

# The Schoolcraft On nect

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 10

We Pursue Excellence

February 18, 2013

# social guardianship



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Page Design & Layout by Jonathan King

# SNOPA bill guards students' and employees' personal information

By Josiah Thomas

Those of us who are sensitive about protecting our information will find relief in the arrival of the Social Networking Online Protection Act (SNOPA). By force of law, SNOPA will make it so that no employer, no facility of higher education, or any such type of organization would be allowed or be required to ask any person for their log-in information on an email account or social media website account.

The bill was introduced April 27, 2012 by Congressman Eliot Engel and Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky. SNOPA extends toward educational facilities as well, where students cannot be denied admission, be discharged, disciplined, suspended, expelled or be discriminated against in any way for not giving up their information. When any one of these is violated, a student can take legal action. In addition, a business cannot fire an employee or deny an applicant a job.

Employers or academic institutions who try and force employees or students to provide their information can face legal repercussions. Employers may be fined up to \$10,000, with the definite amount being determined by the Secretary of Labor. The penalty would be based on how the employer has followed the law, and how serious the violation is.

"The American people deserve the right to keep their personal accounts private," said Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, according to the Los Angeles Times. "No one should have to worry that their personal account information, including passwords, can be required by an employer or educational institution, and if this legislation is signed into law, no one will face that possibility".

According to the McBrayer law firm in an article on the National Law Review, SNOPA would be the first to address profiling through the access to social media and private accounts." Though the bill was voted on in the House of Representatives in April 2012, it has since then been referred



to the House Education and the Workforce Committee, where it will be determined whether or not it will move past this stage of legislation and into the Senate, with some changes that are theoretically possible.

The further implications of SNOPA means that the federal government can take action against businesses and schools when they make it a requirement, or so much as ask, to provide the log-in information of their clients. Michigan, along with thirteen other states in America, have passed similar legislation only within the last year.

This new trend of legislation seems promising at the federal level for SNOPA. However, the visibly partisan House support of this bill - with eight Democrats and only one Republican supporting - it may be a while before SNOPA's passage becomes likely.

**Everybody** likes this. (The bill is split into five sections:)



**Section One** 

The "short title" ("Social Networking Online Protection Act")



**Section Two** 

Outlines how the bill will relate to employee/employer relations



Outlines how the bill relates to students and institutes of higher learning



**Section Four** 

Outlines how the bill relates to local educational agencies and students



# Open for discussion

2013 Global Roundtables to discuss conspiracy theories

By Jason Woolery & Alys Dolan STAFF WRITER & EDITOR IN CHIEF

Our world has become increasingly inter-connected over the past 50 years, and with the changes come new global challenges, concerns and responsibilities. These trials often end up crossing not only physical and national boundaries but cultural and political ones as well. Frequently, new methods and forms of integration cause problems, and these can be severe. Using that as a starting point, Schoolcraft College is scheduled to host the 2013 Global Roundtables discussion on Feb. 26 from 10 a.m. until noon. The event will take place in the DiPonio Room of the VistaTech Center.

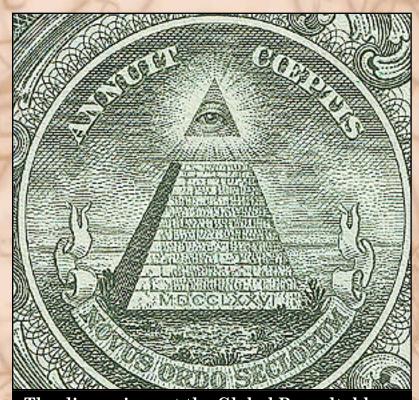
This annual event, presented by the Schoolcraft College International Institute's GlobalEYEzers, provides opportunities for students and faculty to discuss global issues in a formatted context. The event is funded primarily through the Schoolcraft College Foundation and the Learning Support Services. "I attended last year's global round tables and I found the event very enlightening," said Francis Teevin, president of the GSA. "It was an eye-opening experience to discuss world issues with people from a wide variety of backgrounds and walks of life." The goal of the event is to be informative and to also help students develop critical thinking skills. The focus of this year's event is "Conspiracy Theories."

Dr. Deborah Daiek, Associate Dean of Learning Support Services, originally started the Global Roundtables with the intent of stimulating global awareness and developing critical thinking abilities. The idea was to focus on globalization and its impact on all societies. The event has been co-chaired by Dr.

Daiek and Professor Roney-Hays for the past several years, with philosophy instructor Dr. Mark Huston moderating and introducing the topics for discussion.

Last year's event in the wake of the "Occupy Wall Street" and the "Arab Spring" movements focused on the social movements and the obligations of citizens involved in these uprisings. The 2012 event had about 400 students at 40 roundtables, each of which discussed the topics simultaneously. "After each discussion, outcomes were voted upon with bright colored cards," said Professor Roney-Hays. "Then Dr. Huston followed up with questions about why we voted as we did."

Roney-Hays not only helps facilitate this unique gathering, but she is also a professor, of both anthropology and sociology classes on campus. She initially became involved with the Global Roundtables as a chairperson of GlobalEYEZers, a group that is part of the Schoolcraft International Institute. Having institutional programs like the Global Roundtables that seek to address challenging international issues are necessary actions to aid with global expansion. Conversation and interaction is key. Through discussion and interaction we learn different facets and take on matters of significance happening around the globe. "Having Global Roundtables at Schoolcraft is important because students should have the freedom to express what they think about these [conspiracy] theories and other issues," said Issma Iqbal, Vice President of Scholarships for PTK. So let your voice be heard on Feb. 26 from 10 a.m. until noon and join others at the 2013 Global Roundtables in the VisTaTech Building.



The discussions at the Global Roundtables event will include the following topics:

The 9/11 attacks being planned by US Government.

A UFO was recovered at Roswell.

The assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Global Warming is a fraud.

Princess Diana was murdered by the Royal Family.

"Jewish world domination."

Apollo moon landing was a hoax.

Pearl Harbor was allowed to happen.

The Third Secret of Fatima.

The Philadelphia Experiment.

\*It must be noted that the above list does not guarantee that those exact topics will be discussed, although you can expect topics to be in the same "vein."



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billion the organization brought in last year alone. \$10 million, chimp-changed compared to the \$9.5

erators, they would only have to shell out about



# Reputation protection

Keep your reputation safe with "Brand Yourself"

**By Colin Hickson** STAFF WRITER

These days, most employers will go to some lengthy measures to learn more about applicants, including checking their online profiles like Facebook and Twitter just to ensure that they are not about to hire a potentially disastrous employee. But chances are there is more than one person with the same first and last name, and if they find a similar named individual who might have an unfavorable article written about them or has a sleazy-looking Facebook account, things aren't looking good for the potential employee.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BRAND YOURSELF Pete Kistler, Evan McGregor-Watson, and Patrick Ambron

What is an individual to do? "Brand Yourself" can help. Launched two years ago, it was created by Pete Kistler, Evan McGregor-Watson, and Patrick Ambron after Kistler himself had fallen victim to a case of mistaken identity when his employer thought he was a drug dealer. The site was made to help others avoid similar embarrassing situation.

Charging a small and reasonable price of just ten dollars a month, the website helps you keep your reputation clean. By submitting and creating content that applies to you alone, and creating engine safe links, you can create a "Brand Yourself" profile that alerts you if it's been added to the top of a Google search, as well as notifying you as to who is "Googling" you.

The site is useful especially since managers these days look on social media sites to find the good qualities possessed by potential workers, like their qualifications, disposition and even personality. As mentioned before, they could also be looking for a criminal background or other negative characteristics. Either way, the site can help you avoid getting mistaken for someone less than favorable.

"Brand Yourself" is apparently so popular that some colleges, like Syracuse University, even use it for students who may need part-time work, and the site has over twenty-five thousand users.

So if you want to avoid the humiliation of being mistaken for some thug, sign up for "Brand Yourself" today, and stay in good graces with your boss.



evasiveness during the half time show. (That was lations, such as the energy output that Beyoncé

James Hamilton, an engineer for Amazon tasked

He went on to say that the simple solution to the

instances of Beyoncé literally bringing down the

down. After waiting for the heat of the remains were unable to properly identify any bodies.

"We trained him [...] It is extremely worrisome

Everybody saw the Super Bowl, right? Beyoncé Now, that's a headline that you probably won't see very often in this section of the Connection.

On top of that, his stature makes him a formidable foe, even though that could easily allow him to be easier to spot in a crowd. "Of course he knows ge, and have been working around the clock to both guard the potential victims, as Dorner is highly skilled in various forms of firearms and served as a member of the well as track this alleged murderer down. But it The police department believes that there are at least 40 potential targets as part of Dorner's write, "Self-preservation is no longer import to me. I do not fear death as I died long ago. planned rampa Armed Forces, won't be easy.

them "fair game." He went on to sidering all of what he's doing wrote a lengthy manifesto on his Facebook page, talking about the death and violence he would bring to LAPD officers and their family, con-

In other news

Christopher Dorner. The former LAPD cop, who weeks now. He is wanted for his alleged involve ians. Making matters more disturbing, Dorner ment in the death of several officers and civilwas fired from the department after he made false statements, has on been on the run for The hunt is on for alleged cop killer National News

# ampus Crime

Compiled by Michael King Staff Writer

### Larceny

Jan. 15, 4:00 p.m. A woman returned to her car and realized she had forgotten to lock it. Inspection revealed that money had been taken from the glove box as well as a few miscellaneous articles of clothing and two bottles of pills. The victim was unsure when the items may have been taken due to two previous stops she had made. Security cameras revealed no one had approached her car while it was on campus.

Jan. 17. After her class, a woman discovered that her locker had been opened and articles of clothing had been removed. A check of the area revealed that the padlock's combination was on the back of the lock itself. Missing were her wallet, credit cards and several gift cards.

### **Attempted Auto Theft**

Jan 16, 8:05 a.m. A male student returned to find the passenger side front door lock of his car damaged. The steering column had always been damaged from a previous, unrelated event and the ignition had been pulled onto the floor.

The victim was able to replace the ignition and return home safely. A review of the video cameras turned up negative in the north lot.

### UDAA (Unlawfully Driving Away an Automobile)

Jan. 16, 7:57 p.m. A male student that he was unable to locate his black 1999 Dodge Intrepid. The student stated that his vehicle was probably still where he had left it at 5:45 p.m. in the south parking lot. The vehicle does not have an alarm or keyless entry and the spare key was confirmed by his wife to be at the student's residence. Surveillance videos turned up no leads on the whereabouts of the vehicle.

### Disorderly Person

Jan. 7. A student was informed that he could not partake or be enrolled in any swimming classes since he had open bleeding sores. Two days later, the student phoned the campus multiple times screaming and cursing after denying a refund that had been offered. Several days later, he entered the McDowell Center and began demanding his refund. The

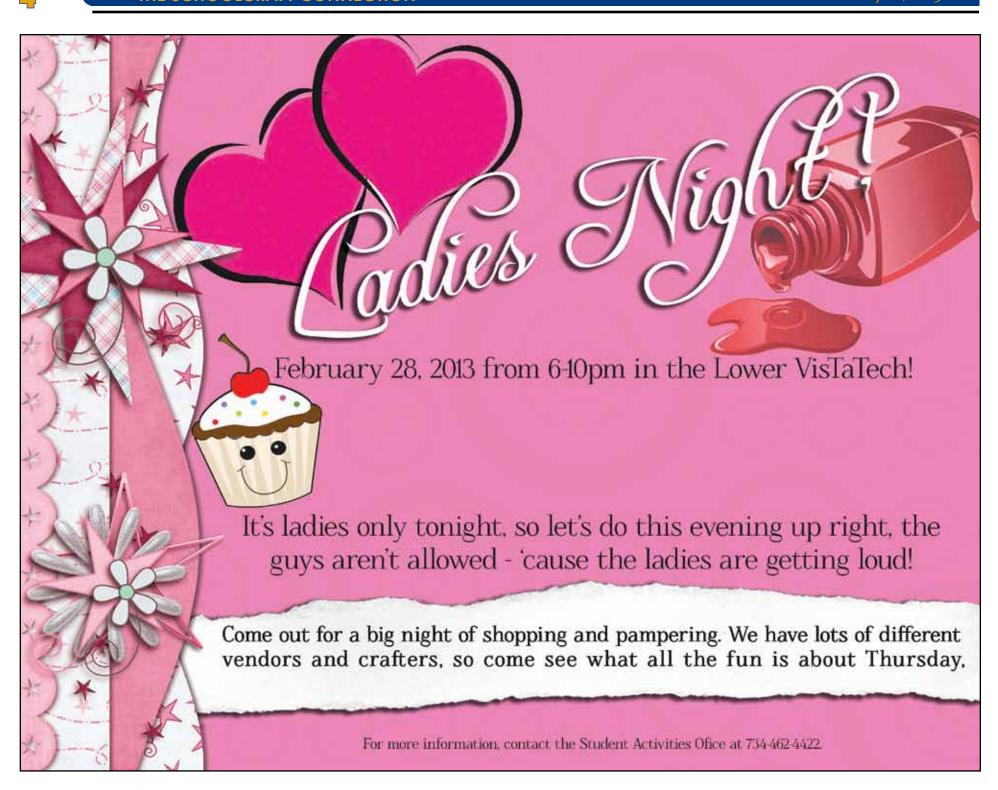
student was finally calmed down and given a refund.

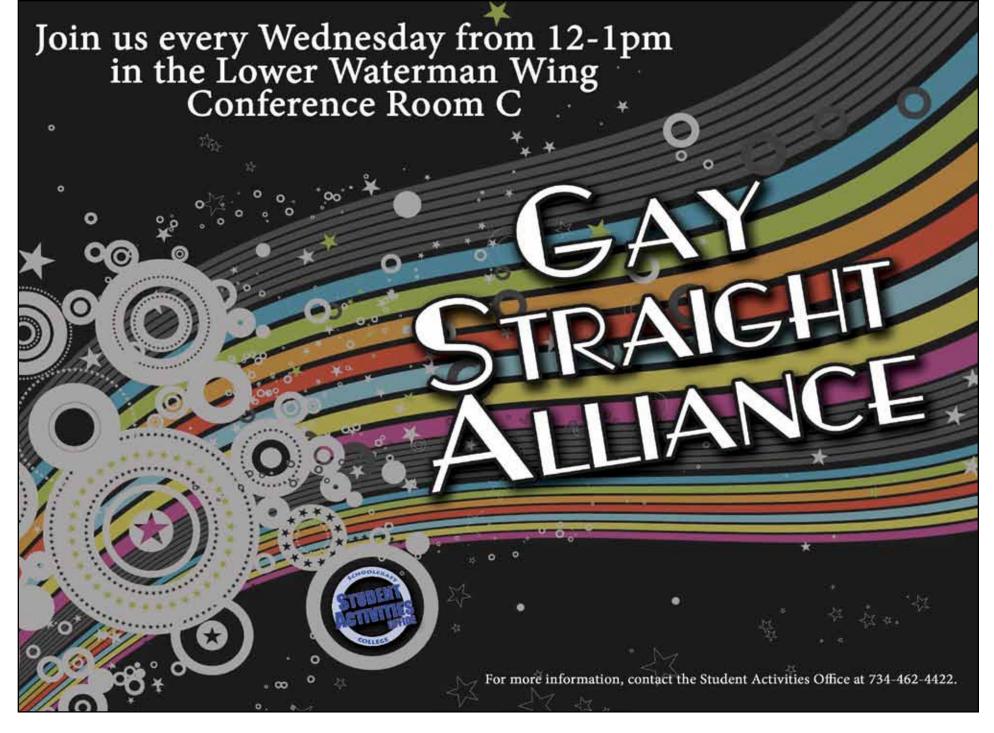
### Trespassing

Jan. 9. While on vehicle patrol, a campus security police officer observed a suspicious character attempting to enter the Library and Forum buildings. The indi vidual stated that the "director of the library" had given him permission to be on campus but could not provide the director's name when asked. The individual was asked to leave as official permission had not been given by the College. He left without further incident.

### **Intoxicated Student**

Jan 15. An instructor reported that a student was slumped in his chair. Campus police arrived and questioned the student. He revealed that he had had four beers several hours earlier and was currently taking Sabox to help control an opium addiction. He had also taken a Sudafed before being dropped off at his class. His mother was called and took the student home. A member of the Dean of Students staff was contacted about the incident.







# Pageturners Book Club Schedule Winter 2013

#### **JANUARY**

# HENRIK IBSEN

#### A Doll's House

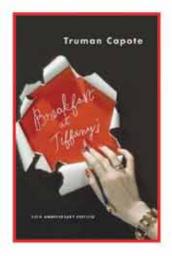
by Henrik Ibsen

A Doll's House (1879) is one of the best-known, most frequently performed of modern plays, displaying Ibsen's genius for realistic prose drama. A classic expression of women's rights, the play builds to a climax in which the central character, Nora, rejects a smothering marriage and life in "a doll's house."

MON	January 28	4:00 - 5:00 p.m	L 105
TUE	January 29	1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	L 105

THUR January 31 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. F 530 Movie: A Doll's House

### **FEBRUARY**



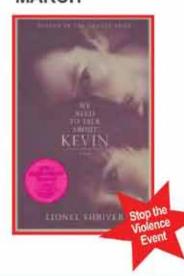
### Breakfast at Tiffany's

by Truman Capote

Breakfast at Tiffany's is a novella by Truman Capote published in 1958. The main character, Holly Golightly, is one of Capote's best-known creations and an American cultural icon. She shares not only the author's philosophy of freedom but also his fears and anxieties. For Holly, the cure is to jump into a taxi and head for Tiffany's; nothing bad could happen, she believes, amid "that lovely smell of silver and alligator wallets."

THUR	February 14	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	MC 200 A-D	Movie: Breakfast at Tiffany's
MON	February 18	4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	L 105	
TUE	February 19	1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	L 105	
THUR	February 21	4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	R 645	

### MARCH



### We Need to Talk About Kevin

by Lionel Shriver

Eva never really wanted to be a mother—certainly not the mother of a boy who murdered seven of his fellow high school students, a cafeteria worker, and a teacher who tried to befriend him. Now, two years later, after Kevin's horrific rampage, it is time for her to come to terms with her son's actions and her fear that she may be in part responsible.

THUR	March 21	10:15 - 11:15 a.m.	MC 200 A-D	"Stop the Violence!" Event
THUR	March 21	4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	R 645	
MON	March 25	4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	L 105	
TUE	March 26	1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	L 105	

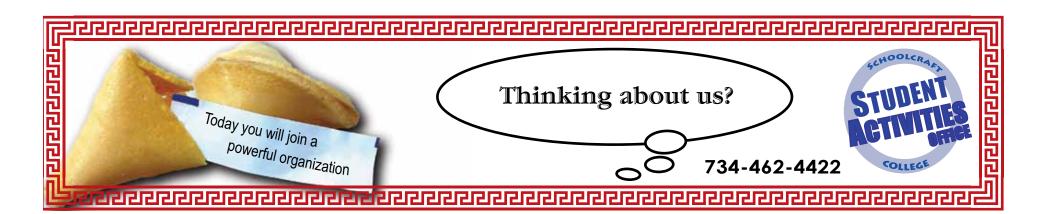
Pageturners is the book club of Schoolcraft College. It is open to all students, faculty, staff, administrators and community friends.

Discussion sessions are facilitated by Schoolcraft students. Pageturners is supported by a grant from the Schoolcraft College Foundation.



