



GRAPHIC BY KATE MRLA

what's INSIDE

All this for a dollar?



Minimum wage = minimum life expectancy
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Brick by brick



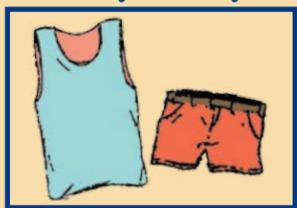
"Connecting" with younger audiences.
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Michigan's elected leaders are listening

Community Conversations—making students' voices heard

BY JACKIE CHARNIGA AND LAUREN LUKENS
EDITOR IN CHIEF AND MANAGING EDITOR

Across the state, citizens are given the opportunity to join the largest public engagement project in Michigan history.

Since its founding in 2006, the non-profit, non-partisan Center for Michigan has sought to engage the state citizens statewide in small, informal town hall meetings called "Community Conversations." The motto of the center is to Inform, Engage, and Achieve.

On Tuesday, March 11, Community Conversations will be hosted by Schoolcraft College, open to all community members to attend from 10-11:30 a.m. and 1-2:30 p.m. in presentation room VTT 550. This is the first time Schoolcraft will be hosting the organization. Todd Stowell, Director of Student Activities, is interested to see what the assembly will yield. "Any student, staff, or citizen is encouraged to come out and have their voices heard," Stowell stated. "The intent is to attract as many people that we can."

From Sept. 2013 to April 2014, the Center is holding conversations in communities across the state in a variety of venues, from community colleges, libraries, and even restaurants.

On Nov. 4, Michigan residents will cast votes for the next governor, all 38 state Sen-

ators, and all 110 members of the state House of Representatives. Occurring every four years, these elections could shape Michigan for a better future, or make the state fall apart.

The Center seeks to frame public issues with the individualistic touch of the public's input without endorsing political parties or candidates for office. That being said, these conversations have become a resource for public

election. According to Hailey Zureich, the Outreach Coordinator for the Center of Michigan, Governor Snyder took nine of his ten running points from the report compiled from the conversations. The compilations will result

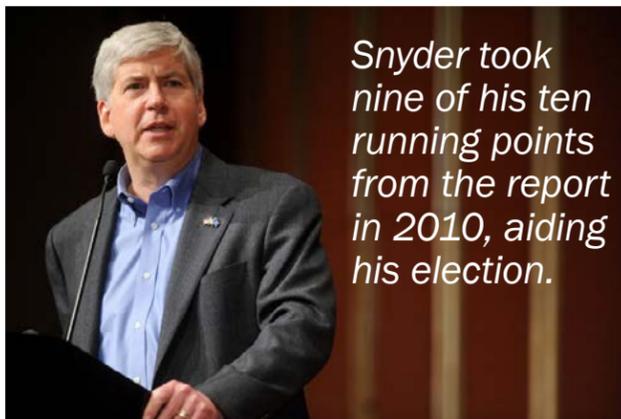
gives college students from Port Huron to the Upper Peninsula to Benton Harbor the opportunity to voice their opinions and set an agenda for 2014 through Community Conversations.

The Center hopes to quell concerns by potential voters that feel uninformed about current policies. "Sometimes when people hear policy discussions, they get intimidated, thinking that they don't know anything about policy or are 'learned' enough to participate in the conversation," Zureich explained. "Come as you are, give us what you think."

Zureich says, "It is always exciting to meet with a new group, to hear interesting anecdotes and new perspectives. Every conversation is unique. The diversity that we see from people is amazing."

The process of debating policies and talking shop is not nearly as difficult as it seems.

Participants will gather to



Snyder took nine of his ten running points from the report in 2010, aiding his election.

leaders and have assisted in creating outlines for public leaders.

After compiling the data from over 10,000 Michigan-ers, Community Conversations were the focus of the only televised debate between candidates for the gubernatorial

in a final report targeted specifically to candidates of election and community leaders, the information divided into candidate engagement pieces and community engagement pieces.

