolcraft alumnus and an "invaluable asset" to the team.

Brumfield also went out of his way to bring attention to Sid Fox, the Athletic Director, and Joyce Galindo for their "second-to-none support."

Besides making a great team that is sure to win and hopefully gaining championship titles, Coach Brumfield also wants to make sure that his players get recruited by universities for their third and fourth years of college and are offered good scholarships. To help with this, he has gotten new team uniforms that look more professional.

Last year, one of the former players was awarded a full ride to Lindsey Wilson College in Kentucky. Coach Brumfield hopes that the sophomores on the team this year have the same level of recruitment.

This team is ready to roll and will definitely represent our school on the court. The volleyball team will visit St. Clair Community College on Tuesday, Sept. 13, then travel to Lakeland, Ohio for a tournament for Sept. 16-17. The team's next home game will be on Thursday, Sept. 22 versus Oakland Community College.



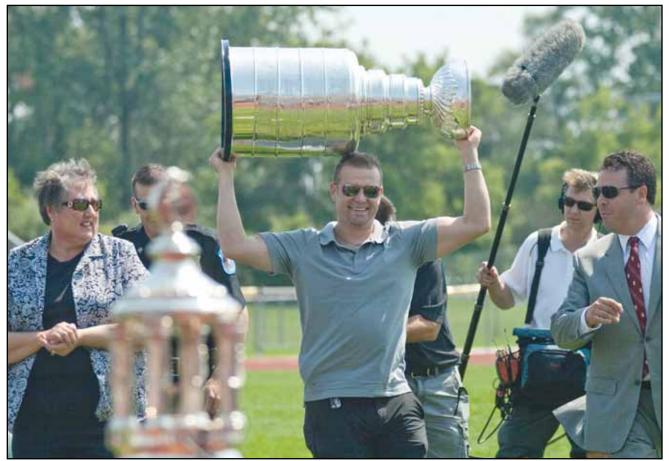
PHOTO BY BRIAN CAMILLERI

Coach Rod Brumfield lectures the girls on the best serving techniques to take down any of their future opponents.

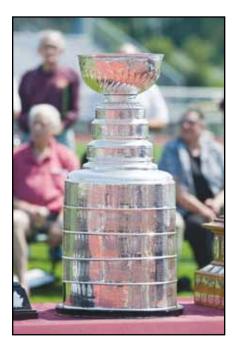
Enjoy following Ocelot Athletics? Be sure to save the calendar on **page 31** to keep track of all the events this fall!

Connection Connection





Boston Bruins goalie and Davison High School alumni Tim Thomas brought home the Stanley Cup on August 24. Over 2,000 people crowded into Davison's Cardinal Stadium to greet Thomas and celebrate his achievement.



Photos by Mandy Getschman







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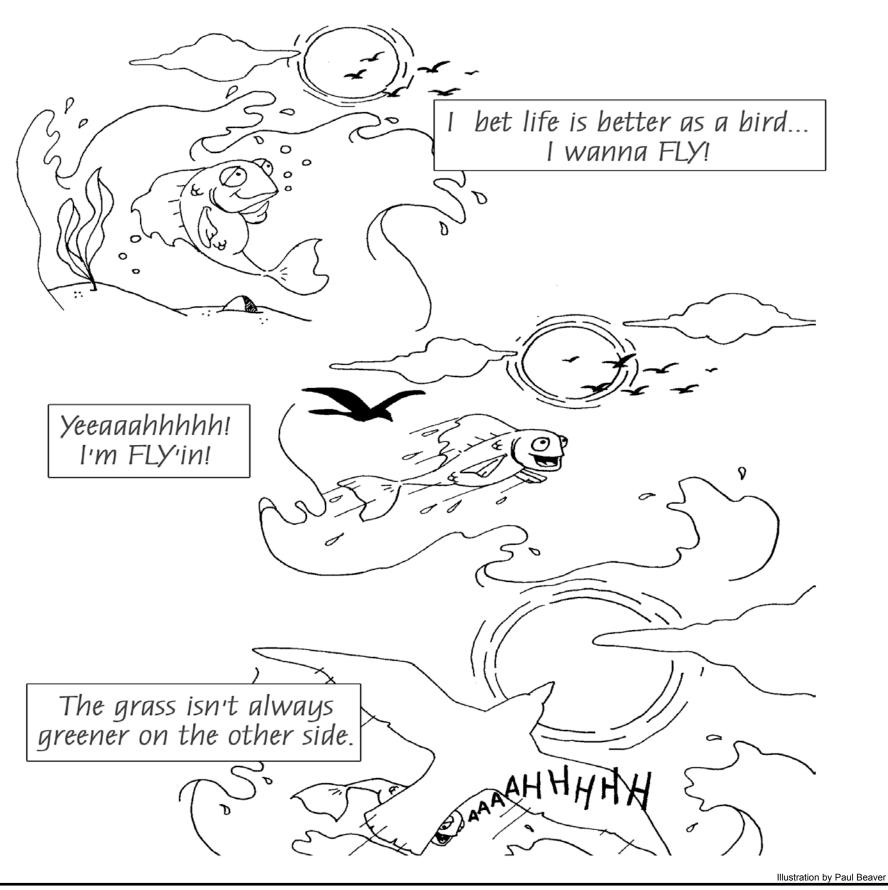
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## **Word List**

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## SOLUTION

Pictoku - Page 36



See what everyone is talking about in this issue's Ocelot Opinions!

Check out Page 8

## out in

## Horoscopes

By Ian Gallagher Managing Editor

#### Aries

Remain wary this week. On the 19th of the month, you may encounter a one-eyed man.

### Taurus

Rome was not built in a day, but Oklahoma City was. Keep up the effort and your city may be built faster than you think.

## Gemini

Play hard while you still can. The days of youth are fleeting but beware of becoming too tied to the present. Invest your efforts wisely.

## Cancer

Growth is within you – be open about any new opportunities that come. Take time to prune your future wisely.

#### Leo

Do not let your pride go too far. Keep your main priorities in focus and you will get closer to your goals.

#### Virgo

This could be a lucky time for you. Approach change with a cautious sense of optimism.

### Libra

Try to keep things in balance. Weigh all your options, but try new things. Measure out what will work for you.

### Scorpio

Take a long look at yourself. The truth may sting sometimes but stay calm and try to be the rock amongst your family and friends.

## Sagittarius

Speak softly – you may be getting hoarse. Try to get to the point quickly and let both of your halves show.

## Capricorn

Your ears may seem full at times and your outer husk may be tough, but inside you are sweet. Try not to let yourself get too heated or you may pop.

### Aquarius

Your cup could get a little full this week. Stay level so it will not spill over.

#### **Pisces**

Try to keep a clear head, even though things may be a bit fishy sometimes. Be sure to stay in school and try not to flounder.

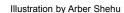
### **Ophiuchus**

You may be new, but try to keep an open mind. You will eventually find your place in the sky.





## HORSEPLAY





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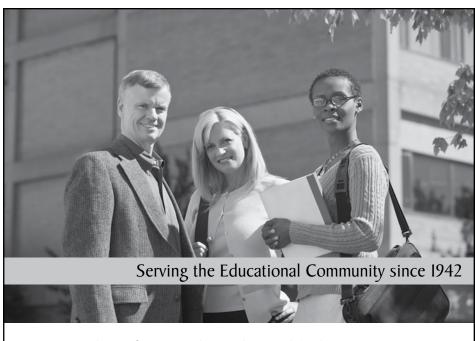
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