For more information, please contact Ela Rybicka erybicka@schoolcraft.edu 734.462.4400, Ext. 5685 Office: LA 551 Please visit our website at: http://sites.google.com/site/scpageturners/





Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peacably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

- The First Amendment to the Constitution



# Suicide bomber **miracle**

Sports Editor

chirazi26@gmail.com

I want to get something out of the way from the beginning. The story I'm about to tell is based on a man I only encountered once in my life. I only got his first name (Samir), and that was it. I never encountered him again. But don't allow one simple meeting to weaken the accuracy, completeness or validity of any information in this story.

Every day, Samir wakes up and stares at a picture of his family. For that one moment, time freezes.

Infinite memories, happy memories, flow freely through his head.

WE ARE ALL
WITNESSES

What does Hell look like? It's described with sounds of mournful cries and loud wails, with rage and gunfire ringing through the ears. The sight is labeled as rubbish, gloomy, lurid and gruesome. You never want to experience it or you might become a victim of irrational thoughts. This was the place that Samir experiences when he remembers what happened to his family.

Samir, who would be about 38 years old by now, was able to escape the nightmares of living in Afghanistan by migrating to Michigan, or "mini Heaven" as he likes to refer to it. What's shocking about his story was the fact that he witnessed his family's massacre and elected to become a suicide bomber. His family was murdered in front of him by the Taliban, claiming to be doing so in the name of God. And in this moment his morals and beliefs were tested profoundly.

In spite of the anguish and darkness that suicide bombers embody, Samir was drawn to this means of revenge, though he could not come up with a logical explanation for his reasoning. He was horrified and avenging the loss of his family blinded him from thinking sanely. He saw himself as a ticking time bomb ready to detonate. He still feared the reality of losing his life but Samir's need for justice was stronger.

After strapping his body with deadly explosives, he walked on the side of the road as a casual, poor 20-year-old kid. Bullets of sweat started to drip off his face. He was breathless, trembling and found it extremely difficult to concentrate.

Samir closed his eyes and began to recite countless prayers until he found the men responsible. He began counting down: 5 ... 4 ... 3 ... 2 ... 1. "God Is Great!" Samir screamed.

The homemade explosive didn't go off. Throwing himself at the feet of people he desperately wanted to kill felt foolish. He was beaten for stupidity and rightfully so. He had been asking God to punish him for his actions right before attempting to commit murder suicide. Ironically, his prayer was answered, just not the way he envisioned it.

When I talked to him, Samir emphasized that his Islamic religion had nothing to do with his (failed) suicide mission. He denied the false accusations of Islam offering martyrdoms to such radical undertakings.

I understood his hopelessness, misery and frustration but was his suicide attempt aspiration or desperation? Are we willing to claim his story to be a miracle or do we cast him off as extremist, ignoring his circumstances? His goal at one point was to kill and be killed and that ironically drove him to survival. Shaken by his failed attempt, he took these as signs that God had saved him from death to realize the true meaning of life.

Overall, Americans don't have to face anything remotely as horrific as citizens in Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq do on a daily basis. We shouldn't draw conclusions as to why people in these particular countries decide to kill or what they have experienced to make them commit such radical acts.

Every day, Samir looks at the picture of his family and he finds happiness but if he really pays attention he can actually feel the suffering of his family. It hurts. It gnaws. It's pain unfamiliar to our nature.

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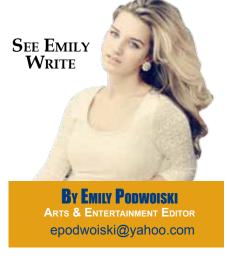
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Send letters to: The Schoolcraft Connection, 18600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia, Michigan, 48152-2696.

Via Email: sceditor@schoolcraft.edu



# The good ol' days

Valentine's Day is over with but it seems like there is always love in the air. Whoops, did I say love? I mean romanticism. We are all guilty of romanticizing one thing or another but there is one particular subject we all seem to get butterflies over: the good ol' days.

"I don't belong in this generation ... I was born in the wrong decade." If you haven't thought or said this then you are either a big, fat liar or you really do enjoy being a product of the Digital Age and reality television. It isn't just the elderly who are complaining about our generation anymore, it's our own generation complaining right along with them too. Every so often on Facebook, somebody describes how life would have been better during any other era, most commonly the 1940's-1960's. Well, back in the 1940's, you would not be able to post your first-world problems onto Facebook in the first place. Imagine that. Being without Facebook isn't the worst part though.

Say we go back to the 1940's, because we obviously all want to live in the perfect and beautiful world that is "The Notebook." Well, we need to remember that in the "good ol' days" of America, African Americans were restricted by Jim Crow laws. Practically everything was rationed during the war. Women

received a sneak peak in the workforce only to be kicked back out again when the men returned home from war. Don't even get me started on how awful the 1950's and 1960's were for women. Seriously, have you watched "Mad Men"?

Woody Allen sums up our obsession with the past in his fantastic film, "Midnight In Paris." The main character, Gil Pender, is obsessed with the 1920's. He truly believes that he would be happier if only he lived during the roaring 20's. However, he discovers that it doesn't matter what decade you were born into – you will always find some major flaws within your life. "That's what the present is. That it's a little unsatisfying because life's a little unsatisfying says at his moment of realization.

If you are cuckoo over a previous decade, remember that it wasn't always rainbows and butterflies. If you so desperately want to live in another time period, bring back your favorite aspects of that beloved era. Write a letter instead of texting someone. Tune into Turner Classic Movies. Listen to The Grateful Dead and dance like a hippie. Admire the past but don't wish for a return to it. Every decade has its' own set of strengths and weaknesses. Our generation gets stuck with crap like Kidz Bop CDs and "Jersey Shore," but we also get awesome stuff like Beyoncé, iPods and the Internet. And that's pretty cool when you stop and think about how far we have come since "the good ol' days."

Let me tell you, the days are still good. Grand, even. We have the first African American president. Gay marriage is legal in nine states, women no longer need a husband to amount to something, rights for minorities are progressing and we have the ability to connect with each other worldwide through the wonderfully advanced modern technology. No matter what decade it is, there will always be flaws, questions and problems to face. But let's not feel nostalgic for a time we weren't even around for. Let's focus on right now. Let's live in the present and keep moving forward.



# Every time a bell rings

In psychology there is a form of learning called classical conditioning where a subject is taught through a series of repetitive actions to associate an idea with a certain action. For instance, especially after President FDR was elected, the public has associated the Government with being the only means of supplying the people with basic services and needs. Many assume that without the men and women in Washington, roads would not be built, schools would not teach the masses and every citizen of the dear red, white and blue would not have healthcare. This is a fallacy and

we, the people, need to stop acting like salivating dogs every time a politician speaks.

Suppose for a moment the Government did not maintain the roads. Oh dear, but we need these roads to get from point A to point B. What ever will we do now that the Government is not taking care of it? We have a need for the roads to be maintained therefore our lovely need will create a service that most, I'm sure, will gladly contribute to. We would be giving the money directly to the source of the services, instead of depending on our municipal branch to divide up the cash from a pool of tax money collected. The roads would be fixed at a competitive price and the world is safe again from the evils of potholes. An excellent example of this is the Ohio turnpike. Miles of road without a pothole in sight.

Wait, no, there is more. How could we ever educate ourselves if the Government does not supply the teachers, buildings and oversee the curriculum? Humans have a natural urge to educate themselves. For example, remember that one time you "googled" something? You were reaching out to better educate yourself ... and without the help of Uncle Sam. The same applies to anyone else. We will create a logical way to educate ourselves through private

education, tutoring and even online classes at cost.

This would mean paying a different price for the education, however, instead of schools pleading with their districts and taxpayers to give them needed funds they would have their own pool of tuition from the private sector to spend as they see fit. Private institutions would no longer be subjected to the standards set by the collection of tax money that the government so lovingly sponges from our paychecks every week. It would be under the watchful eye of those parents writing the tuition checks each month. The schools would, also, set their own criteria for the education of their students instead of being told to standardize everything according to the suits in elected positions. It could open up a world of possibility for the pupils as well as the instructors. See, everyone wins. The success of the charter school system in post-Katrina New Orleans demonstrates how competition breeds innovation in the classroom.

Another tasty morsel that gets our mouths' watering is the subject of free healthcare. It's not free. No matter how many people claim that the state is paying for their medical services, do not under any circumstances allow your mind to believe they are a creditable source. Instead of forcing a bill to finally "fix" all of the problems with the healthcare system down our throats,

perhaps we should just get rid of the wasteful regulations.

Open the system up to the free market and get rid of all of the restrictions set forth by so many Government programs that are doing it "for the good of the people." According to Dr. Mary Ruwart, the FDA regulations account for over 80 percent of rising medication costs. Opening up healthcare to the market and allowing it to be privatized gives consumers the chance to shop around for the best prices and quality of their care and medication. It puts us in charge of our own needs, instead of dependency on others.

The Government does not aid us; it hinders us from making our own decisions on the quality of our lives. They have conditioned us to believe we are not only in need of their services but we are in debt to them. The people are the ones that elect the officials and should be the ones with all the ultimate decisions. Instead of listening like good little sheep and swallowing every swig of the political rhetoric Kool-Aid, perhaps we should take a moment to remember that, in the words of George Mason, "in all our associations in all our agreements let us never lose sight of this fundamental maxim - that all power was originally lodged in, and consequently is derived from, the people."

Quit the drooling and take responsibility for yourself, your actions and your life.



By Ramon Razo Managing Editor misterrazo@gmail.com

# A conservative response to the homosexual problem

For a long time, the Christian Right has spent immense time and effort fighting the good fight against same sex marriage. People have it in their minds that somehow allowing a civil union, sanctioned by the state, between same-gendered folks will begin an unstoppable erosion of our

society. I'm here to say that the fight needs to stop. It's a pointless and losing battle. And what is the Right really fighting for anyway?

The funny thing about gay marriage is that it should not be legal. With that A JOURNALIST being said, why do any states consider it something that needs to be "illegal" in the first place? Marriage is something that people view as sacred, I get that. Marriage is something people believe to be only between man and woman, I get that too. However, what the Bible says marriage is and what the state says marriage is are two different things. Separation of church and state is not the best place to turn to when trying to defend the idea of gay marriage. It's not in the Constitution and was introduced by Thomas Jefferson in a letter he sent to the Danbury Baptist Association. But that doesn't keep it from being a good idea. It acts to keep the government from infringing on any person's religious belief or lack thereof. At the same time, it protects the people from theocracy, so it must protect the state from *any* sort of religious beliefs infringing on it, Christian or otherwise. Will this abandoning of our "founding Christian beliefs" end up somehow

but, in the meantime, trying to justify keeping people's freedoms at bay by using scripture doesn't make the faith look good.

Now, hold on. Those on the prohomosexual movement don't get off scot-free. They've been conducting themselves in some foolhardy ways, not to mention they are doing a number on the English language. (When you get down to it, "homophobia" just means "fear of the same.") While there are obvious instances of actual hate being shown towards homosexuals, Fred Phelps and the Westboro Baptist Church being a prime example, for the most part, the intentions of people opposed to homosexual marriage are not as malicious as supporters want us to believe.

"Hate speech" is telling a group of people they are sub-human. "Hating" someone is sending them to the back of the bus. "Hate" is making that entire group of people use different water fountains. Disagreeing with someone's lifestyle is not "hate." Let's say, for the sake of argument, that the Bible did regard homosexuality as a sin. The first issue, how we deal with these "sinners," is the same as you do everybody else. The Bible claims lots of things are

sinful lifestyles: drunkenness, adultery and promiscuity, greed, anger, worshipping other gods, etc. The list goes on. Just because someone disagrees with someone else's lifestyle doesn't mean they hate them.

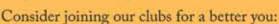
It's also frustrating to hear that not allowing homosexuals to marry somehow keeps two people from being happy. This is an embarrassing logical fallacy. Two people can be happy together regardless of whether or not the state sanctions their union. This isn't about happiness. It's about human rights on a governmental level.

Whatever the case, whichever side you fall on, the fact remains that homosexual marriage is not something that can be legally justified as immoral. Even as a Bible-thumping, right-wing conservative Christian, it's hard to justify marriage, which can be perverted by individuals who don't mean what they say or lack the love and commitment to make it work, as something that is defined by morals. Homosexuals are people. They're flawed, messed up, fascinating people just like the rest of us and until some nail-in-thecoffin, all-encompassing verdict can be reached, let them get hitched and be miserable like everyone else.

# deteriorating our morals? Who's to say It really matters how you see yourself!







- Math and Physics
- Phi Theta Kappa
- Scientific Research
- Philosophy
- Health Information Technology
- Metro Detroit Association for the Education of Young Children (MDAEYE) & many more...







"Do you think that your current online social media presence (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) paints you in a favorable light to potential employers?"



'I feel that employers should not be able to use facebook to judge potential employees. It's too personal."

Lindsay Fleming



Yes, because I am not a jerk."

**Brandon** Moss



Yes, because my Facebook is totally G-rated."

Shay **Averitte** 



Yes, because it truly represents me."

**Bennett** 



Yes, because I am a more mature person now.

Jordan Wynn



'Yes, because it represents who I am and what I like. People can see me in another light from school.

Alvin Ross



By Molly Martin CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR mollyfaye94@gmail.com

### What really happens when someone dies?

As said by the great Wizard, Albus Dumbledore, from the mystical world of Harry Potter, "Death is but the next great adventure." What exactly is that adventure though? When people die, they leave their physical bodies behind, but what happens to their spirit? When someone dies, their loved ones try to justify the tragedy of their loss. They try to make sense of it and more often than not, their minds are tricked into believing the dearly departed will walk through the door, happy and healthy as ever. When our loved ones die, what

do they leave behind? Are they somehow still here, unable to speak directly to us but able to leave signs? I'd sure like to think so. Truth is, there are so many different theories out there in the world and we don't know which one is the right one, but if I had to place a bet on a plausible option, it would be that the people we love are still here.

Over the years, so many theories have popped up attempting to prove what actually happens to those who depart from our world. Many people have recounted that during a near death experience they have gone to another world and have seen dead relatives or have had what is known as an "out of body experience." This raises many questions about the world, both the seen and the unseen. Could there be another realm beyond our living world?

The most popular theory and study behind there being another realm is ADC (after death communication). ADC is not only a theory but also a way of coping after someone dies. It allows for those grieving to hold on to the idea that the recently deceased may still be hanging around. Folks who

ascribe to ADC believe that those who have passed have the ability to give off signals to us alive here, such as a picture falling off a wall in an unnatural way, the smell of a deceased love one's cologne or perfume or the smell of the pipe they smoked. In these instances, of course, nothing in the room is giving off these scents. Events like these tend to lend credibility to the occurrence of ADC.

The adventure after life is, perhaps, the most mysterious question out there, but the best thing to believe in during a time of grieving is yourself. Remember that you are still here and are strong enough to move forward. Believe that your loved ones are happy wherever they are, that they are still somehow with us and will always be. While we may never know the exact truth of life after death, we hold onto what we believe to be true. Our loved ones are still here in our hearts, guiding us to where we need to be and showing us signs along the way. Dumbledore also went on to ask: "You think the dead we love ever truly leave us?" No, I don't. As he said, they live on through us. They stay with us forever.

Advertisement

## Counselor's Corner

Facing the career decision making process?

Start here.



By Lisa Brown

Are you having a difficult time choosing a college major? Are you feeling overwhelmed by the process? I'm here to tell you that it is perfectly okay and normal to not have everything completely planned out step by step in the beginning of the career decision making process. What if someone asked you to plan out your entire life right here and now? You would probably feel like this is an impossible task right? How can anyone plan out their entire life in a snap second? The same idea applies to the career decision making process. Notice the word "process" which implies that there are several steps that one would need to follow in order to make a good, informed career decision. Also, developing self awareness is a key component in the process.

As a student at Schoolcraft, whether you know it or not, you are taking the first steps on your own career path. Taking classes, working a job, volunteering, and getting involved in activities on campus are all great ways to start increasing self awareness. Stay open to new, positive experiences as you will want to continue engaging in activities that help you grow personally. Something else you can do is to assess your interests, personality type, and values. In the Counseling and Career Services Department, formal career assessments are available for students to take. There are counselors available at Schoolcraft to help you through this process. Once you've got a few careers in mind and decide what direction to go in you can start developing a "framework". This will allow you to encompass ideas as they come to fruition. For more information and to get started, please contact: (734) 462-4424 or ctc@schoolcraft.edu.

### Letter to the Editor:

"I'll say nothing against him. At one time the whites in the United States called him a racialist, and extremist, and a Communist. Then the Black Muslims came along and the whites thanked the Lord for Martin Luther King. - Malcolm X

Thunderous applause to Connection newspaper columnist, Abdallah Chirazi, for the brilliancy within his January 21, 2013 commentary (Who cares about Malcolm?). Among the many dynamics of logic that Chirazi offers his readers to ponder is the following: «...what about a more realistic idea of celebrating Malcolm and King together on the same day?...Don>t we celebrate Abraham Lincoln and George Washington together on President's Day»? I say to Chirazi... Stay in school and continue to follow academic standards of excellence, for you are one of many, among our nation's future leaders, who will forever bring proposals for change, for the bottom line purpose of assuring the continuation of America's awesomeness. Bravo to you, Mr. Chirazi!!

JuJuan Carlyn Taylor, PhD Professor Chair Department of Communication Arts Schoolcraft College

# Now hiring writers

До уои...

1) Write?

2) Write more?

3) Then write some more?

4) Write when you want to?

5) Write even when you don't want to?
6) Write when you have something to say?
7) Write when you don't have anything to say?

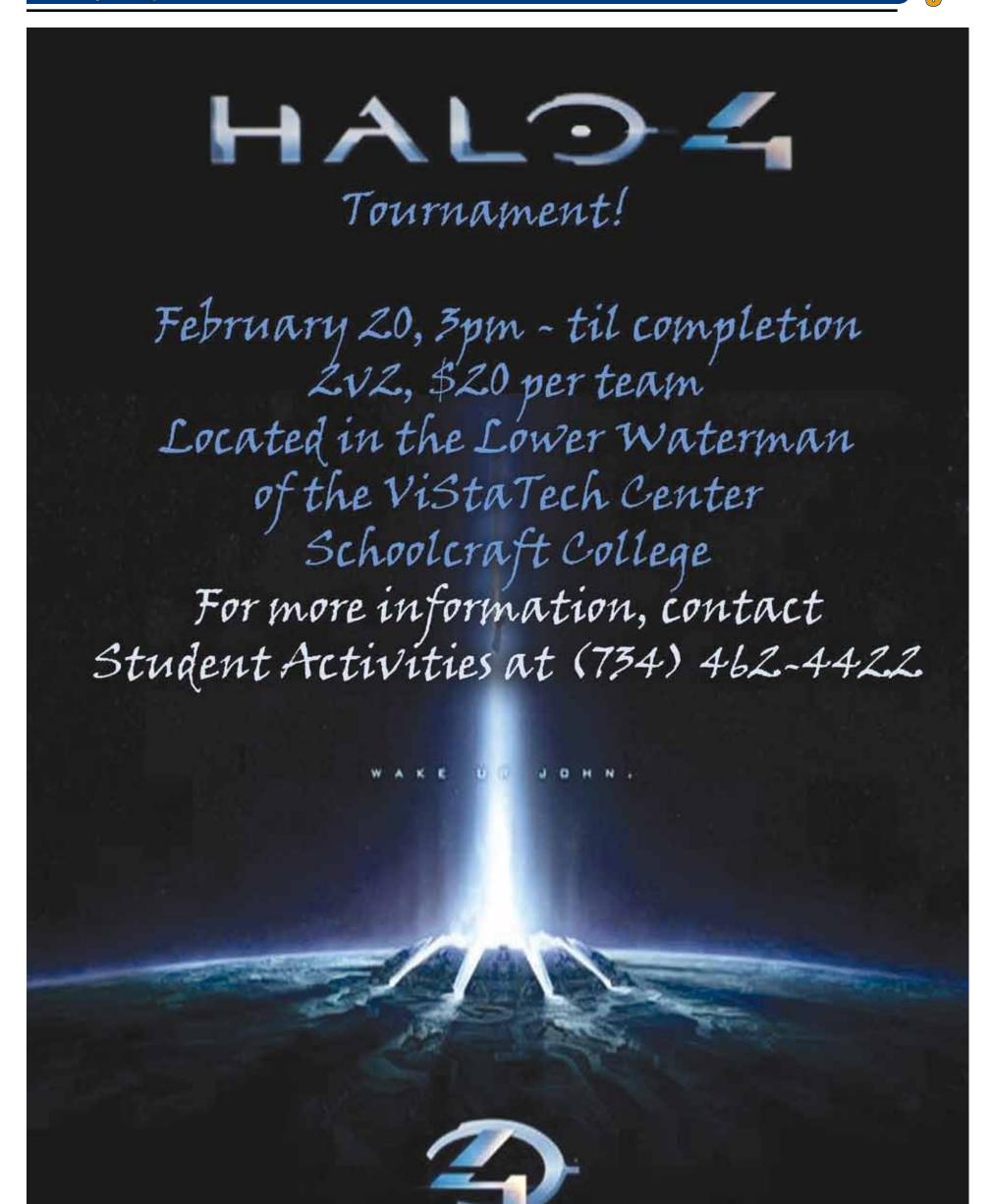
### If you do... we are looking for you!