Supported by many of Michigan's leading foundations,

SEE COMMUNICATION ON PAGE 2

In Other News



COMPILED BY NICK RENDE
ONLINE MEDIA SPECIALIST

MISSED DEADLINE

Feb. 5 marked another missed deadline for Syria to turn over their stockpile of chemical weapons. According to Reuters, Syria is several weeks behind in turning in their dangerous chemical weapons by a final June 30 deadline.

Last year, Russia, Syria, and the United States agreed to a deal that would prevent an attack on Syria. Under the pact, Syria agreed to gradually relinquish their stockpile of weapons, with June 30 set to be the last deadline for Syria to turn in all of their weapons.

All of this comes after Syria missed a Dec. 31 deadline to relinquish their most dangerous chemical weapons, such as "mustard gas and sarin precursors." According to the article, Syria has only relinquished 4 percent of their entire stockpile that they reported to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

Damascus has reportedly not indicated when future shipments would occur.

FIGHT OF THE DECADE

"Wouldn't it be awesome if George Zimmerman fought rapper D.M.X.?" While it may seem like a silly topic for discussion amongst friends on who would make an outrageous boxing match, the two aforementioned people will be duking it out in a "celebrity" boxing match, this according to CNN.com. Capitalizing on his fifteen minutes of infamy, Zimmerman told RadarOnline.com in January that he was fielding offers from anyone that would like to step into the boxing ring with him. He said that the proceeds from this fight will go to charity.

Damon Feldman, owner and promoter of Celebrity Boxing, sifted through thousands of applicants before settling on Earl Simmons, a.k.a. "DMX."

Simmons was very animated in his response to being chosen to fight in a TMZ article, saying among other things: "...I am breaking every rule in boxing to make sure I [expletive] him right up."

The 30-year-old Zimmerman claims that boxing is a hobby of his, even before the "incident." No word was given on the 43-year-old Simmons's fighting ability. The fight will consist of three rounds.

However, recent developments have changed this would-be brawl. According to TMZ, after receiving death threats to himself and his children, Feldman axed the fight. Despite this, Alki David, owner of FilmOn, promises that a fight against Zimmerman will occur, except with a different opponent, or opponents! He promises to deliver the fight "like Fight Club ... a very bloody event," and that it will take place on March 15, at a secret location, with all proceeds benefitting the Trayvon Martin Foundation.

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW

On February 4th, Detroit City Council green-lighted the land ownership transfer from the city to the Downtown Development Authority, a key step in the construction of the new downtown sports arena.

This vacant space along Woodward Avenue, north of the Fisher Freeway, in Midtown, is void of any buildings or otherwise, which is why Councilwoman Saunteel Jenkins voted for the transfer: "It's

SEE BRIEFS
ON PAGE 12

The bare minimum

Could a hike in minimum wage help Michigan's economy?

BY NICK RENDE
ONLINE MEDIA SPECIALIST

Much hoopla was made last year regarding Michigan's minimum wage, rising to prominent notoriety with rallies outside many fast food establishments not only in Michigan, but many other states.

That sentiment is again gaining steam, as a committee formed by labor and civil rights groups plans to propose a ballot proposal to Michigan's Secretary of State to raise the minimum wage, according to an article by MLive.

This proposal, if approved, will be placed on the ballot for Michigan residents to vote on in November of this year.

Michigan is one of 21 other states to have a minimum wage exceeding the \$7.25 federal minimum wage at \$7.40 an hour. The state with the highest minimum wage is Washington with a \$9.32 minimum wage, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

All of this came on the heels of President Obama's State of the Union address, delivered on Jan. 28, where he mentioned the increasing income-gap in America. The President said in his speech: "Corporate profits and stock prices have rarely been higher, and those at the top have never done better. But average wages have barely budged. Inequality has deepened. Upward mobility has stalled...Our job is to reverse these trends."

Communicate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

utilize, "the most exciting version of Power Point you'll ever see," according to Zureich.

The program is called Turning Point; each participant will have their own tool of democracy, the clickers, which people will choose the response that they feel closest to.

The experience is similar to quizzes one would find in a magazine, looking through the answers A, B, and C, and choosing that which most closely applies.

Since 2007, more than 20,000 Michigan residents have participated in Community Conversations, one of the Center for Michigan's leading products. Upcoming elections will shape Michigan's path in 2015 and beyond, and the Center believes that college students' voices should shape the focus.