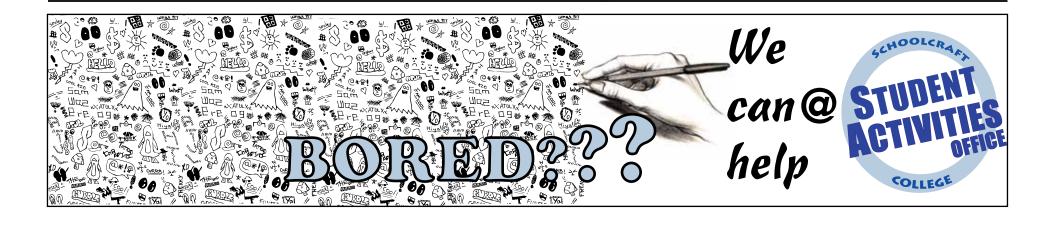
Come see us at the Connection office located at Lower Waterman Center and find out how you can earn some extra cash while writing. No experience required.

Contact us at the Student Activities Office (734) 462-4422.



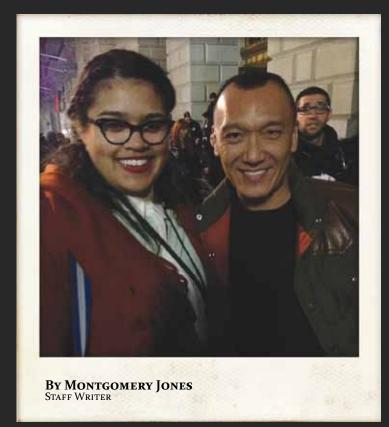






# PURE CHIC MAGIC:

**Alexander Wang's Collection in Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week** 



# My backstage pass to one of the biggest fashion shows of the year

Fashion week happens two times a year: in February to showcase fall clothing and in September to showcase spring clothing. Celebrities come out in full force to support their favorite designers, discovering the latest and biggest trends for the upcoming season. Alexander Wang is one of the most well known American designers today. At only 29 years old, he has established himself amongst the big brands with a rather lengthy celebrity clientele. His clothing and accessories are sold at high-end retail stores and he is now the creative director of the fashion empire Balenciaga, which is quite an impressive resume for an under 30-year-old college dropout.

Wang's show was held in the historical Cunard Building of the Financial District, located in lower Manhattan. The Neo-Renaissance interior was the perfect backdrop for such an extraordinary show, giving off a mysterious and romantic vibe. Outside, paparazzi swarmed the entire building. At one point, a model had to leave the building for a cigarette break. The makeup artists had to completely cover her face and hair so the paparazzi could not get any shots of the final product.

Inside, security personnel had to check identification several times before anyone was allowed in. A designer's family was even having a hard time getting into the show. It took a 10-floor elevator trip to finally reach the backstage scene, which my exclusive pass granted me to access. The moment the elevator doors flung open, it was absolute chaos; there were models being photographed, makeup artists painting faces and continuous reminders that no social media was permitted.

All access to see the show was a whole other ballpark, as Wang's Fall 2013 show was the hardest show to get into this season. With a coveted shout out from Jay-Z in Justin Timberlake's song "Suit & Tie" and an expanding empire, all of fashion's elite turned out to see if Wang would be ready to run two major fashion houses. Feeling pretty special, I

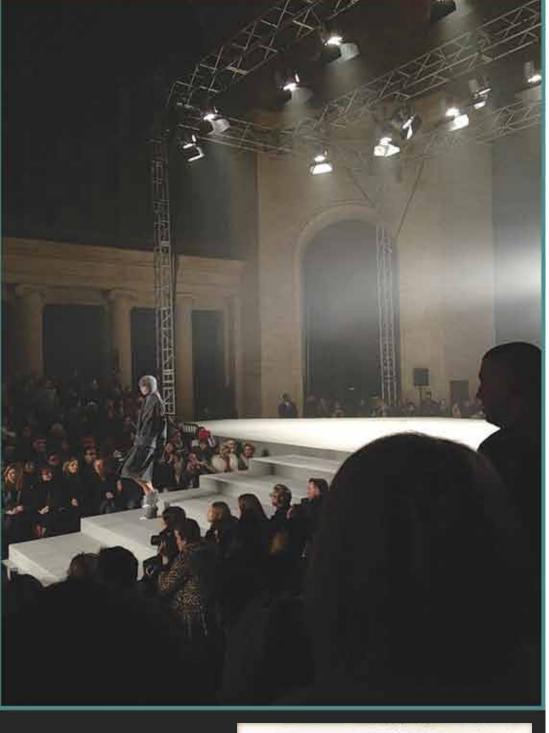
was then escorted down the elevator to observe the show in all of its glory.

The show was supposed to start at 5 p.m. sharp, but apparently starting thirty minutes late surprised no one. Upon entering the beautiful cathedral-like main floor, the runway and lights were placed right in the middle of the hall for everyone to see. Front and center were the fashion royalty, which included Anna Wintour (editor-in-chief of Vogue), Vivienne Westwood (designer), Terry Richardson (photographer), Nina Garcia (creative director of Elle Magazine), and Zoë Kravitz (actress and daughter of Lenny Kravitz) to name a few. The entire fashion industry was eagerly awaiting Wang's debut as Balenciaga director and this show was going to make or break him.

This show ignited a fire for the Wang Fashion Dynasty to rise rather than crash and burn. The central theme of Wang's collection was boxing, with inspiration drawn from "Rocky 3" as "Eye of the Tiger" blasted from the speakers. Models sashayed down the runway and the extraordinary clothing seemed to take on a life of its own. Alexander Wang is known for his impeccable tailoring, mixing of masculine and feminine pieces and his shapely outerwear. This season's collection can be summed up to voluminous designs, oversized mittens and a surplus of fur. Many compared the collection to the classic Parisian looks. "I had in mind the great couturiers of the 30s, 40s, 50s," Wang said about the fashion line, "but interpreted in T-shirts and sweats. That's me. It's sportswear, it's what I wear and what I do."

After the show, Vogue editor-in-chief Anna Wintour sprinted (literally) to her Lincoln town car for a speedy getaway. The other celebrities melted into the massive crowd. It was there that I met the creative director of Elle Magazine, Joe Zee. He was nice enough to take a picture with me.

Leaving the show, I had to shove my way past crowds in order to catch a taxi. This was not my first fashion show nor will it be my last, but as far as Fashion Shows go, it was pure magic.





I'm on top of the world! (A.K.A. the Empire State Building)



Manhattan in the morning

February 18, 2013



# Affordable fashion taking over

# Fashion advice for budget and bargain shoppers

BY CONOR CACICEDO
STAFF WRITER

With these tough economic times, men and women are now faced with the harsh reality that shopping at Nordstrom and Express on a daily basis just is not possible. Shawn O'Brien, a student on campus, agrees and said that he enjoys "clothes that don't break the bank." Having a student budget with expenses that include food, registration fees, textbooks and supplies, it is already too easy to spend your money. Many moons ago, it was unheard of to shop at a thrift store or go to an off-brand store to buy your fashions. Nowadays, with the increase interest in more urban fashions by both sexes and the steady support of many artists like Macklemore and Ke\$ha who express their love for thrift fashion, it is now more common to see more of a grungy look than the upscale mainstream look. The most amazing part

about this new fashion trend is that anyone can pull it off. The key is to see what everyone else is wearing and then add your own twist and flavor to it. The beauty of this trend is that there is no right or wrong way to do it.

You're probably asking yourself where you go to buy these fashions. There is the resale shops Plato's Closet, which has clothing for teen males and females for cheap prices, oftentimes on sale, and there is one located in Novi and Canton. Other places to consider are Value World, with stores in Westland and Ypsilanti, or the Salvation Army thrift stores in Canton, Southfield Livonia and Ann Arbor. Shoppers will be amazed at the great deals and amazing fashion finds that are hidden away in the clothing racks. Kim Zoia, a first year student at Schoolcraft, stated that "shopping smart at thrift stores and the like leaves you feeling like you got your money's worth and feeling like you got it [for] cheaper."

There are other options for those pinching their pennies, so don't limit yourself to one label or one store. Many stores that don't resell have trendy inexpensive options as well. Marshalls, Kohls and JC Penny are also great options for your shopping needs. Another great idea came from student Angela Sera. She said that Forever 21 "can get current fashion but on a college student budget, from \$5-35." So the next time you go out, remember to make your shopping trip affordable and worth the trouble. Spend less and look good doing it.

For all fashion trend questions readers are just dying to have answered or any other topics that you think should be discussed in the pages of The Connection Newspaper, please, contact us at the Student Activities Office by phone at 734-462-4422 or email at sceditor@schoolcraft.edu

# Size struggle

# Former "The Biggest Loser" contestant gives Schoolcraft "the skinny"

BY PETER HUBBARD STAFF WRITER

A former participant of NBC's "The Biggest Loser," Buddy Shuh, will be visiting Schoolcraft College on Feb. 26 to speak about having living large, having big dreams and choosing a healthy lifestyle.

In high school, Buddy Shuh's physical prowess earned him the title of captain for both the football and wrestling teams. Voted "most athletic" in high school, Buddy Shuh never believed he could one day be caught in an overwhelming struggle with obesity. Who could blame him; only a select few gifted individuals are chosen and have the physical prowess necessary to play college football at Ohio State University, which he did. After leaving the team, he continued his studies at Eastern Michigan University and went on to earn his bachelor's degree, but upon graduating, Shuh no longer had the incentive to exercise. Like many other Americans, in a few years the killer combination of too many calories and a lack of exercise took its toll on his body. By the time he was in his midthirties, Shuh weighed a hefty 300+ pounds. However, this is not the end of the story of Buddy Shuh.

First a restaurant manager, then teacher, and now a full-time church

minister, Shuh was thrust into the national spotlight six months ago as a contestant on "The Biggest Loser." Tragedy struck his family in 2005 when his daughter Isabella was born with serious health complications. Missing a spleen and kidney, her five and a half months of life became an emotional storm of harboring hope and agonizing disappointment. Five years after her passing, the grief had manifested itself in an additional hundred pounds and a wardrobe full of 5XL shirts (Shuh would later end up writing the book "The Story of Bella" in an attempt to help others who may have lost a child). Realizing that his health was out of control and knew it was time to change. Shuh realized that if he was going to live to walk his two daughters down the aisle he needed inspiration. In July of 2011 his brother called to inform him of the open casting call for "The Biggest Loser." Hesitant to go and never dreaming of being selected, Shuh agreed.

With a debut weight of 403 pounds, Shuh was the heaviest contestant of his season, but he was determined to give it a shot. In six months his waist shrunk from 54 to 36 inches. That's a weight loss of 173 pounds, almost a pound a day for half a year. No longer needing blood pressure medication or a sleep apnea machine, Shuh's overall health recovered swiftly.





Pastor Buddy Shuh will be on campus to speak to students about pursuing their dreams. The presentation starts at 2 p.m. on Feb. 26 in the Presentation Room 550 of VisTaTech.

Shuh now believes he has been given a gift and a blessing. He is trying to give that gift to others by sharing what he has learned. He modestly says that "God, in His love for me, had other plans." Speaking at schools, churches and businesses, he reminds us that going after the dreams, even the challenging ones,

is a pursuit worth taking. He wants to bring hope wherever he goes, and that includes to the student body of Schoolcraft College. Come and listen for yourself: Buddy Shuh, Tuesday Feb. 26, 2013, 2-3pm in the VisTaTech presentation room 550. Don't miss out, because there is so much to *lose* if you do.

# Diary of an immigrant

# Learning and unlearning culture: Part One

BY URMILA BILGI ASSISTANT LAYOUT EDITOR

After the trip to India, resuming school was very hard, but the one thing that kept me going was the knowledge I was gaining. My program in Children's literature and media was a gateway to not only understanding how society views childhood, critiquing literature and electronic media, but a passage to self-realization as well. After reading novels, exploring literary theories and watching movies, I felt as if the literature was speaking to me. I felt as if I was on a journey to intellectual enlightenment.

I remember reading "Speak" by Laurie Halse Anderson for an adolescent literature class and it left me speechless. After reading Mary Pipher's "Reviving Ophelia," the theory literature for this class, my life turned upside down because it felt like I was reading about myself. This essay was about how girls are feisty in their childhood but after puberty society lays pressure on them to fit into certain standards, which ends up confusing and suppressing them. For example, as a kid, the girl in the story played with other boys and girls, climbed trees and probably did everything else she felt like without feeling judged. However, during adolescence, girls are expected to behave in an "appropriate" manner as defined by peers and societal norms. Even though this article was about the American society, I could relate it to the Indian culture and hence it had relevance to my life. I clearly remembered my family disciplining me for my "non-ideal" behavior as an Indian girl, though it was with good intentions.

During the class discussion about "Speak," our professor told us that if a man insists on sexual intercourse, and if the girl Changes her mind at the last minute, it is still considered as rape. It took me a long time to comprehend this. In India, I was always told that it was the girl's fault for dressing inappropriately or inviting sexual desires from men. It was after many invigorating class discussions that I understood the true meaning of feminism. It meant respecting a woman's choice. It became such an endearing part of my life that I started perceiving the world differently.

During one such incident in 2009, a popular Bollywood actress claimed that she was not a feminist. Honestly, I don't care whether a woman labels herself a feminist or not, it's the misinterpretation that bothers me. "I am not a feminist like my character in the movie," she said. "I am the complete opposite in real life [...] totally sensitive and a simple girl."

Another exciting revelation surfaced from a world mythology class. We studied Christian, Germanic Roman, Hindu, Greek and other mythologies.

I was amazed at the uncanny similarities between plots of various mythologies. Although the intentions behind narratives were noble, their manifestation in the form of religion causes people to often fight for land and the integrity of their communities. That got me thinking: if these are stories written to cultivate ideal conduct in people, then why make the stories so larger than life?

And then suddenly it all became clear to me. Our teacher talked about how adults would read the stories to children and ask at the end, "What's the moral of the story?" They make sure that kids learn the moral but they forget to draw attention to the overall beauty of the passage. Similarly, when people are asked to follow religious norms, we end up mindlessly obeying but neglecting the reason behind it.

It was after this incident that I looked at Hinduism with an objective eye, which brought a whole new perspective. Honestly, it was much more liberating. For example, I thought of my grandma who forbade me to go near deities or work in the kitchen during certain times of the month, or my mother reminding me to light a lamp and pray in front of the deity every evening. The only explanation given if I didn't do so was that I would incur the wrath of God. Even though I argued, I ended up feeling guilty for not following their instructions. I always wished to be free of these karmic retributions.

Studying mythology empowered me to set myself free from these inhibitions. In reality, these norms were observed during my grandma's age, as women did laborious work while taking care of their homes. So bringing God into the picture made sure that women during their menstrual cycles got rest. Similarly, lighting a lamp in the evening and praying meant taking out time for yourself, where you leave your concerns behind and relax for some time. I agreed with the preaching, but I realized that my beliefs should be more relevant today. More importantly, being "good" should be a way of life and not because somebody superior to you will punish you.

"I was so relieved after coming with terms to my beliefs," I wrote in my diary. "Now only if I could convince people around me, I would be able to stop half of the wars in the world!"

By Makenzie Brown



Help! My English teacher told us to write a paper about ourselves, but I have no idea where to start! Those were her only instructions, and the paper is worth 50 percent of our grade!

-ProblemsWithPapers

### Dear ProblemsWithPapers,

Consider writing a personal narrative for your teacher. This is an exciting way of expressing who you are, rather than listing random facts about yourself. Not only will it impress your teacher, but you will also stand out among your classmates for embracing the opportunity to be more creative with your writing.

The easiest part about writing in this style is that it is all about you. You are already full of the details necessary for a successful paper because personal narratives describe your experiences. Think about an event, an encounter, a person, or an activity that has impacted you greatly or has taught you a valuable lesson. Sharing this will become the purpose of your essay. Any essay worth reading must be written for a specific reason. Otherwise, it is pointless, and your reader will lose interest.

In the body paragraphs of your essay, let your story flow across the page. Use as much description and vivid imagery as necessary for the reader to fully visualize the experience. Since your narrative is personal, it should be written in the first person. To bring your narrative to life, incorporate ample dialogue among your characters. Use specific language and sensory details to convey exactly what you saw, touched, tasted, heard and smelled – the fluffy cloud, the scorching sun, the sour candy, the high-pitched screech and the pungent smell. Your feelings and emotions are important parts of your story that should be relayed to the reader as well.

Think of your personal narrative as a short story. You should stay organized, usually chronologically, and include one or more themes. Either your theme will both be directly stated in a

thesis and reinforced by the conclusion, or it may be implied throughout the plot. There are five elements of structure that are critical in story writing.

First, you must develop the setting of your story included where and when the situation takes place. Were you lying out under the tingling rays of the sun on the soft sand of a beach, listening to the gentle waves as they hit the shore? Maybe you were at a theme park riding a roller coaster down a steep hill while your feet dangled below you. Second, decide which characters and personalities you will develop in your story. Third, remember that every story involves a conflict, so be sure to frame the storyline around it. The fourth element of a narrative is the events surrounding the conflict, where the main character (you) will strive to resolve the issue. The resolution to the problem is the fifth element of the narrative.

Personal narratives are a wonderful way of entertaining your readers by sharing a memorable experience. Your teacher will enjoy reading your paper and will appreciate all of the thought you put into it. Unless your instructor has given specific instruction, do not be overly concerned with the length of the paper. If you'd like an extra set of eyes to glance at your paper for grammar and structure before you pass it on to your instructor, be sure to visit the Writing Fellows in the Bradner Library.

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



This semester, the noon concert series at Schoolcraft College welcomes some exciting performers, faces both familiar and new, to grace the stage of the VisTaTech Center. The next musicians scheduled are the Gary Schunk Trio on Wednesday, Feb. 20.

Schunk is a classically trained jazz pianist. He will be playing alongside bandmates Dan Kolton on bass and Bill Higgins Jr. on percussion. The group is versatile and exciting and introduce a unique blend of acoustic and synthesized sounds.

Schunk graduated from Michigan State University with his B.A. in Piano Performance. He has performed with a number of renowned companies such as the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, various traveling theatre productions for the Fisher Theatre and even worked with some of Motown's hottest acts like the Temptations, the Spinners and Gladys Knight and the Pips.

After the trio comes the annual Music Faculty

recital. A collection of Schoolcraft's own gather together and show students and audience members what they are made of. Those on the list to perform this semester include Stijn De Cock, Paul Michalsen, Dr. Barton Polot and Dr. Riccardo Selva. All performers are instructors here at Schoolcraft, and this is a wonderful opportunity for students to gain a full perspective of what their learning, not to mention a chance to see their teachers shine. The concert is set for Wednesday, March 20, and is a favorite of the noon concert series.

For any additional information on the noon concert recitals or other concerts on campus, check out the Schoolcraft's Music Department website at www.schoolcraft.edu/music/wednesdays or call 734-462-4403. These concerts are free to the public and the seating is first come, first serve. Check out the delightful sounds of the noon recitals on campus this semester.

# **Campus Events**



# **Movie Night**

with
Jackson Katz Seminar
Feb. 19
6 - 8 p.m.

Lower Waterman

St. Leo's Soup Kitchen

Feb. 23

8 a.m.

Meet in the Lower
Waterman to carpool

Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) Meeting

Feb. 25

noon

**Lower Waterman** 

# **Deadline**

to apply to become a Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) officer tor next year

Feb. 28

Sign up in the SAO

For more information contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422



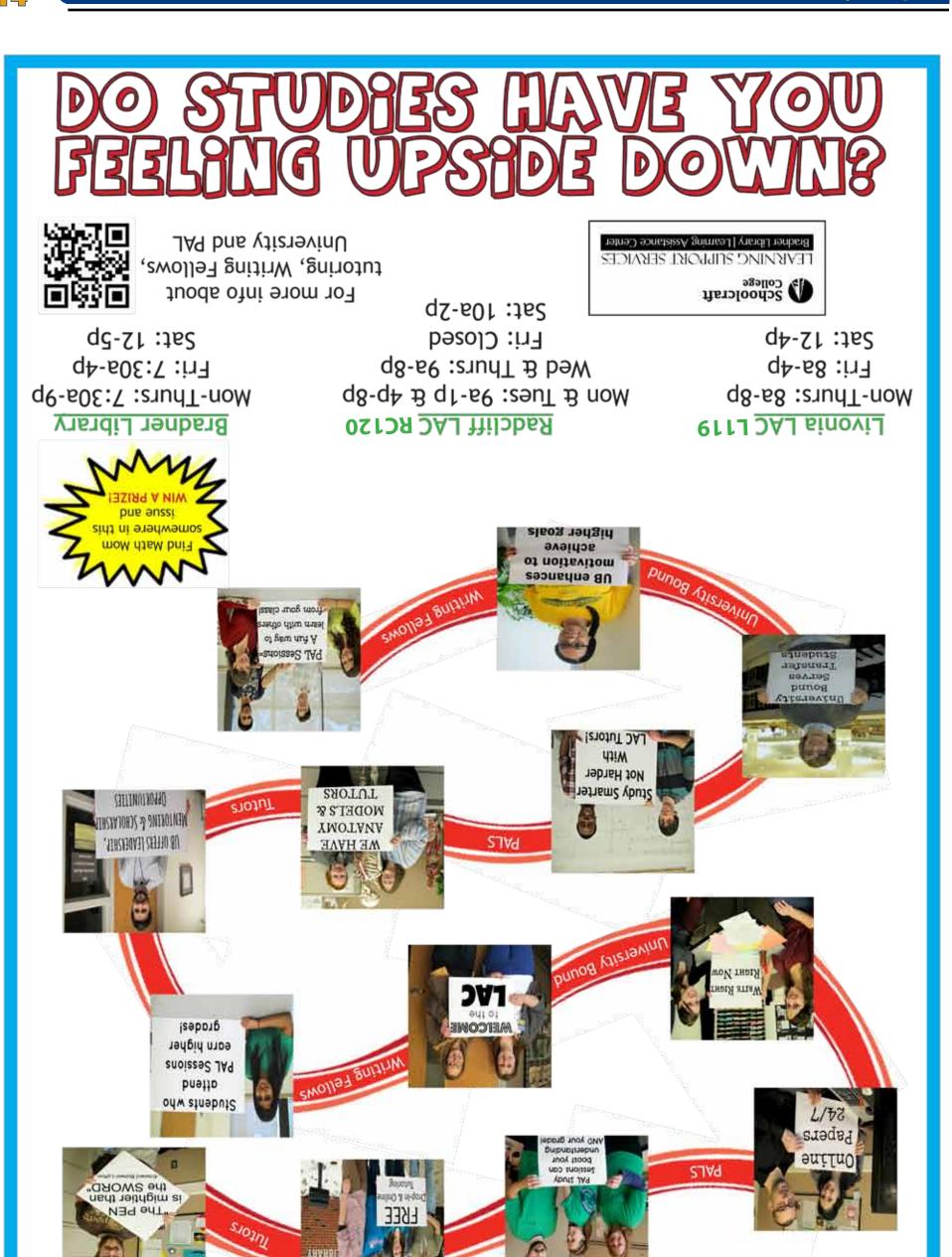
# Take a break!

**Enjoy free** 

- Movies
- -Popcorn
- -Ping pong
  - -Pool
- -Video games
  - -Friends

and lot more @

**Student Activities Office** 







# Dean's List

### **Academic Achievement**

Each semester we recognize students for high academic achievement by naming them to the Dean's List. The minimum requirements for fall or winter semester are:

- Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits during the semester with a semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher. The College sends a letter of recognition to students' homes and notifies hometown newspapers.
- Part-time students who, after completing a total of 12, 24, 36, 48, and 60 credit hours, have earned a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or higher. The College sends a letter of recognition to students' homes.

Aaron Abbott Rachel Abraham Lloyd Abrahams Nur Abu-lawi Mohammad Achkar Hayley Ackerman Zaneta Adamenka Alyssa Adams Rebecca Adamski Shade Adesina Srividhya Adimoorthy Joan Adinuso Andrea Adkins **Brittany Adkins** Mohammad Afzal Alice Ahearn Hassan Ahmad Brandi Ahner Khalil Ajami Lila Ajami Ibrahim Alame Jad Alame Salah Alawgari Nicole Albert Amanda Albin Tiffany Alder Deborah Aldrich Eric Alexander **Gregory Alexiev** Serena Al-Farah Karen Alford Rachel Alkubani Chelsea Allen Deandre' Allen Richard Allen Vincent Allen Ali Alley Nicole Allgeyer Laura Allor Andrew Allred Ahmed Alnakhala Alexandria Alonzo Hiba Alsuleiman Carlos Alvarado Michael Amaniera **Bradley Ambrose** Cassie Amburgey Krystal Ames Jinal Amin **Jacqueline** Amore Kaitlyn Anagnostou Donna Anastasia Jenna Anastos Philip Anders Cassandra Anderson Miranda Anderson

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James Bankert

Chelsea Bantau

Jillian Baranek Jacqueline Barber Joseph Barber Oana Barbu Penny Barcome-Labean Gabrielle Bardell Rvan Bardusch Michael Barnes Brenda Barnett Michelle Barnett Aaron Barnhart Steven Barnhart Barbara Barreto Samantha Barta Chelsea Barton Seth Barton Olga Baruk Nathaniel Basch Nicole Basch Umamaheswari Baskaran Audrey Baskin Eric Basner Sarita Batra Dayna Baugh Haley Baumgardner Brandon Baumgart Fatima Bazzi Jonathon Beal N'dyah Beamon Adam Beauchamp Donna Beaumont Joanne Becker Karen Becker Leanne Becker Tracy Beer Walter Beers Jason Beever Samantha Beier Elizabeth Beiser Steven Belanger Patricia Belczak **Bradley Belesky** Marina Belfiore Randi Bell Robyn Bell Tais Bellagamba Sheena Beltz Diane Belyk Ana Benavidez Ioshua Bennett **Thomas Bennett Zachary Bennett** Jessica Bennett Julian Begiri Brianna Berberet

Kayla Berendt

Grantham Bettner Amal Beydoun Alisha Beyer Navneet Bhangu Payal Bhatt Ann Bickmann Maureen Biddinger-Grisius David Bierkamp Urmila Bilgi Branden Bilicki Benn Bilinski Mary Bilko Kari Bingham **Emily Birchler Emily Bird** Ioan Birsan Latoya Bishop Brian Black Stacey Blackburn Rachel Blackney Joseph Blake Justin Blalock Abbey Blanchard Alexa Blanchard **Brittany Blanchard** Alexander Blank Noelle Blasch Cecelia Blazejewski Devon Bleyaert Janet Bliss Mark Blumhardt Jessica Boback Joseph Bockstanz Colton Bodrie **Emilie Boggs** Denisa Boguszewski Edward Bohach Michael Bojovic Mark Bolak Karissa Bolish Sahit Bollineni Michael Bologna Carrolyn Bolster Kimberly Bonenfant **Bethany Bonenfant** Anthony Bonnett Nathan Boos Thomas Booza Sharmila Bopanna Frank Borg Alanna Bosen Miracle Bosi Robin Boucha Sally Boulis Brandon Boyd Kevin Boyer Andrew Bradley Tennille Bradley Keri Brandon Angela Brandt

Heather Brannon

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Laurie Brenton

Erin Brewer

Leah Bridge

Sarah Brewer

Meghan Brennan

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Michelle Bergman

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Kristi Bernwanger

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Kimberly Carr

Mandy Carriere Rachel Carroll **Audrey Carson** Laura Caruso Maggie Caruso Molly Caruso Jeffrey Carver Maha Casey David Cash Robert Casler Stephan Cass Danya Castro Maria Castro Ciara Catalla Judith Catner Benjamin Catterall Anisa Caushi Samantha Caves Marla Cencer Alyssa Cercone Chad Cezon Amy Chaban Renee Chahil Claire Chalmers Anne Chambers Joseph Chambers Jessica Chaney Jacob Chapman Angela Charbeneau Catherine Charniga Alexandria Chase Matthew Chateauvert Janet Chatel Stephen Cheek Yung-Ming Chen Pam Chiesa Karen Chiles Imad Chmeissani Deborah Christiansen Angela Christopher Polina Chulakov Cory Church Haley Chynoweth Michael Ciaramitaro Andrew Ciarkowski Dante Cicchelli Zach Cichon John Cicotte Mark Cicotte Matthew Cilibraise Matthew Cipriani Jessica Clare Adam Clark Margaret Clark Rachel Clark Sean Clark Alexandra Clark Brent Clark Danielle Clem Michelle Clements Samuel Clements Aaron Clifton **Bradley Clinansmith** Jessica Coatsworth Bryan Cochren Michael Cole Jeffery Coleman Lisa Coleman Melissa Colflesh **David Collins Kelsey Collins** Sheila Collins Carolyn Collins Christopher Collinsworth Erin Condon **Darren Conerly** Jenae Conley Ryan Conn Rachael Conroy Alicia Cook

Desiree Cook Dylan Cook Jeffrey Cook Steven Cook Christopher Cooke Jennifer Cooper Nicholas Cooper Cortney Cooper Jennifer Copley Alexandra Cordon David Cosman George Coss Linda Cotter **Brian Couture** Alexis Cox Sara Cragun Renee Craske Devin Crawford Donnette Crawford Matthew Crawford Amber Creedon Efua Crentsil **Brian Crosby Thomas Crouch** Melissa Crowley Todd Crowley Lisa Cruz Theresa Cruz Neil Culbertson Owen Cunningham Jenna Currier Chelsea Curtis Stephanie Curtis Matthew Cusin Scott Cutcher Marie Czarnomski Sarah Czarnomski Zachary D' Agostino Riad Dabaja Frederick Dahl Muna Dakka Jessica Dale Morgan Dalrymple Jonathan Dalton Elizabeth Daly Josh Damesworth Ann Damron Maria Damron Dungnhi Dang Tenille Daniel **Evangela Daniels** Keith Daniels Nicole Daniels Steven Daniels Theresa Daniels Ethan Danke Joshua Danko Mitchell Daoust **Bethany Darr** Timothy Daul Gerald David Rourick David Ashley Davidson **Andrew Davies** Celeste Davis **Grace Davis** Jacob Davis Jorrie Davis **Keith Davis** Kourtni Davis **Kyle Davis Edward Davis** Patrick Davison Mary Dawson Jonathan Day Jeffrey Day

Namrata Dayana

Ashley Deal

Lisa De La Fuente-Purdy

Maria Aida de la Pena

Robert Easley

Jordan Eastman

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**Emily Gerds** 

Tara Gessler

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Danielle Janevski

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Randall Janisch James Janson Jr Lynsey Jarczewski Nicole Jaros Samantha Jarrett Austin Jatczak Ahmad Jawad Rene Jaworski Forrest Jayson Ziad Jbeily Edward Jean Eva Jedruszko Maxwell Jenkins Valerie Jenkins Jennifer Jennings Rachel Jennings Roxanne Jensen Jiyeon Jeon Matthew Jesse Jasdeep Jhajj Hassan Jibril Areeba Jibril Armen Jilian Andrea Jimenez Karly Jodway David Johnson **Emily Johnson Emily Johnson** Eric Johnson Jessica Johnson Julie Johnson Kelly Johnson Letishia Johnson Lisa Johnson Tawanda Johnson Susan Johnson Catherine Johnston Katelyne Johnston Jeremy Jones **Lindsey Jones** Juline Jordan Sahar Jordan Marc Jordano Christopher Joseph Natasha Jovanovski Jennifer Juranek Ashley Justin Dora Juvenal-Escalante Usha Kadiyala Rama Kadri Charles Kaiser Nicholas Kaiser Gregory Kaiser Jayson Kakos Tyler Kaldobsky Adam Kalza Martha Kamindo David Kaminsky Amanda Kamrath Scott Kantola Rachael Kapchus Kristina Kapedani Friederike Kappe Walter Kargus V Pratima Karnik Ryan Karol Kelly Karst Heidi Kaschub Deana Kasmi Majed Kassis Robin Kassis Jessica Kassis Nicholas Kasza Frederick Keebler John Keeth Matthew Kehn Erin Kelly Lori Kelly-Wheeler Alisa Kelsey

Kara Kempinski

Kelly Kendall

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Vanessa Kennedy Katherine Keppen Kim Kern Rebecca Kern Kristopher Kerr Evan Kerstein James Key Haris Khan Hiba Khan Muna Khan William Khleif Natalie Khoury Noor Khoury Anthony Kiefer Helen Kiefer Andrew Kieltyka Careen Kienbaum Mark Kierczak Shelby Kierczak Courtney Kihn Corissa Kijek **Bruce Kilgore** Lorne Kilgore Ryan Kilgore Rebecca Killian Paige Killingbeck Alex Kim Hyang Kim Sul Gi Kim Yongtae Kim Cheryl Kimball Olviya Kindratyshyn Jeremy King Matthew King Ronda King Theresa King Trevor King Victoria Kinsler Colleen Kirby Tiffany Kirby Billie Kirk Joseph Kittel Kristin Klavon Angela Klein Pia-Riitta Klein Shawn Klemola Tricia Kless Mary Kline Mallary Kloc Jenna Klomparens Stephen Klos Michelle Klotz Ryan Kmieciak Joanne Knapp Gilbert Knie Michael Kobylarek David Koch Allison Kochanowski Teresa Koda Deanna Kolinski Kristin Komander Poornima Kondagunta Jason Konopacki Reshmie Kottoor Candace Kotulak Olesia Koval Samantha Kowalski Deborah Kozdron Janice Kozlowski Brandon Kozyn Megan Krajewski Alycia Krause Jordan Kreda Erin Krey Joshua Kreza Zackary Kreza Jonathan Kris Michelle Kroll Katie Kron Jennifer Kropp Joseph Kruliski Andrew Krupsky

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Anh Phan

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Jenson Phillips

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Gomathy Ramanujam Roberth Ramirez Philip Ramsden Andrew Randall Nicholas Randall David Rase Holly Rash Tamika Rashad James Rashid Daniel Rathburn Jacqueline Ratkos **Courtney Rattray** Rachel Raupp Derek Rautio Heidy Rautiola Chetana Ray Jordan Ray Andrew Ray Catherine Ray Mary Ray Mustafa Raychouni Anthony Raymond Tamara Reardon Jennifer Rebain Charles Redmond Tarah Redmond **Brady Rees** Miranda Reichow Dawn Reid Courtney Remijan Nicholas Rende Nicholas Rennell Alexander Reno Deanna Rensi Lucas Resetar Eva Resuli Thaddeus Revels Michelle Rhodes Lesli Rhoton Alyssa Rice John Rice Matthew Richard Shelly Richard Jennifer Richards Kyle Richards Kaitlyn Richardson Margaret Richardson Tamara Richardson Michael Ricketts Ryan Rieben Giselle Riker Christian Riley Tyler Riley Jolene Rippee Chelsea Roach James Roach Nancy Roberts Jeffrey Roberts Eric Robinson Kaitlin Robinson Sir Robinson Maria Cielito Robles Kasandra Rochon Shayne Rodgers Hannah Rodwell Chelsey Roe **Emily Roe Daniel Rogers** Robert Rogers Rachel Rogers Artur Rogowski Dustin Rokita Georjeanne Romain Lisa Romanauski Kristine Root Lisa Root David Ropchan Jerry Rosenbauer

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**Evan Ross** 

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Norman Schroder

Robert Schurig III

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Amanda Schwandt Kristen Schwarz Thomas Sciatto Aaron Scott Alexis Scott **Eric Scott** Sarah Scott Kyle Seale Kirsten Seay Danielle Seewald Leida Seewald Shannon Seewald Alexander Seger Christina Segovia Amber Seiler Paulina Sekulla Kelly Selais Ovsek Krysta Senczysyzn Jessica Sentman Salvatore Serrian **Daniel Seta Aubrey Setlock** Anthony Sewell Mary Sexton Lauren Shaffer Nidhi Shah Muhammad Shahid Rabita Shamsher Lori Shaney Carrie-Charlene Shannon Gary Sharland Amber Sharp Carolyn Sharpe **Zachary Sharples** Stephanie Shatzman Noah Shaver **Taylor Shaw** Shari Shaw Michael Shay Olha Shchadylo Shannon Shelander Michael Shepherd Deborah Sheppard Nathaniel Sherrit Jaimie Shields Anne Shimbo Yadira Shollenberger Alyssa Shomsky Jordan Short **Grant Showerman** Justin Shureb Khadija Siddiqui Sierra Sider Morgan Sieber Gemina Siewicki Lottie Sikora Matthew Sikora Edwin Silva Misty Silverman Brian Silvi Rebecca Simmons Paige Simon Shannon Simoneau **Carol Simons** Joel Simpson **Shannon Sims** Amandeep Singh Bhupinder Singh Gagandeep Singh Alex Sinn Jeremy Sinnott Tyler Sismey Awatif Siwani Beth Skarnulis Ellyn Skicki Mark Skotak Anastasiya Slaughter Margaret Slavik Michael Sleeper Ibrahim Sleiman Courtney Smallwood Alexis Smith Angela Smith **Brittany Smith** Daniel Smith Hannah Smith Jason Smith Jeremy Smith Jordan Smith Katelin Smith Lawrence Smith Matthew Smith Maxwell Smith Melissa Smith Michelle Smith Patrick Smith Robert Smith Scott Smith Tanisha Smith Teresa Smith Timothy Smith Veda Smith Sally Smith Samantha Smothers Randle Snell Jr Jaclyn Snider **April Snody** Chelsea Snyder Rebecca Snyder Nanci Solace Suhayr Solangi Craig Solarz Danielle Soldan Shannon Solomon Sunita Somani Ashley Somerville Jalpa Sompura Paul Soranno Kory Sosnowski Courtney Soto Julia Sousan Colleen Southers Adam Spaeth Kendra Sparks Nicholas Sparks Angela Spear Janet Spehar **Aaron Spencer** Carey Spencer Maria Alexandra Spencer Dennis Spino Caitlin Spooner Andrew Springfield **Brittany Sprinkles** Tara Sproull **Kelly Spunar** Melissa Stachulski Carmen Stafie Christina Stahl **Kevin Standifer** Rebecca Staniek Ryan Stanislawski Jeffrey Stankoff Andrea Stark Robert Stark Joseph Starr Nikolas Stavreski Jessica Stavrou **Zachary Stearnes** Joanne Stefanik Mary Stefanofski Danielle Stephens **Shannon Stephens** Scott Stern Lindsey Steshetz Amber Stetson Elizabeth Stevens Lakeya Stevens Lance Stevens **Stephanie Stevers** Randi Stitt

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# NTERTAINMENT

February 18, 2013

# Oscar J

By Alys Dolan. Carlos Razo, & Todd Walsh Editor in Chief & Staff Writers

### "Les Misérables"

Tom Hooper's innovative musical epic is quickly becoming one of the most talked about films of the awards season, due to its revolutionary approach to the genre and vivid presentation. Anne Hathaway and Hugh Jackman give unforgettable performances and could easily take home the Oscars for their portrayals of the prostitute Fantine and the ex-convict Jean Valjean, respectively. The set design, costuming, and make-up are all high contenders for their corresponding awards, as the look of the film is just as absorbing as the story itself. All of this singing was recorded live on set, which is ambitious for any musical (especially one that reaches



three hours in length), and gives this film a strong chance of taking home the sound awards as well. "Les Misérables" is quickly becoming one of the most beloved films of the year by both fans who have loved the musical for years and by those still learning how to pronounce the title.