With discussion topics including public opinion of Michigan's education, econ-

Many Democratic lawmakers in Congress have called for an increase to the \$7.25 federal minimum wage. In Michigan, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer supports an incremental increase to the mitten's minimum wage, adjusting for inflation.

Schauer claims a higher minimum wage leads to economic growth, greater productivity, and increased demand. "When working families have more to spend on things like gas, groceries, and clothes for their kids, it creates demand," he said.

"And when demand increases, small businesses grow and hire more workers. Minimum wage workers have waited long enough for a raise," Schauer said in a separate MLive article.

Most Republican opponents argue that a hike in minimum wage will do more harm than good, particularly to small businesses and shops that cannot afford to pay workers more.

"Economically, it's a very harmful policy that hurts more people than it helps and particularly the poorest among the lowest income, because owners can't just eat the cost of this increase in the mandated minimum, so they're going to choose the most productive among their existing employees to keep," said Michael LaFaive, fiscal policy director at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, in the aforementioned article.

The effect that this will have on high school and college students is widely debated.

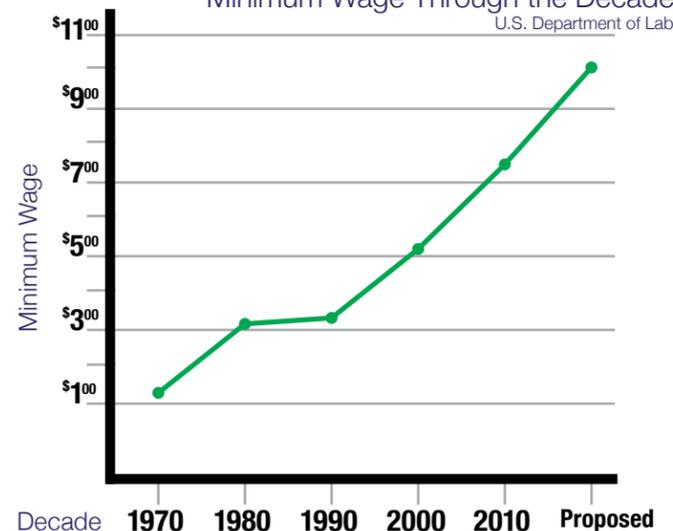
Many who oppose an increase, as LaFaive stated above, contend that forcing

businesses to pay more to minimum wage earners will put many of these workers out of work. This heavily applies to mom-and-pop shops, which barely scrape by in the state the economy is in.

Opponents also claim minimum wage jobs should not count as careers, but rather unskilled labor, worthy of a



Minimum Wage Through the Decades
U.S. Department of Labor



smaller wage.

Many who support this increase contend that no such data exists to prove jobs will be lost as a result of an increase. They propose that a higher wage among employees will lead to a more motivated workforce, thus leading to better production and, as a result, will earn more money to spend on consumption.

While Michigan has a state-mandated minimum wage that is higher than the federal minimum, the unemployment rate is fourth highest in the nation, according to BLS. This shows that a tradeoff exists between wage and employment. The question Michigan legislatures need to ponder is which to choose. ■

omy and prosperity, quality of money, and public money priorities, the goals of these discussions is identifying pri-

fair report dividing up the data by region.

"Region 1 represents the Upper Peninsula, Region 7 is the

"...Every conversation is unique. The diversity that we see from people is amazing."

—Hailey Zureich

orities for the future of Michigan and ultimately to amplify these public priorities in all campaigns and in Lansing after the election.

Personal perspective is common at these events, and individuals tend to have specific ideas that turn into specific input. At the end of the conversation, demographic questions are asked for a conformed and

Southeast and so on. It is interesting to note the differences between the two groups and their similarities. Honestly, it is difficult to compare across the state conversation to conversation how big the divide is. However it is always exciting to hear what Michiganders want," Zureich said.

Reports from previous Community Conversations provid-

ed public momentum for state leaders to approve the nations' largest expansion of public pre-school, approve deeper state investment in the "Pure Michigan" marketing campaign, reform state business taxes, and institute reforms to save taxpayers \$250 million in state prison costs.