### "Argo"

Ben Affleck has never been looked upon as one of cinema's finest actors, but with three excellent films under his direction, Affleck has proven himself as a surprisingly competent director. Based on an incredible true story, "Argo" tells the story of CIA agent Tony Mendez and his plan to rescue six Americans who are being held hostage in Iran, using the production of a fake movie as his cover-up. The two hour film flies by, thanks to razor-sharp editing that earned a nomination. Affleck leads the cast in a solid performance, and wonderful supporting roles include John Goodman, Bryan Cranston and Alan Arkin in a best



Kathryn Bigelow's ambitious action-thriller seems tailor-made for the Oscar race, masterfully earning every single nomination it received. Jessica Chastain, who has just recently found mainstream success, is proving to be one of the most talented actresses around, earning critical acclaim for every role she has played. The nominated screenplay is densely written, but also remarkably clear, containing a nice balance of conspiracy, drama and humor. Bigelow, who had a massive hit with 2008's "The Hurt Locker," seems destined to win another



major award for her work, and perhaps this film's complex storytelling and deliberate direction will get her just that. It's also darkly political enough to generate major media buzz if it happens to become the Oscar sweeper this year.

# "Beasts of the Southern Wild"

"Beasts of the Southern Wild" is a major artistic endeavor, where the visuals of the film play a heavy role in the storytelling. It is similar to last year's visually stunning nominee, "The Tree of Life." The film follows the adventure of a young girl named Hushpuppy who must learn about courage and love as she faces her hot-tempered father and a flood that shakes up her community. It is Benh Zeitlin's debut film as a director and is a movie like no other. The story is told through the eyes of a five year-old girl, which is uncommon to films of this genre. The fantasy elements provided by Hushpuppy's imagination gives the film a



deeper sense and allows the audience to feel through the eyes of a child. The cinematography captures the atmosphere flawlessly. The acting is strong, especially from nine year-old Quvenzhane Wallis, who is nominated for an Academy Award. The film takes viewers to places beyond the imagination through the wonder of film.

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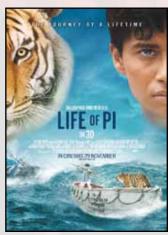
# Jominations Jominations



supporting actor nominated role. Affleck's knack for excellent casting and edge-of-your seat thrills makes this one of the films to beat come Oscar night. This is one of those great occasions where the movie is about movies and the excitement and escapism that only the big-screen can bring.

### "Life of Pi"

Director Ang Lee has crafted an inspiring work of art in the form of "Life of Pi;" based on a book many once said was "unfilmable." The picture unfolds in strict three-act fashion, with a majority of the film taking place in the middle of the ocean on a small, wooden life boat. Pi spends this section of the film alone with four animals: an orangutan, a zebra, a hyena, and most notably, a tiger named Richard Parker. The four animals are created using stunning, photo-realistic computer animation and could easily take home the visual effects awards as well. With the help of the computer effects, Lee and his team were able to digitally create some



of the most mesmerizing images created this year, earning nominations in both cinematography and production design. Written with some interesting religious themes and a twist that changes the idea of conventional story-telling, "Life of Pi" is an excellent film as both a piece of art and an impressive technical accomplishment.

### "Django Unchained"

The master of American film, Quentin Tarantino has produced another remarkable piece of work in the form of "Django Unchained," a mash-up of spaghetti westerns and 70's "blaxploitation" films. Jamie Foxx stars as the title character, a newly freed slave turned bounty-hunter, who is recruited by Dr. King Schultz, charismatically played by Christopher Waltz (also nominated for his role). Leonardo DiCaprio delivers one of his most entertaining performances to date, though he sadly did not receive a nomination for his work. Tarantino's incredible dialogue writing abilities are fully demonstrated in this film, writing scenes that jump quickly between hilarious banter to gut-wrenching



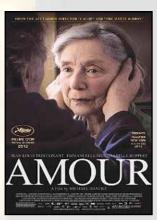
violence with perfect fluidity, never missing a beat. It may just be bold and smart enough to be the surprise winner this year, and considering all the nominees have previously won, the Academy surely wouldn't hesitate awarding them again. You can feel Tarantino's love for film in every shot, every line of dialogue, and every drop of blood.

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tor Michael Haneke. Haneke dwells on the everyday moments of sharing your life with someone and perfectly captures the five stages of grief. It is a powerful reminder of how tragedy does happen, but life goes on. It's also nominated for Best Foreign Film.

# "Silver Linings Playbook"

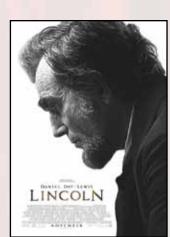
"Silver Linings Playbook" stars Bradley Cooper as Pat Salitano Jr. who struggles with bipolar disorder and his desperation to reunite with his ex-wife. However, his entire plan changes when he meets a girl with her own set of problems named Tiffany (Jennifer Lawrence). The two develop a friendship through helping the other, even though they butt heads. Tiffany agrees to help Pat get back together with his wife, only if he enters a dance competition with her. The movie does a fascinating take on the



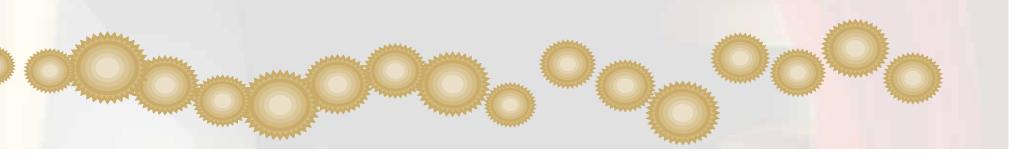
realism of mental illness and the stigma it has from society, and each actor gives a genuine and truthful performance. While it suffers from the traditional predictable elements featured in most romantic comedies, that doesn't stop the film from being charming.

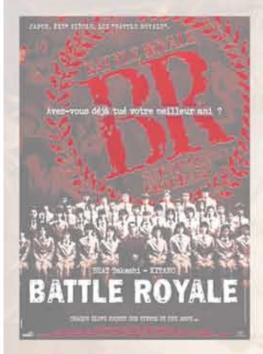
### "Lincoln"

This captivating account of the ratification of the 13th Amendment is by far one of the best movies released this year. The film artistically and with surprising accuracy follows President Abraham Lincoln during the last few months of the Civil War. Director Steven Spielberg's eye combined with the sensational casting of Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field and Tommy Lee Jones takes this story out of the history books and onto the silver screen. The film demonstrates the



great challenges politicians faced due to the major divide between the two parties, a strange link to the current divide between modern day Republicans and Democrats. This is the film to beat this year.





# HARL ENPURIS A CHRISTMAS TALES ATUM IN JAMAGE WILLOWNER





# Friday Night Rentals

# Foreign films

BY JONATHAN KING, MICHAEL KING, & TODD WALSH ONLINE CONTENT EDITOR & STAFF WRITERS

### "Rare Exports" (2010)

December may be long gone, but that doesn't mean you can't bundle up and enjoy a nice Christmas movie. Especially when that movie is the twisted Finnish take on the story of Ol' Saint Nick, "Rare Exports."

The film focuses on a group of reindeer herders, whose lives are disturbed when a nearby mountain is excavated, revealing "the largest burial mound in the world." At first this is just an annoyance, but things take a dark turn when reindeer turn up inexplicably slaughtered and children go missing along with every radiator in town. When a mysterious bearded visitor turns up in a wolf trap, it becomes clear that the Santa Claus myth is more than just a story.

Contrary to most holiday classics, "Rare Exports" is dark and inventive, with a distinctly off-kilter sense of humor. The film never quite goes in the direction you would expect it to, which leads to some moments of absurd abandon that twist and turn the story in all directions. The ending, in particular, is delightfully strange and a million miles away from anything you would have expected prior, yet it caps the story off perfectly.

"Rare Exports" is simply too novel to be missed, blending moods and genres into a strange concoction that combines fantasy, horror, comedy and Christmas cheer. If you're in the mood for some freaky Finnish bullwhackery, then this is one holiday treat that can be enjoyed all year 'round.

### "The Secret of Kells" (2009)

Some books take a lifetime to finish, but others require an even greater sacrifice. Such is the case with the illustrious Book of Kells. A film that is simultaneously Irish, French and Belgian in origin, "The Secret of Kells" tells a fantastical account of this book's creation, and is a standout effort in the realm of European animation within the last decade.

The film takes place at the Abbey of Kells in eighth century Ireland and follows Brendan, a young boy who develops a fascination with the art of illumination – the intricate decoration of sacred manuscripts. This fascination leads Brendan to taking over the work of master illuminator Aiden, whose old age has affected his hands and eyesight. However, dark forces and an impending Viking-attack hinder his task, as Brendan works to protect his home and finish the Book of Kells.

Visually, "The Secret of Kells" feels like a Celtic answer to the wonderment of Miyazaki. ("The Secret Of Kells" was nominated for a Best Animated Feature Academy Award alongside Miyazaki's "Ponyo"). The film, which is mostly hand-drawn, is vibrantly filled with immense detail and beautiful abstraction, with artwork based off of medieval illuminated manuscripts. Though the story is calmly paced, the experience is made engaging through the breathtaking visuals.

"The Secret of Kells" hearkens back to Disney's golden era with a simple fantasy tale presented exquisitely through master class animation. Any fans of animation or fantasy will definitely want to watch this superbly crafted European treat.

### "Battle Royal" (2000)

One of Japan's most revered films takes the topic of school violence to a whole new level. In "Battle Royale," the Japanese government signs the Battle Royale Act due to a massive rise in adolescent violence. Shuya Nanahara and his ninth grade class find themselves randomly selected to participate and are taken to a deserted island where they are given an ultimatum; battle for one sole survivor. If they don't, their explosive collars will detonate, killing every single one of them.

Over the course of the film, viewers will watch how deadly a concoction of raging hormones and bloodlust can be, with alliances being made and broken throughout the film. In one scene, a group of six friends panic when one of them is poisoned. Fingers are pointed, accusations are made and moments later, they shoot themselves to death. Meanwhile, the girl responsible of the poisoning hurtles herself to her death in order to escape the guilt. The movie stands as an eternal testament to the frailty of trust and proves just how quickly one can lose their humanity.

The film tells a timeless story in an equally timeless manner which has obviously led to its fair share of controversy, but "Battle Royale's" controversy is easily surpassed by its legacy. With Hollywood bigwig Quentin Tarantino citing it as one of his biggest influences, it shouldn't take long to see why this is widely considered to be one of Japan's finest films.

### "Ponyo" (2008)

In 1966, Walt Disney passed away and "the golden age of animation" came to an end. While Disney laid dormant in the 1980s, visionary director Hayao Miyazaki and Studio Ghibli emerged, bringing the world into a new age of animation. For the past three decades, the studio has created a slew of hits like "Princess Mononoke" and the Oscar winner "Spirited Away." In 2008, Miyazaki released his tenth film (the studio's eighth) titled "Ponyo," a story of a young fish named Ponyo who falls in love with a little boy named Sosuke.

Miyazaki is known for creating magical worlds and complex story lines. However, Ponyo is the most pure of all Miyazaki's films. There is never a dull moment between Ponyo and Sosuke, who happen to be the perfect match. Their interactions are amusing and moving as the film demonstrates a positive message of forgiveness and courage. On top of that, the world of "Ponyo" is beautiful. The animation is stylized to look like watercolor artwork that will take your breath away. Miyazaki pays great attention to detail when it comes to animation, which helps build a new dazzling world. The audience becomes so engrossed in the struggles of the characters that they will forget they are even watching a film. The lighthearted jokes are intertwined with fun and dramatic moments, producing a magical experience that should not be missed. The English version features an all-star cast including Liam Neeson, Tina Fey, Cate Blanchett and Betty White. From beginning to end, the film is a stunner that invites you to be a kid for a moment.



KUNI is a top-tier RPG with a dose of Ghibli magic Online Content Editor

A heavenly merger between Level-5 (developers of numerous games including the "Dark Cloud" and "Professor Layton" titles) and Studio Ghibli (the famed animation studio of Hayao Miyazaki, producing such films as "Princess Mononoke," "Spirited Away" and "Howl's Moving Castle") has produced the much-anticipated "Ni no Kuni: Wrath of the White Witch." When two such powerful forces join together, the results can be extremely fortuitous (Squaresoft and Disney joining to make "Kingdom Hearts") or extremely disappointing (Steven Spielberg and Atari joining to make "E.T."). Luckily, in this case, the result is almost exactly what you would expect: grand, fun, whimsical, enchanting, beautiful and a host of other nice words.

Recently released stateside for the PlayStation 3, "Ni no Kuni" follows a young boy named Oliver who resides in the small town of Motorville. After awakening a fairy that was trapped in the form of a doll named Mr. Drippy, Oliver learns that he is the Pure-Hearted One (naturally) who must travel to the parallel world of Ni no Kuni to defeat the Dark Djinn Shadar. With a book of wizarding secrets in tow, Oliver sets off with Mr. Drippy (self-proclaimed Lord High Lord of the Fairies) to save the two worlds.

"Ni no Kuni's" story and gameplay are centered around healing the heartbroken - that is, people who have had an element of their heart removed, be it love, confidence, restraint or courage. It's a sweet alternative to the standard template of "kill everything until there's nothing left to kill" and could easily have become schmaltzy if it wasn't handled with such a light and whimsical touch. Of course, Ghibli's charm has a lot to do with this, as everything they touch turns to gold bricks and freshly-baked donuts.

Don't be lulled into thinking the story is ajust a bundle of sugary sweetness, however - the plot isn't afraid to break your own heart as well as heal it.

Visually, "Ni no Kuni" is - expectedly - freaking exquisite. It is, no hyperbole, one of the prettiest games you have ever played, regardless of what you have played before. From the effectively simple cel-shaded character models which look like they're plucked straight out of "Ponyo" - to the gorgeous world map brought to life in living watercolor, everything you see is crafted with the loving care of a fourth-generation woodcarver. Authentic hand-drawn animated sequences complete the package with immense style and charm.

Of course, good looks and an engaging story aren't worth much if the game ain't fun. Luckily, beneath the animated exterior is a meaty RPG foundation. "Ni no Kuni" features an action-based battle system, with actions being selected and carried out in real time. There's also a "Pokemon"-esque aspect to the game where wild beasts can be tamed and turned into familiars who will then battle alongside you. Managing a staff of up to twelve battlers (three main characters with three familiars each) with everyone switching in and out is fast and frenetic, requiring both carefullythought battle plans and splitsecond strategy.

While the title may seem geared towards a young audience, take heed that it is by no means a children's game. "Ni no Kuni" is not afraid to throw a challenge at the player and will test the mettle of even experienced role-players. However, "Ni no Kuni" throws in a number of softeners that allow younger or lessexperienced gamers to enjoy a smoother ride through the game, such as a difficulty setting which can

be switched easier or harder at any point as well as a star marker that can be toggled on or off which explicitly points out your next destination. You can also continue without loss of progress any time you game over by giving up 10 percent of your gold. These elements are crucial to the title's success, as it makes the game accessible for a wide range of players, from hardcore RPG fans to those just looking to enjoy the story.

Of course, it would be unfair to omit the areas where "Ni no Kuni" is less than a perfect hot fudge sundae with a puppy on top. The game holds your hand too much at times, your AI allies can be pretty dense and the menu system, especially when restoring hearts, is really drawn-out. Also, the battle system, while good, could be made even better with the addition of spellcasting quick keys and a visible MP bar for allies. However, if these nitpicks turn you off from the game, you're missing the point.

The key that elevates this title above so many others is that "Ni no Kuni" understands the magic of gaming. It understands that little details can be as important as big concepts. It understands what should be added to make a game fun and engaging, and what should be left out because it stands between the player and the experience. It understands the value of both nostalgia and new ideas. But most importantly, it understands that creating a feeling of childlike wonderment is one of the greatest things that this interactive medium has the power to do. If you have a soul, "Ni no Kuni" will latch onto it and refuse to let go. This aforementioned heavenly merger has produced a modern RPG that is utterly unmatched, and finding out how it will make its way into your own heart is half the fun.

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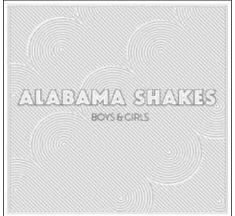
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**2** February 18, 2013

# Alternate



### Alabama Shakes

"Boys & Girls"

Genre: Roots Rock



By Montgomery Jones

Nominated for three Grammy's this year against some big hitters like Frank Ocean and The Lumineers, this is a group that should definitely be on everyone's playlist. The band is from, as you guessed, Alabama and they have been rocking out for a solid 4 years. They have performed on "Conan," "The Late Show with David Letterman" and "Jimmy Kimmel Live." Their hit single, "Hold On," has garnered critical acclaim and they were featured on the "Silver Lining's Playbook" soundtrack.

The New York Times has compared the lead singer, Brittany Howard, to Janis Joplin and it's easy to hear why. Howard's voice is timeless, sultry and slightly ambiguous. The band's sound encompasses the listener and brings you back to the days of bluegrass and blues. Alabama Shakes is unlike anyone out there performing today. Some music purists argue that listening to music on vinyl is the best, and in the case of this album, that argument is validated. There is an added effect to listening to the "Boys & Girls" record on vinyl. If you are so lucky to own a record player, crank that bad boy out and enjoy "Boys & Girls" with old school record sound. It not only deserves to be listened to, but heard. Vinyl definitely highlights the vintage vibes that the album emits.

While the song "Hang Loose" consists of a strong bass and effervescent tone, "Heartbreaker" practically forces you to feel the pain of heartbreak coming into your life and ripping out your heart. Ouch.

The title track, "Boys & Girls," is a simple and sweet tune that questions why friendships between boys and girls can suddenly become complex. "Goin' to the Party" especially sticks out on the album, summing up pretty much every party in existence: "You're goin' to the party by the end of tonight/ There's gonna be dancing and there's gonna be a fight." The enjoyable melody ends very abruptly, adding some spunk and personality to the song.

### **Bottom Line:**

Alabama Shakes has phenomenally produced this once-in-a-bluemoon album, proving that they are certainly capable of striking gold twice. "Boys & Girls" is a breath of fresh air, infusing modern music with a familiar sound. This genre is not for everyone, but once you realize that Alabama Shakes "shakes" up the status quo, you can really love the music for what it is: soul.



### **Local Natives**

#### "Hummingbird"

Genre: Indie Rock



By Blandelia Payne

After the success of their debut album in 2010, Local Natives had fans eager for an encore. Their second album, "Hummingbird," has exceeded listeners' expectations. Through Afro-beat rhythms and three-part harmonies, this West Coast indie rock quartet has stolen hearts all across the UK and America. Jan. 29 marked the release of "Hummingbird" as well as the start of their three-month tour. Even before the formal release of their latest album, thousands of music junkies all over YouTube became intrigued by the inspiration behind the album.

Eager to escape the outskirts of Los Angeles, Local Natives gained their inspiration from the city of Brooklyn, NY where they partnered with The National's Aaron Dessner to record the album. Ironically, the album's tone is reflected far from the commotion of the city and more towards the isolation in the backcountry. Drawing influences from musicians such as Bob Dylan, The Smiths and Leonard Cohen, they emit a much heavier and poignant sound than their previous album. "We've just grown so much over the past two years and the record is going to reflect a much more expansive palette of sounds and emotions." Local Natives' vocalist, Kelcey Ayer, said in an interview with Pitchfork.

From track to track, "Hummingbird" portrays an array of emotions while bringing to life vivid images of California and New York. For instance, the song "Bowery" - inspired by the neighborhood in southern Manhattan - tells the story about past relationships that are never forgotten, despite how meaningless they seem to be. The vocal harmonization gives the song a smooth but heavy tone to keep the audience reminiscing. Along with their persistent nostalgic tone, they manage to maintain their indie-inspired style. In tracks such as "Breakers" and "You & I," sweet three-part harmonies backed by coastal guitar melodies and a heavy percussion scream Beach House and Fleet Foxes. "Three Months" and "Heavy Feet" continue to uplift their West Coast indie reputation, but "Columbia" pushes past indie influences to express the personal struggle of losing a loved one.

### **Bottom Line:**

"Hummingbird" shows this band as they continue to uncover the perfect sound with which to identify. Local Natives has the potential to begin dominating the front stage, instead of being just an opening act. The album marks the beginning of an increasingly popular indie rock band.



#### **New Order**

"Lost Sirens"

Genre: New Wave



BY EMILY PODWOISKI

Get ready to pour on the 1980's mythical new wave vibes with New Order's latest album, "Lost Sirens." Composed of some long adrift, but beautiful songs, "Lost Sirens" will make the listener feel as if John Hughes is directing their life.

The tracks were originally recorded for New Order's previous album released in 2005, "Waiting for the Sirens' Call." Their new album is composed of the lost songs, the "Lost Sirens" that we have been missing out on for all of this time. Although the album includes a few songs that could have been left out, there are some true gems that make the entire album worth the purchase.

The first track, "I'll Stay with You," feels like the song that was played over and over again in high school to get over some heartache. That is, if you were part of the Breakfast Club and went to school in the 1980's. The song features the classic New Order synthesizers, put to a hypnotic beat that will dazzle those hearing it every time the "replay" button is hit. The passion in Bernard Sumner's dreamy heartthrob voice is especially captured on this track, as he belts out heartfelt poetry.

"I've Got A Feeling" is another song that audiences will keep on repeat. The synthesizers float over the catchy and fast paced guitar riffs, creating a compelling sound that simply cannot be categorized. It's a sprinkle of rock, a cup of new wave, and a dash of pop. The lyrics ironically depict a breakup, but the upbeat tune will keep listeners engaged. "Californian Grass" contains another upbeat tune that is calmed by the soothing vocals of Sumner. These songs are especially reminiscent of the electric and lively sound of U2.

Some misses on the album include "Shake It Up," which goes overboard with the synthesizers and pretty much everything else. The song is hyper, with too much going on at once, forcing the music to become noise. Some other songs including "Sugarcane" and "Hellbent" seem like raw, authentic 1980's jams, which some listeners may find obnoxious.

### **Bottom Line:**

Although "Lost Sirens" contains some songs that dive a little too deep into the realm of the 80's, New Order has still managed to create a handful of songs that find the perfect balance of retro and modern. Some of the tracks can only be described as beautiful, and they certainly outweigh the ugly.



#### **Daft Punk**

"Discovery"

Genre: House



By Michael King

In 1992, a French band called "Darlin" disbanded shortly after a bad review described one of their songs as a bunch of "daft punk." Two of the former members found the review amusing and later reunited under the new pseudonym. After their critically acclaimed debut album "Homework" in 1997, Daft Punk got straight to work on a more synthpoporiented album. While the change in musical styles surprised fans of their first album, 2001's "Discovery" was nothing short of legendary.

The album starts off incredibly strong, with a few of the opening songs on it being some of Daft Punk's bestselling singles. Containing heavily autotuned and compressed vocals, "One More Time" has been a club favorite for many years. "Digital Love" is a fantastic track based on unspoken love and even Daft Punk virgins will without a doubt recognize the "Harder, Better, Faster, Stronger" bit in a heartbeat. Despite the energy that many tracks contain, the album never becomes too intense for its own good, always providing listeners with enough soothing melodies to sit back and relax.

It's also worth noting that, two years after the album's release, an hour-long animated music video was created by Toei Animation and released under the name, "Interstella 5555." The film is about an alien band that is abducted to make money for an evil music tycoon on Earth, set to the music of "Discovery." Featuring minimal sound effects and a complete absence of dialogue, the movie simply allows the music to tell the story the band wants to tell.

From the calming "Nightvision" to the more intense "Superheroes," from the almost jazz-like "Something About Us" to the synth heavy "Short Circuit," this is clearly a well-rounded and diverse album. While some tracks can get a little repetitive, there is still enough variety to prevent repetition from becoming a real problem. With an average track listening time of three and a half minutes, "Discovery" will likely please any demographic.

### **Bottom Line:**

"Discovery" contains what might just be the cream of the Daft Punk crop and is arguably one of the greatest House (a sub-genre of electronic dance music) albums ever released. Pitchfork Media named it the third best album of the 2000s and it should only take a matter of seconds for listeners to find out why.



# The picks that were and the picks that should have been

BY JONATHAN KING
ONLINE CONTENT EDITOR

Every year the Grammy Awards grace our television screens, filling music lovers with cheer and, occasionally, disappointment. It's unclear how exactly the Grammy committee chooses their nominees and winners – all we know is the process probably involves a dartboard – however the choices are almost always interesting (if not always satisfying).

# Here's our take on 2012's Best Album nominees.

### "El Camino" (The Black Keys)



For their seventh studio album, The Black Keys enlisted the help of producer Danger Mouse who also acted

as co-songwriter. The result is the Keys' most rock 'n' roll album to date, channeling sounds from the '50s, '60s and '70s and melding them with the spirit of white-hot garage rock. "El Camino" is solid as stone and sexy to boot – an all-around barnburner and one of the better retro rock records of 2012.

### "Channel Orange" (Frank Ocean)



"Channel Orange" was the most critically lauded album of the year, receiving an average review score of 92 out of

100 (according to review aggregator Metacritic) and appearing on over 80 critics' "Best of 2012" lists. And this is not without good reason. Frank Ocean's debut LP is a unique, personal and ambitious R&B record. Ocean's imagery is wild and inventive, accompanied by intriguing and atypical melodies and musical inspirations. The whole package is fresh and practically flawless – a suitable nominee for Album of the Year.



# "Blunderbuss" (Jack White)

Jack White's first solo record sounds almost exactly like you would imagine it to. "Blunderbuss" is the soul of White expanded and amplified, channeling the elements that he contributed to The White Stripes, The Dead Weather and The Raconteurs and giving them room to stretch out and evolve into new and wonderful creations. While "Blunderbuss" is one of White's least consistent creations, stylistically-speaking, it is certainly one of his most interesting.

### "Some Nights" (Fun.)



Fun. have cornered the market on the modern soul-stirring anthem, but this doesn't necessarily translate to a

successful album. The single "We Are Young" has entered the top spot on many people's playlists, and as a single it works, however the album itself is considerably one-note and tiresome. The album may have sold millions, but that doesn't stop "Some Nights" from being a tepid release that works on some levels but requires drastic work on others. And the critics agree, as the album received a fairly consistent lukewarm response.

### "Babel" (Mumford & Sons)



### WINNER

2012's Album of the Year went to Mumford & Sons and their second LP of folksy rock "Babel." The most

surprising thing about the album is how strenuously unremarkable it is, trading in the burning soul and songwriting of a group like The Pogues or the warm heart and charm of Fleet Foxes for boilerplate imagery, pedestrian structure and mild, vague sentiment. Its nomination – let alone win – is something of an enigma, until you consider that "Babel" was the third-best-selling record of 2012. Hmm... I think I'm beginning to see how this Grammy thing works.

### **Alternate Nominees:**

Of course, no Grammy night goes without the laments regarding the artists or albums that were snubbed. Accordingly, here are some of the great albums of 2012 that would have done well to receive a nomination alongside (or in place of) the Grammy's selections.

# "good kid, m.A.A.d. city" (Kendrick Lamar)



Kendrick Lamar's "good kid, m.a.a.d. city" is a masterclass in hip-hop narrative.

The high-profile collaborators such as Dr. Dre, Just Blaze and Drake all contribute to the sheen and hype, but beneath the first-class production lies an undercurrent of serious storytelling. Throughout his story of a boy growing up in Compton, Lamar shows a distinct understanding of mood, pacing, depth and accessibility. The fact that the production is sweet – but not cloyingly slick – is just the cherry on top.

# "Storm Corrosion" (Storm Corrosion)



A collaboration between progressive metal gods Steven Wilson of Porcupine Tree and Mikael Åkerfeldt

of Opeth, "Storm Corrosion" is an epic and ambient departure for the two musicians, and the result is unexpected and phenomenal. The album is dark, soft-spoken and intense, building up beautiful and meticulously-constructed soundscapes over the course of its six tracks. Despite the stylistic departure, "Storm Corrosion" represents some of the best work to come out of either of these two gentlemen, and that's saying a lot.



# "Lonerism" (Tame Impala)

Tame Impala's second album seems like the product of a beau-

tiful dream. "Lonerism" carries with it the ethos of creating unique forms of pop through experimentation with sound, and it's that spirit of invention that helps them bridge the gap between the psychedelia of the late '60s and '70s and modern rock. Equal parts human and alien, "Lonerism" is a dream rock opus that appears to hail from the past, present and future.

### "The Seer" (Swans)



"[The album] took 30 years to make," noted Swans frontman Michael Gira. "It's the culmination of every previous

Swans album as well as any other music I've ever made, been involved in or imagined." And that's exactly the feel this expansive post-rock marvel brings. "The Seer" is a vast and hypnotic record of soul-drawn incantations, and at over two hours in length, it is truly a monolith of sound. A brilliant work from a group that is long in the tooth but not lost for ideas.

# "Swing Lo Magellan" (Dirty Projectors)



"Swing Lo Magellan" finds Dirty Projectors at their least complex and most powerful. A focus on vocal clarity

and razor-sharp beats puts the spotlight on esoteric lyrics and impeccable musical sensibilities. Stripping down to the essential components allows the essence of Dirty Projectors to shine forth in all its brilliance, echoing the sentiment David Longstreth sings in "Gun Has No Trigger:" "You'd see a million colors if you really looked."

# **Best Actor Awards**

#### Denzel Washington - "Flight"

After a long break from traditional live-action filmmaking, director Robert Zemeckis returned with a bang in the stellar drama, "Flight," led by a powerful performance from



Denzel Washington. Washington has been nominated a total of six times and has won twice for the films "Glory' and "Training Day," and his performance as the alcoholic airplane pilot William "Whip" Whittaker is his best work in years. Washington perfectly balances his own natural confidence with his character's inner demons, fighting for control over the alcohol addiction that has ruined his marriage and may end up ruining his career. If Washington wins, he will join Jack Nicholson as the only living actor to have won three Oscars.

#### Daniel Day-Lewis - "Lincoln"

This is the performance to beat. Originally intended to be played by Liam Neeson when production started in 2005, Steven Spielberg's "Lincoln" is the historical drama



that could easily sweep away the awards this season. Daniel Day-Lewis,

renowned for his method acting, delivers one of the most transforming pieces of acting to grace the silver screen in years. Day-Lewis never once blinks out of character, embodying Lincoln in a way that is aesthetically remarkable, but most importantly entertaining. Standing at six feet, two inches, Day-Lewis is only two inches shorter than Lincoln actually stood, which combined with the excellent make-up and wardrobe artistry, creates an even more authentic physicality. Day-Lewis has already received over 30 acting nominations for his portrayal of Lincoln, and leads, with a total of 12, the most Academy Award nominations.

# Hugh Jackman – "Les Miserables"

Hugh Jackman got his first taste of Oscar night when he hosted the eighty-first Academy Awards in 2009. During that perfor-



mance, Hugh led an opening musical number with Anne Hathaway, who he now shares critical praise alongside in "Les Miserables." Jackman, made famous for playing the Marvel superhero Wolverine in four "X-Men" films, has never before been cast in a role that allowed him to properly show off his singing skills. In Les Mis, Jackman finally gets a chance to show us what he can do. He gives an incredibly powerful performance as the ex-convict Jean Valjean, who learns to love, fight,

and forgive against the backdrop of nineteenth century France. Flawlessly acted through endless measures of the legendary score, Jackman gives a subtle and nuanced performance unlike any other portrayal of the character, on stage or screen. As Valjean's character develops over the film, Jackman adequately applies these changes to his performance, adding an incredible sense of passing time to the epic film. Jackman is the first actor to be nominated in the best actor category for a musical since Johnny Depp for "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street" in 2007.

# Bradley Cooper – "Silver Linings Playbook"

Generally known for playing action and comedic roles, Bradley Cooper is definitely the underdog this year. However, as audiences have seen in the past, one

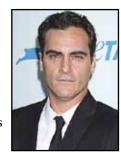


can never predict the winner at this award show. Cooper gives a refreshingly honest performance as Pat Solitano, a former teacher recently released from a mental health facility for his bi-polar disorder. Returning home, Pat begins to try to get his life back together, attempting to get in touch with his wife, Nikki (Brea Bee). Cooper and co-star Jennifer Lawrence have phenomenal chemistry together, and while his performance is not nearly as layered as

other nominations this year, Cooper shows a surprising amount of dramatic depth. This is Cooper's first nomination.

# Joaquin Phoenix - "The Master"

After a bizarre real-life marketing campaign for the short-lived mockumentary "I'm Still Here," many believed Joaquin Phoenix's career would never recover.



By Carlos Razo

Receiving two past nominations for his roles in "Gladiator" as the villainous Commodus, and in "Walk the Line" as Johnny Cash, Phoenix has made his comeback in Paul Thomas Anderson's "The Master." Phoenix plays Freddie Quell, a Naval veteran who returns home after fighting in WW2. Not knowing what to do with his life, he is quickly enticed by Lancaster Dodd (Phillip Seymour Hoffmann, who is also nominated) and his faith-based organization designed to provide meaning and answers to peoples' lives. Phoenix portrays the sex-addicted alcoholic with striking conviction, contrasting Hoffman's character in a symbolic and deliberate fashion. He is at once staggering and mumbling, but also poignantly introverted. After nearly two decades of excellent performances, this could finally be the year that Joaquin brings home the Oscar.

# **Best Actress Awards**



Jessica Chastain "Zero Dark Thirty"

In "Zero Dark Thirty" Jessica Chastain plays a CIA agent who is fixated on Abu Ahmed, a man who is linked to Osama Bin Laden. Her intense characterization and deep commitment to the role leaves audiences riveted. With a recent Golden Globe in her hands and the film winning countless awards, one would think Chastain to be a shoe-in for the Academy Awards (even though a debate has sparked over the accuracy of the torture scenes within the film). But since this is Chastain's second consecutive nomination (previously nominated for "The Help") and she nails the performance in her own unique, angst-filled, amazing, quiet way, perhaps this time she will take home the Oscar.



Jennifer Lawrence "Silver Linings Playbook"

Just like Jessica Chastain, this is Lawrence's second nomination after she delighted audiences with her performance in "Winter's Bone" in 2010. In "Silver Linings Playbook," she plays the role of a sex addict who falls in love with Pat (Bradley Cooper), a man struggling with bipolar disorder. While her depiction of a sex addict is purely Hollywood, Lawrence truly demonstrates her impressive acting range and abilities. The film is full of "Oscar moments" which only boosts Lawrence's chances of winning.



Naomi Watts "The Impossible"

"The Impossible" is a Spanish film that follows the story of a regular family spending their Christmas in Thailand, when they are suddenly trapped in the mayhem of the Indian Ocean Tsunami. Naomi Watts plays the mother who is desperately looking for her lost family. When "The Impossible" came out, it received good reviews, with critics praising both Watts' and costar Ewen McGregor's performances, commenting on her ability to demonstrate emotional and physical extremes. This veteran of the film industry definitely delivers a winning performance but will it be enough to win her the Oscar.



Emmanuelle Riva "Amour"

At the ripe old age of eighty-five, Emmanuelle Riva is a Best Actress nominee in an especially competitive category, but the Academy seems to have a soft place in their hearts for this older contender. Riva does a remarkable job in her poignant portrayal of a stroke victim who is slowly slipping away from her husband, but actually the spotlight tends to be mostly on her co-star Jean-Louis Trintignant, who plays the husband, Georges.

This fact has led some critics to suggest that Riva's role is more of a supporting role than a lead role. Whatever happens, Emmanuelle Riva's performance has truly touched many hearts, whether she takes home the Oscar or not.





Quvenzhané Wallis "Beasts of the Southern Wild"

While Riva is the oldest actress to be nominated Quvenzhané Wallis is the youngest at age nine. If you think that's impressive, Wallis was only six when she filmed "Beasts of the Southern Wild." Willis plays Hushpuppy, a young girl who is forced to grow up as her world starts coming apart. She is the star of the film and her performance is nothing short of fantastic, as she commands every moment of screen time. She is believable, unwavering and most importantly powerful. Although the performance is amazing, the award may slip through the youngster's finger tips because of her youth. The Academy may decide to give the award to someone with more experience now, in the hopes that Wallis will return- in the future- to once again the grace the Academy Award stage.



COMPILED BY MONTGOMERY JONES



Michael Flatley's
"Lord of the Dance"

World famous Irish American dancer and choreographer, Michael Flatley, is bringing his staged Irish dancing to the Detroit Fox Theatre at 2211 Woodward Ave. Flatley is known as one of the best dancers in the business and his shows have been seen worldwide. Described as "vaguely mythical" by the Telegraph, "Lord of the Dance" has been in production for nearly 17 years. The Irish dancing hits the stage on Thursday, Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$30 and you can buy your tickets at Ticketmaster.com.

### **DIA: Holy Motors**

The Detroit
Institute of Arts
Detroit Film
Theatre will be
showing the
French film,
"Holy Motors"
from Jan. 25



through March 10. The film is about a man who changes his appearance and identity 11 times a day as he is driven in a white limo all across town. the New York Times described it as "Critics' Pick! A work of great visual invention. It's a gift for moviegoers to have this much freedom, and exhilarating. It wonderfully feels unlike anything else; it's cinema reloaded." The dreamy movie is in French with English subtitles. Tickets are currently on sale for \$7.50 and can be purchased at tickets.dia.org.

#### **Potted Potter**

Attention all Harry Potter fans! For your muggle delight, "Potted Potter: The Unauthorized Harry Experience" crams all seven Harry Potter books into seventy minutes of hilari-



ousness. The show will be flying in March 1through March 17 at the City Theatre in Detroit, located on 2301 Woodward Ave. A reviewer for The Toronto Star declared it "The funniest thing I have seen in ages. You're gonna love this show!" Tickets are currently on sale, starting at \$45. You can purchase tickets on the Olympia Entertainment website.

#### Muse at the Joe Louis Arena



The English rock band Muse will be performing in Detroit on Saturday, March 2. The band is known for their unique electric sound. Their latest album, "The 2nd

Law" has received praise from music critics everywhere. Stephanie Meyer, the author of the Twilight books, has named the band as an inspiration for her work, on top of being featured in the Twilight movies. The band will be playing at the Joe Louis Arena, located on 600 Civic Center Dr. You can purchase tickets online at ticket-master.com, starting at \$45.



#### Hair

The musical "Hair" is coming to Detroit yet again. The show will be on stage from March 2-3 at the Detroit Fox Theatre, located on 2211 Woodward Ave. The iconic musical "Hair" debuted in 1967 and has grown into a cult classic since then. The story revolves around a group of politically active hippies living in New York City during the Vietnam War era and has a fan base of all ages, despite some of the content being a little risqué. Tickets are on sale now starting at \$40 and can be purchased at Ticketmaster.com.

# A Good Day to Die Hard

McLane and Son's latest adventure doesn't live up to expectations

By Ramon Razo Managing Editor

John McLane has had a rough time being a cop. Dealing with terrorists, both in the physical and digital realms, takes a toll on a guy. So, in his most recent outing, just one McLane wasn't going to be enough. With that being said, even with the camaraderie and gunfire, "Die Hard 5" delivers both a sub-par action movie as well as a flat-out boring thriller.

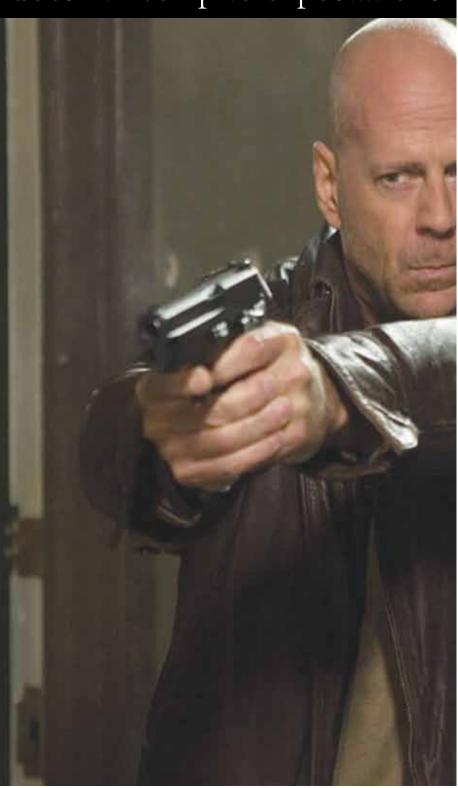
This time through, Bruce Willis's tough and snarky cop hero John McLane travels to Russia to help is son, Jack (played by Jai Courtney), who has been enveloped in a load of political shenanigans after an assassination. While the espionage and political intrigue are not that far off from the last installment of the series, for the first 20 minutes of the film, little is given as to how the pieces fit together. What is this Yuri fellow's contribution and why is Jack helping him? Why does McLane keep insisting that he's "on vacation" when he's there to help his son? And why in the world is he helping him and willingly causing all of this vehicular mayhem when he has no idea what the dangers are or who's involved? Regardless of how impressive the first chase scene is, when the audience doesn't know what's involved or what the stakes are, then the action does little than serve as noise and distraction.

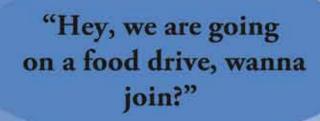
That's not to say the action isn't impressive. It is. The first action scene has a smorgasbord of car crashes and smashes, littered with some jaw-dropping car flips and stunts that are sure to please, and all of it was done in-camera. (That's just how the "Die Hard" series rolls.) But even the thrills and spills of the film's chases and firefights are killed by some real-world logic ruining the fun. As demonstrated in the first "Die Hard," McLane is not invincible, established in the iconic broken glass scene. Even now, Both McLane's show realistic injuries after each enemy

encounter. They limp away from falls. They bleed a whole lot. Jack McLane even has a piece of metal sticking out of his gut after one battle. But then they just walk away from the fight, heal up in between scenes, and continue on like nothing happened. They don't have any down time to heal-up. They also rarely utilize Jack's secret agent connections, which ends up being a useless aspect. It would have been real useful in explaining how they get the resources and intelligence they do. McLane at one point tosses his gun aside as he jumps out a window (you might need that later). There's movie logic and there's characters doing really stupid stuff and engaging in the absurdly impossible, and this movie is blotched by instances where it becomes distracting.

But what about the McLane's? Surely the father/son dichotomy offers some witty dialogue and powerful displays of team-work. Not at all. Courtney and Willis actually have a decent level of chemistry. They act like relatives, or at least buddies, but not much is done with them. The emotional scenes don't pack that much of a punch because their relationship doesn't feel real. They also don't talk like real people in a real life-or-death scenario. They quip here and there about how much "fun" they're having, gunning down bad-guys as father and son and while those kinds of remarks peppered here and there lighten up the mood, when you end up bombarding your script with lines like that, you go from light-hearted comments to making your film feel more like a parody, which is just no good.

"A Good Day to Die Hard" is not a bad film in the slightest; it's just incredibly unremarkable and has very little that will stick in your brain. While it does feature some fantastic stunts and moves along at a great pace, the back-bone of structure of the film, the confusing plot and it's lackluster characters, fails to keep the film from breaking down under scrutiny.





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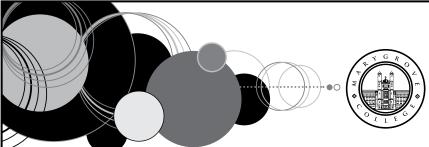
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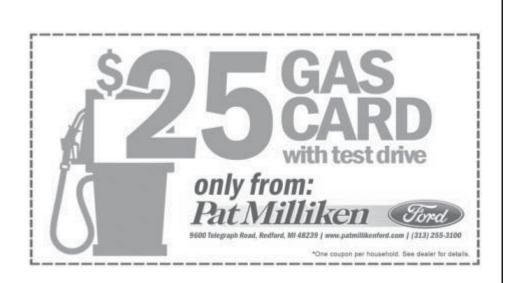
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# Courtney Dyer vs. Richmond Jackson

It doesn't take long before you see the impact these two players have on the court for their respective teams. A point guard with a scorers touch, Courtney Dyer is the rising star for the women's Schoolcraft basketball team. Guard-forward Richmond Jackson is a veteran leader for men's team with a knack for finding the net.

Both are the faces of Schoolcraft respective basketball programs. Let's take a look into their personalities and leadership roles on and off the court. We compare their lifestyles and what really separates these two stars from their play on the court.

### Lifestyles:

Courtney Dyer grew up around her four brothers. As the only girl she took advantage of the family's competitive nature and so came the love for basketball. At a young age she grew up watching sporting events and her dream of one day playing in the WNBA became a major goal.

"Growing with four brothers, I was never around girls," said Dyer. "My brothers brought out the competitive side of me. That put me a head of kids my own age.

Dyer experienced her first major setback in high school after she tore her ACL. Her motivation was pushed to higher levels after her two biggest supporters (her two older brothers) were incarcerated. This made her reach out for more in life.

Richmond Jackson grew up in a single parent home. With no support from a father figure, he turned to his mother and older sisters.

"My lifestyle was not the best nor was it the worst," said Jackson. "My mother did her best to raise me and my sisters. They made sure I was taken care of and that's all I can ask for.'

When Jackson wanted to get away from the world, he turned to basketball. Basketball was always available for him and so began his love for the game. Yet it's safe to say he has adapted a new band of brothers and a father figure in the Schoolcraft basketball team and coach Randy Henry.





Name: Courtney Dyer **Age: 21 Position: PG** Height: 5'4 City: Sterling Heights, MI

Jersey # 11



**Name: Richmond Jackson Age: 20** Position: Forward/guard Height: 6'4 City: Detroit, MI Jersey # 35

### Playing the Leader

Both Jackson and Dyer have expressed their importance as leaders on the court. Although they are both going through tough seem to lose sight of their leadership roles.

"I feel I play a major role as a leader," said Dyer. "My teammates feed off me and look up to me, so I always have to stay on my "A" game.

Jackson is also up to the challenge in leading a team, even if they are not

"It is a challenge being the leader of this team," said Jackson. "The job would be easier if we were winning. I am not much of a vocal leader. I just try to lead by example."

### Dyer vs. Jackson

We may never be able to witness a possible Dyer vs. Jackson matchup but we can sure visualize it. In order to determine who rules the hardwood, we did a statistical comparison:

<b>PER Game Stats</b>	Dyer	Jackson
Points	16.6	17.9
Rebounds	4.8	7.4
Assists	2.6	1.8
Steals	47	21
FG %	34.9	44.7
Minutes	597	574
Blocks	2	9
FT Pct	76.5	70.2

If you compared all eight statistical categories, based on numbers alone the match ends up in a draw. Of course this was logical based on the players positions alone. Dyer was expected to have the advantage in assists, while Jackson edged out the point total.

### **Future Plans**

Student athletes have made it a sure thing to improve their athletic excellence, while maintaining a level of excellence academically.

Schoolcraft has made a great effort to ensure their athletes are students first. With the introduction of SASS (Student-Athlete Support System),

athletes like Dyer and Jackson have been able to thrive through such pro-

For Jackson the desire to pursue a degree in business administration and minor in accounting was inspired from childhood.

"My college choice is undecided," said Jackson. "My favorite game growing up was Monopoly. From there I always wanted to be a businessman."

The dream of becoming a pro athlete has always drove Dyer to compete on the highest level. The goal of one day entering the lucrative world of professional sports is slightly impossible, only a select few elite are chosen. Dyer hasn't let that deter her from one day accomplishing her ultimate goal.

"I'm pursing my dreams at the next level," said Dyer. "Yet if I wasn't playing basketball I would most likely serve my country."

Both carry confidence, work ethic and education- essentials to become good role models. Surely they are unique and amongst Schoolcraft's elite sharpshooters.

# CLOSE CALL

## Men's Basketball grabs victory on a memorable night

BY LIBBY HUBER
STAFF WRITER

When it seemed as though the Ocelots just couldn't keep up in their league, they gave us another reason to stay positive. The men's basketball team came out strong against the visiting Alpena Community College in the sixth annual Pink Zone basketball game on February 13.

The "Pink Zone" is a national and annual event that various collegiate basketball teams take part in to raise money for breast cancer. Kay Vow, who was diagnosed with breast cancer three times and sadly lost her battle in 2009, brought the event to light in 2007. Players sport pink attire such as shoes, socks and sweatbands to show their support of the cause. According to the WBCA between 2007 and 2009, over 4,700 teams participated in the event, raising almost \$3.3 million.

The first half was a promising one for the Ocelots, as they led the Lumberjacks with an 18-point lead at the half. Freshmen Delandon Laye and Terrance Coles contributed a combined total of 25 points in the first 20 minutes of play.

The team also put on a defensive display as they accumulated 26 total rebounds and 9 offensive boards. The Ocelots were scoring almost at will, shooting 47 percent from the field and 57 percent from beyond the arc. Alpena got off to a slow start, struggling to generate any offense. They only completed 23 percent of their field goals and 18 percent of their 3-point shots.

The Ocelots came out stumbling in the second half, giving Alpena a chance to make a run. The Lumberjacks took advantage and it seemed as the momentum had completely shifted in their favor.

Alpena was able to tie the game at 71 with a few seconds left in the second half, forcing overtime. They shot close to 36 percent, nearly doubling their field goal percentage in the second half.

Although Alpena had chances to come away with victory, the Ocelots seemed to keep their composure.

"[Alpena] was consistent throughout the whole game," said Head Coach Randy Henry. "We were on and off, we need to know how to finish." Consistent energy and effort in both halves seem to be Schoolcraft's biggest struggle throughout the season, but is an aspect that the squad is more than willing to improve on.

With an intense five minutes of over-time, the Ocelots came back to win it. With now an opportunity to make it to the playoffs, coach Henry believes this win will help set the tone for the remainder of the season.

"We have a motivation to win," said freshman Terrance Coles. "With enough focus and practice, we can make better decisions in the game. Hopefully this mentality will show in their remaining games."

Schoolcraft is now 5-17 overall and 2-11 in the MCCAA Eastern Conference.

#### 2/6/2013 Schoolcraft (65) at Oakland Community College (108)

Sophomore Richmond Jackson led the way for the Ocelots, scoring almost half of the team's overall points with 29 points against the Raiders. Freshman Terrel Sewell contributed with eight points. The final score was 108-65 giving the Ocelots four straight losses.

#### 2/4/2013 Delta (57) at Schoolcraft (55)

Despite leading the majority of the game, the Ocelots fell short by two-points to the Delta Pioneers, 57-55. After an energetic first half, Schoolcraft was in the lead by 6 points with the help of top scorers Rich Jackson and Mathew King.

#### 2/2/2013 Schoolcraft (43) at Wayne County CC (83)

The Ocelots fell to the Wayne County Wildcats 83-43 on a Saturday February 2. Freshmen Jonathan Campbell and Terrance Coles both scored nine points.

#### 1/26/2013 Schoolcraft (42) at Mott (77)

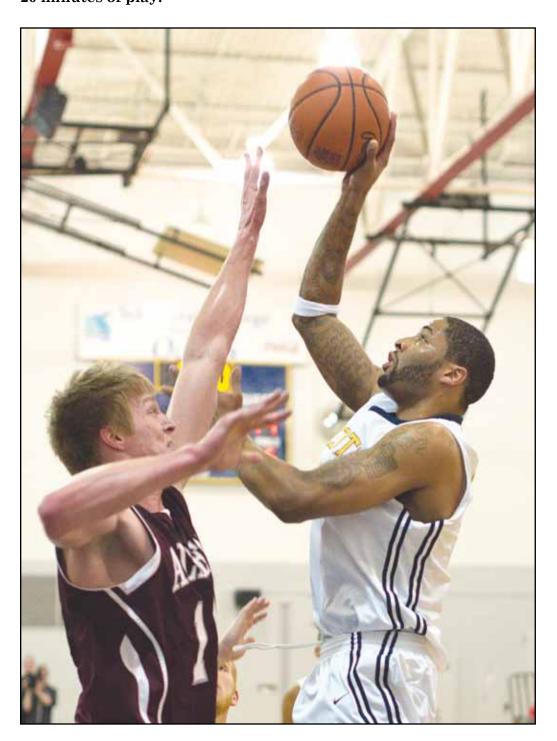
Schoolcraft traveled to Flint to take on top ranked Mott Community College. Mott leads the MCCAA Eastern Conference with just one loss on the season. Unfortunately the Ocelots could not keep up with the Bears who won 77-42. Top scorers for Schoolcraft were sophomore Richmond Jackson who had 13 points and freshman Terrance Coles with 12 points.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW KIELTYK

(Above) Freshman Terrel Sewell (center) busts through the Alpena defense en route for a layup.

(Below) Freshman Terrance Coles (right) goes for a jumper against Alpena. Coles contributed a combined total of 25 points in the first 20 minutes of play.



# A fighting chance

### Ocelots show their toughness by cutting down the Lumberjacks

By Joseph Koch Staff Writer

The Lady Ocelots showed their toughness by erasing an early deficit and beating the visiting Alpena Lumberjacks 77-63 on February 13. The win broke a 9 game losing streak and brought the Ocelots to a 6-17 (3-10) overall record on the season.

The Alpena Lumberjacks, 5-18 (1-13), got off to a hot start with a 13-3 run. The Ocelots responded with a strong effort, and lead 34-28 going into the half. Coach Brathwaite was pleased with the way his team responded.

"As long as they understand how bad we looked early when the other team was up and then when we actually did what we were supposed to do, it made it look like a whole different team," he said.

The Ocelots opened up the second half with an 18-6 run and never looked back. Sophomore guard Toi Brown led the way with 18 points, while fellow sophomore guard Ajai Meeks scored 17 points. They outscored the Lumberjacks 43-35 in the second half in a game that was closer than it felt.

The Ocelots turned the game around with their defense and work on the glass. They finished with 21 steals and 25 points off turnovers. The Lumberjacks had difficulty moving the ball around and getting easy looks at the basket for most of the night. They also grabbed 46 rebounds, 23 of them offensive, and scored 24-second chance points.

"If we just do what we are supposed to do and do your part of it, it doesn't have to be hard," said coach Brathwaite.

Schoolcraft shot 44.4 percent from the floor while holding Alpena to just 28.8 percent for the game. The Ocelots overpowered their opponent in the second half and made the game look effortless.

"They're getting better at learning how to move the ball. It's getting better," said Brathwaite of his team's performance.

Schoolcraft held Alpena scoreless for the last 5:13 of the first half which gave them the lead and never gave it back.

Schoolcraft is now 6-17 overall and 3-10 in the MCCAA Eastern Conference.



#### 2/9/13 Schoolcraft (56) at Henry Ford (70)

The Ocelots continued their road trip by traveling to Dearborn to face the Henry Ford Community College Hawks. The team got off to a fine start and paced the Hawks on both sides of the court, tying the game at the half. However, Schoolcraft couldn't sustain their performance and were outscored 36-22 in the second half. The Ocelots fell to the Henry Ford CC Hawks 70-56.

#### 2/6/13 Schoolcraft (61) at Oakland (65)

Schoolcraft rallied in the second half but came up just short against the host Oakland CC Raiders losing 65-61. The team got off to a rocky start and carved out a huge scoring deficient, trailing 42-24 after 20 minutes of play. Going into the second half the Ocelots needed to revitalize themselves in order to cut Raider's lead down. The Ocelots did just that and used used their tenacious defense to get themselves back into the game. The team rallied together but it was a little too late and OCC squeezed out a win. The Ocelots leading scorers were Toi Brown and Courtney Dyer who each scored 18. "When it comes to finishing the game, we're coming up short," said Dyer after the loss.

### 2/4/13 Schoolcraft (62) vs. Delta (73)

Schoolcraft played host to the visiting Delta College Pioneers. The team played hard but lost 73-62. The Ocelots got off to a sluggish start and were down by twelve at the half. Toi Brown scored 23 points and Ajai Meeks added 17. The team played tougher in the second defensively but couldn't overcome the first half deficit.

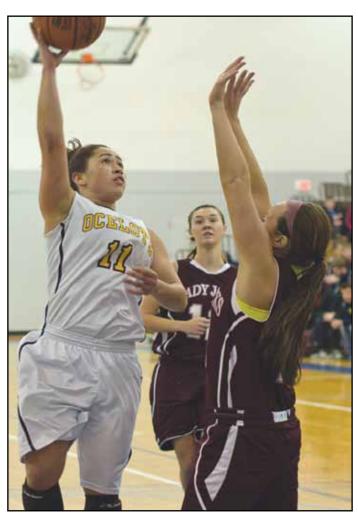
#### 2/2/13 Schoolcraft (57) at Wayne County (70)

The Ocelots lost a tough game against the Wayne County Wildcats. They didn't trail at any point in the first half and went into the locker room with a 33-30 lead. The team couldn't sustain the effort in the second half and lost 70-57. Ajai Meeks scored 25 points and grabbed 12 rebounds.

#### 1/26/13 Schoolcraft (41) at Mott (52)

Schoolcraft came up short in the second half versus the Mott Bears, losing the game 52-41. The team had a six point lead after the first half but couldn't hang on in the second. Ajai Meeks led the team with 15 points.





(Above) Freshman Guard Brianna Berberet looks to pass to an open teammate. during the Pink Zone game.

(Far left) Freshman Marwa Sayed dribbles the ball past an Alpena defender.

(Left) Sophomore Courtney Dyer takes a shot to the net.

# Whalers pound Owen Sound

# Reclaim first place in tight division race

By Dylan Nardone & Joseph Koch Staff Writers

The Whalers (54-26-16-5) finished a five game home stand with a strong performance against the Owen Sound Attack (33-16-1-3).

The Whalers took put the clamps on the Attack, winning by a score of 7-3. The Whalers key players were Tom Wilson and Vincent Trocheck. Going into the game Trocheck had 33 goals and 41 assists on the season.

"We've been working on back checks all week and that play really showed good transition up the ice," said Wilson. "Trocheck's such a creative player."

Owen Sound opened the scoring five minutes into the game on a one timer by Zach Nastasiuk. The Attack pushed the lead to 2-0 when Kyle Hope scored 11:48 into the period.

The Whalers surged back when Tom Wilson banked a shot into the net off the goaltender for their first goal of the game with 4:37 to go in the period. Wilson then added an assist by putting a shot on goal that popped out to the hash marks onto the stick of Trocheck. Trocheck netted a backhander to tie the game with under a minute left in the first period.

The Whalers gave the Attack an easy opportunity when they tripped Cameron Brace on a breakaway that resulted in a penalty shot being converted into a goal giving Owen Sound the 3-2 lead. Five minutes later Trocheck stole a pass in the Attack zone and dished it to teammate Ryan Hartman who took a hit as he found an open Wilson who buried the shot at the 7:48 mark of the second period. Plymouth took the lead for good a few minutes later when Garrett Meurs fired a shot that deflected off an Owen Sound defender and found its way into the net at 12:45 mark in the second period.

"The boys came ready to play tonight against a good rival, the Owen Sound Attack," said Wilson after the game. "I love playing with Hartman - I played with him a lot at the beginning of the year. Tonight was my first time playing with Trocheck. He's so creative and so offensively minded. When you're on the offensive end with him, it's pretty easy to play."

The Whalers dominated the third period and got started early when defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto sent a slap shot flying past the goaltender to stretch the lead to two. The Whalers scored two more times. Michael Whaley scored at 18:05 and Cody Payne found the back of an empty net at 18:51 to seal the deal.

"We just wanted to keep the pedal down (in the third period)," Wilson said. "We didn't want to give them any room to breathe. We wanted to keep the puck in their end for most of the third period and we were able to do that."





#### 2/8/13 Barrie (6) at Plymouth (3)

The Whalers couldn't hang on against the Barrie Colts losing 6-3. They led in the first period 3-1 and seemed to lose any momentum they received from the quick start. Vince Trocheck had two goals for the Whalers.

#### 2/2/13 Peterborough (1) at Plymouth (4)

The Whalers led throughout the entire game, with Gianluca Curcuruto and Matthew Mistele getting multi-goal games. Vince Trocheck shined again with three assists, and rookie goaltender Alex Nedeljkovic allowed just one goal in the third period, stopping 38 shots.

#### 2/1/13 Sault Ste. Marie (6) at Plymouth (5)

The Whalers lost their first game of February in a tight contest. Trocheck finished with two goals and one assist, while Mitchell Heard scored in a last minute attempt to send the game to overtime. The Whalers couldn't capitalize in the third period and ended up falling short to the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds.

(Top) Right wing Forward Tom Wilson celebrates in front of the Owen Sound net after Gianluca Curcuruto scores the fifth goal of the game during the third period.

(Above) Owen Sound goalie Jordan Binnington looks upward in disbelief after letting in another Whalers' goal.

(Below) Center Vince Trocheck scores his 34th goal of the season during the first period. Tom Wilson assists on the goal.







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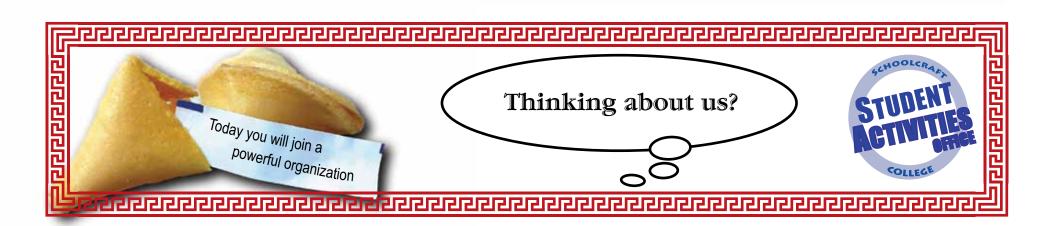
# Buddy Shuh

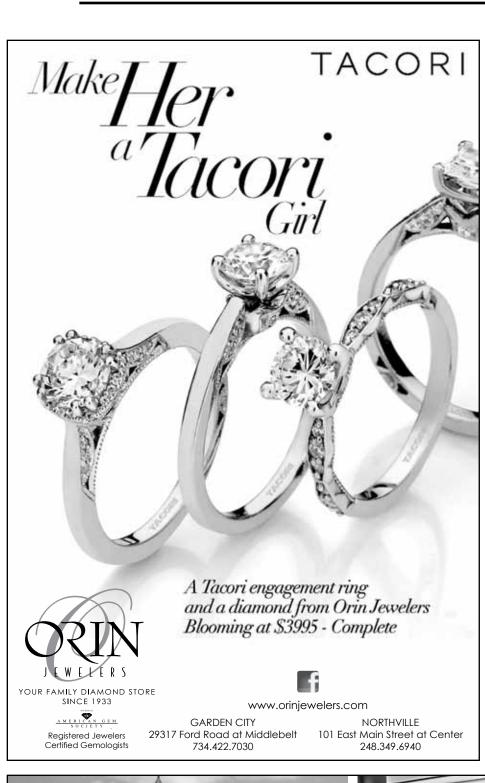
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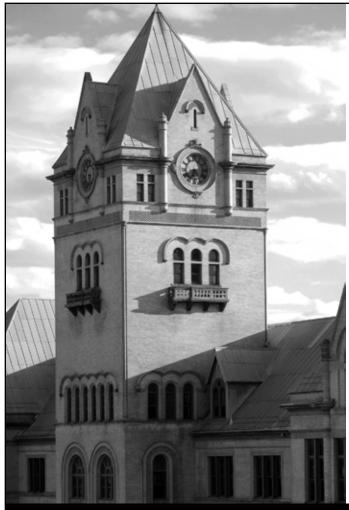
Buddy Shuh was born on an Army base in Landstuhl, Germany and raised in Michigan, Ohio and Florida with his four siblings. In high school, Buddy was captain of both his football and wrestling teams and was voted "most athletic" his senior year. While attending Ohio State University, he played football for a while, and he later received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Eastern Michigan University. When Buddy stopped playing sports, he stopped exercising, and that, coupled with a poor diet, led to his weight gain. By 2005, he hit the 300-pound mark. Since that time, Buddy had gained another 100 pounds.

His beginning weight on the show was 403 pounds. He was the heaviest contestant on his season. Six months later, he weighed in at 230 pounds. He lost about a pound a day for a half of a year! His waist size went from 54 to 36. His shirt size went from 5XL to L. His blood pressure was 190/110 so the doctors had put him on three different types of medicine. He is no longer medicated and his blood pressure is 120/70. For seven years, Buddy used a CPAP machine to help him breathe at night because he had a severe case.

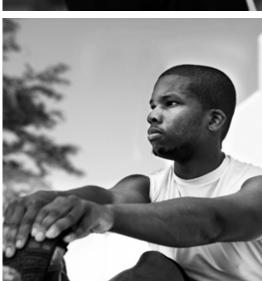




















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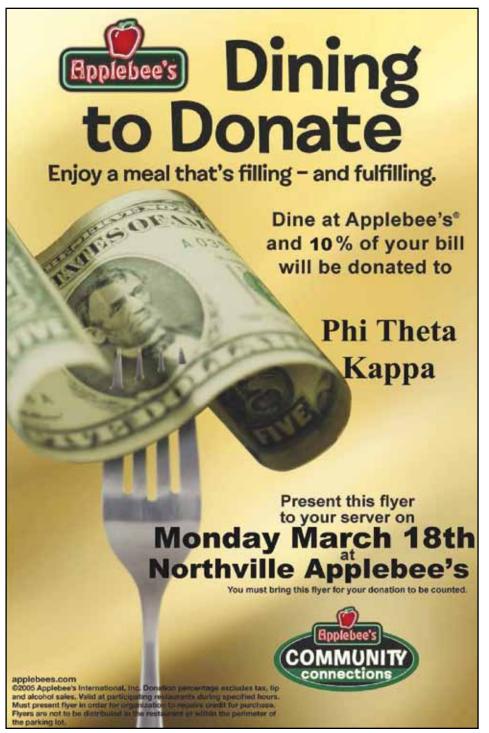
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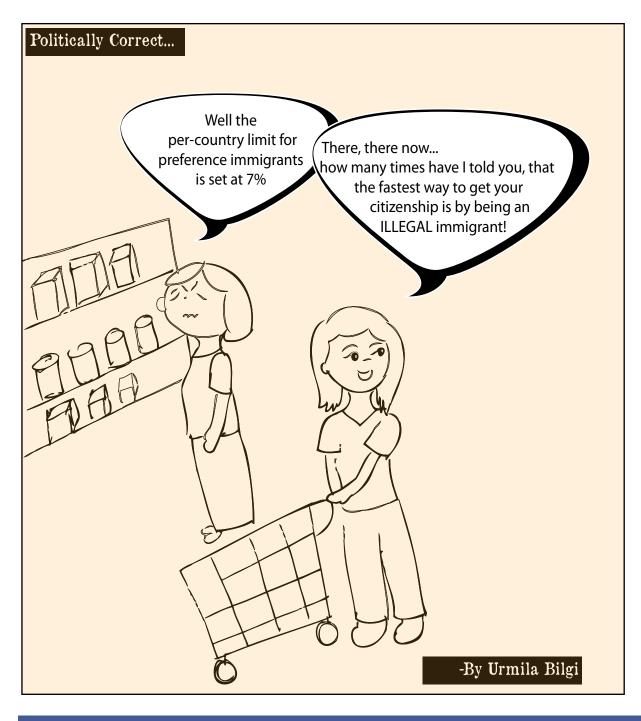
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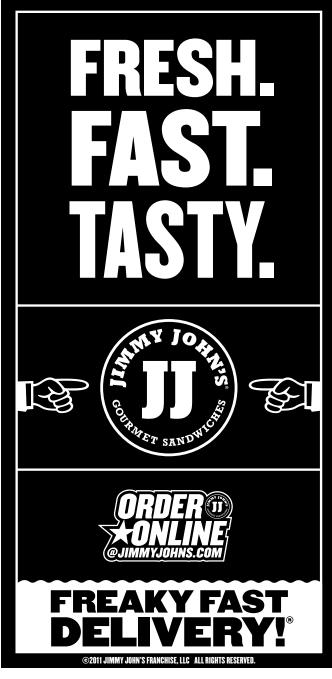
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# **OZIANSCOPES**

By MADAME MYSTIQUE

#### Dorothy

3/21-4/19

Adventure runs through your veins and you crave to go somewhere over the rainbow. Perhaps it is time to plan a trip and take a break from your day-to-day life. However, you may end up getting extremely homesick, so be sure to call your family everyday that you're away.

#### Glinda

4/20-5/20

You tend to put everyone's happiness before your own. While this is a great quality to possess, it is time to take a time-out. Take a deep breath, step into your own bubble, and focus on your own happiness for a while. You will not regret it.

#### Oz (The Great and Powerful)

5/21-6/20

Everyone looks to you for advice and you love the attention. While it is wonderful that people trust you, be careful when guiding others. Perhaps you are not always qualified to solve certain issues, so choose your words and actions carefully when helping others.

#### **Tin Man**

6/21-7/22

This past Valentine's Day may have crushed your heart, but don't let that discourage you from finding love. Love will come eventually. Right now, realize that you do not need anyone to fulfill you. You must love yourself before you can love anyone else!

#### Scarecrow

7/23-8/22

People tend to underestimate your abilities, but do not let these people bring you down. They may be jealous or insecure. You are fully capable of accomplishing all of your dreams and goals, unless you listen to the insults that others throw at you.

#### **Cowardly Lion**

8/23-9/22

Anxiety has taken over your life. You must learn how to overcome your anxiety and live your life without fear. If you are scared about an upcoming test, believe that you can conquer it – and anything, at that. Deep down, you are a true fighter.

#### Toto

9/23-10/22

Lately, you have been confused about everything going on in your life. Everyone around you seems to be in some kind of a panic, but remember to not get caught up in the drama. Stay calm and trust those closest to you. And watch your back, you may have some creepy stalker.

#### Munchkin

10/23-11/21

Lately, people have been talking down to you. If you have deeply upset someone close to you, own up to your mistake and apologize. However, you are usually a kindhearted being. If you are being pushed around and bullied, be sure to step up for yourself or reach out to those around you.

#### **Aunt Em**

11/22-12/21

Worrywart, worrywart, worrywart. You are always worrying about one thing or another. It is necessary to learn how to calm your mind. If you can take your mind off of your worries, you will be much happier. Trust that everything will be okay, no matter what happens.

#### Flying Monkey

12/22-1/19

People tend to misunderstand you. Some people may be a little intimidated by your tough appearance. It's time to show your soft side, because deep down, you are the cuddly and sentimental type. Don't be shy about it, either!

#### The Witch of the East

1/20-2/18

While you possess aspirations and potential for greatness, you often feel that you dwindle in the shadow of others, perhaps even a sibling. Don't crush your abilities through feelings of inadequacy. Don't cut your future off at the knees by worrying about things that are to come. You never know what may be waiting to fall from the sky and into your life.

#### The Wicked Witch of the West

2/19-3/20

You are feeling incredibly malicious lately and you can't seem to control this overwhelming feeling. Remember that you can control your actions. Do not take your cruelty out on others, for this could ruin your life eventually. Be kind to others and be kind to yourself.



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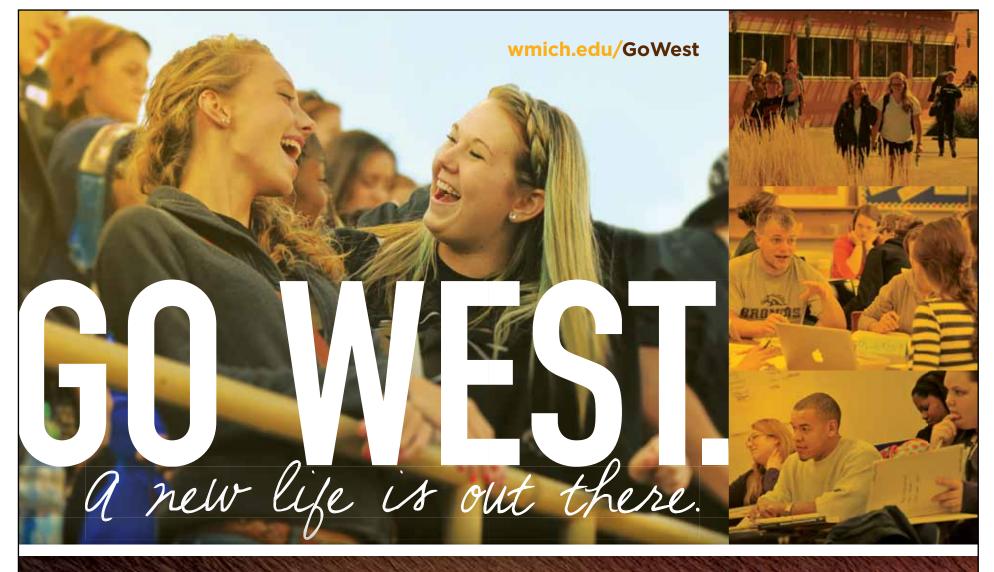


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Discover all Madonna University has to offer. Saturday, March 16, 2013 8:30 a.m.– 2 p.m. Register online at madonna.edu/visit or call 734-432-5317

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Schoolcraft College students can transfer up to 82 credits and be well on their way to earning a degree from one of the Midwest's most prestigious all-business colleges. Registration starts February 18. For more info log on to: WALSHCOLLEGE.EDU

Come see why Wayne State University attracts so many of the region's brightest transfer students. You can choose from hundreds of academic programs and prepare for careers in the market's most rewarding fields — including the health sciences, engineering, education and business. Apply for free at apply.wayne.edu

Go West. Discover. Explore. Western Michigan University is one of America's great universities. A lot of people who have become successful—skilled, happy, wealthy and powerful—started by heading West. Log on wmich.edu/GoWest for more info.

Writing & Art Contest-

Submission deadline: April 8, 2013
• The writing or artwork must deal with a topic of international or cross-cultural interest and be suitable for publication in *International Agenda*, the semi-annual magazine of the Schoolcraft College International Institute (<a href="http://www.schoolcraft.edu/scii/publications.asp">http://www.schoolcraft.edu/scii/publications.asp</a>). For more information, or to obtain an entry form, contact: Randy Schwartz, *Editor* rschwart@ schoolcraft.edu tel. 734-462-4400 ext. 5290

Do studies have you feeling upside down? Let the LAC help turn it around! For more info contact the Learning Assistance Center at <a href="https://www.schoolcraft.edu/lac/">www.schoolcraft.edu/lac/</a>



Once you've got a few careers in mind and decide what direction to go in you can start developing a "framework". This will allow you to encompass ideas as they come to fruition. For more information and to get started, please contact: (734) 462-4424 or ctc@schoolcraft.edu.

"Reboot your New Year's resolutions"-it's not too late! Lots of great equipment in the Fitness Center and a new member incentive program is going on RIGHT NOW to keep you motivated! Credit students can join FREE! Get over to the coolest place on campus...the Schoolcraft Fitness Center!

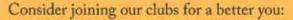
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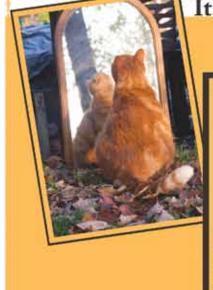
The Student Activities Office can help





- Math and Physics
- Phi Theta Kappa
- Scientific Research
- Philosophy
- Health Information Technology
- Metro Detroit Association for the Education of Young Children (MDAEYE) & many more...





#### **48** THE SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

(Right) Musician David Campbell strums his guitar to the delight of audience members.

(Below) Student Hannah DeAngelis commits to complete her degree by signing Phi Theta Kappa's" Complete the Degree" banner.



# CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

PTK and Schoolcraft Cares partnered together to help alert students of the services offered around campus. This event allowed for all to voice any pressing concerns, whether the issues were behavioral, safety or general interest all were urged to give their input. Many student services set up booths to aid in any additional questions students may have had such as the LAC, Career Planning, Athletics, Pageturners and many others. To help spread the feeling of appreciation and cheer the event was planned on Valentine's Day, which encouraged the sharing love all over campus. For any seeking help on campus for any reason visit the Schoolcraft Cares website at www.schoolcraft.edu/sccares.





Visitors to the event admired the handmade ceramic bowls for sale at the Empty Bowl Luncheon, all proceeds going to support the Food Pantry on campus. Each purchase came with a bowl of hot soup and freshly baked bread.





(Above) Phi Theta Kappa members peruse a copy of The Schoolcraft Connection while waiting for students to sign their banner.

(Below) Students decked out in their Valentine garb listen to the upbeat sounds of the live musical performances.



Photos by Mandy Getschman and April Vernor