Nick Rende, Schoolcraft student, has straightforward political opinions. "I'm always under the impression that us 'little people' have no say. In politics, you elect someone to govern so that they represent what you want. If you compile this data, it may make people feel as though they have input in their government, that it will be used for the reference of these politicians to shape policies. Whether they use it is another story." ■

campus CRIME

COMPILED BY MATT MURPHY
NEWS EDITOR

Threat

At approximately 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 10, the Student Activities Office contacted Schoolcraft College Police Authority to report that one student had threatened another. The student who had been threatened had reserved the Ping-Pong table and was playing when the other student approached and asked if he could play. The first student said the table was reserved and that he could play when his time was up. The other student told a third person that he would "beat up" the first student if he didn't let him play. It was at that time the first student went into the Student Activities Office and asked that SCPA be called. When interviewed by SCPA officers, the second student admitted he had made the threat to beat up the first student. The officers spoke with both students and advised each not to have contact with the other.

Harassment

At 12:45 p.m. on Jan. 13, a student was talking on her cell phone in the Forum Building near the west exit when she was approached by a person described as a black male with light skin and dreadlocks. He was wearing a beanie cap, eye glasses and blue jeans. The male subject asked if the woman was a student at the college and she replied she was not. He then asked who she was talking with and she replied she was talking to her husband. He said he didn't see any rings. The woman told him to go away. The subject began to walk away, but turned around and told her he could have bought her a flip phone. The woman entered the office and contacted SCPA to report the incident. The information was turned over to Student Services for possible Title IX discipline.

Larceny

On Jan. 14, SCPA officers responded to a reported larceny at the Bradner Library. Library personnel reported a mouse and keyboard, valued at approximately \$40, were found to be missing from computer station number 6 at about 10:45 a.m. The video tapes were reviewed, but no one was seen taking the missing equipment.

Attempted Larceny

At about 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 16, SCPA was contacted to report damage to college property in room VT-550. A ceiling tile with an attached antenna was found broken and on the floor in the room. There was no water damage and the tile did not appear to have been broken by natural causes. The chair below the area of the broken tile appeared to have a foot mark on it. It was undetermined at the time of the report if the antenna had been damaged. Facilities Management was

contacted to repair the tile.

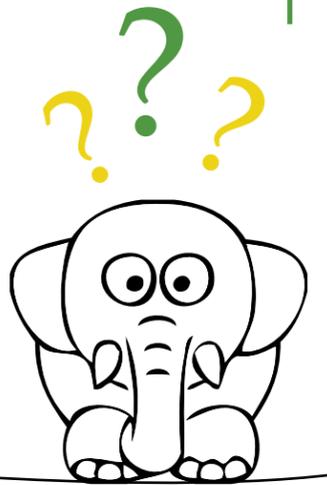
Trespassing Order

On Jan. 23, SCPA was notified of a suspect in several cases where female students had been harassed on campus in recent months. He matched video from surveillance cameras and officers were able to identify the suspect. Officers approached him and asked if they had his correct name. He told officers that they did have his correct name, but could not produce identification. He was notified that he was under investigation for harassment in two specific cases; in one case he was reported as having started to unbuckle his pants. The suspect was notified that he was no longer allowed to be on Schoolcraft College property and advised of the College Trespassing Policy, then escorted from the property. ■

RIDDLE
ME ?
THIS....

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spoken than
broken.

What is it?



Silence



Help is Here

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Contact the
Campus Security
Police Department
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Spring Break (February 24th-March 2nd) PE Building Activities



The **Fitness Center** will be open normal operating hours throughout the College Spring Break Week.

Monday–Friday	5:30 a.m.–9 p.m.
Saturday	7 a.m.–5 p.m.
Sunday	10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Please make note of the following:

- ▶ Racquetball courts **WILL** be available during Spring break week
- ▶ Locker room facilities **WILL** be available for use
- ▶ The PE pool is **NOT** available during Spring break for lap swim

All normal activities in the PE building will resume on **Monday, March 3rd**.

Thank you for your attention!



PHONE 734.462.4348 WEBSITE www.schoolcraft.edu/fitnesscenter





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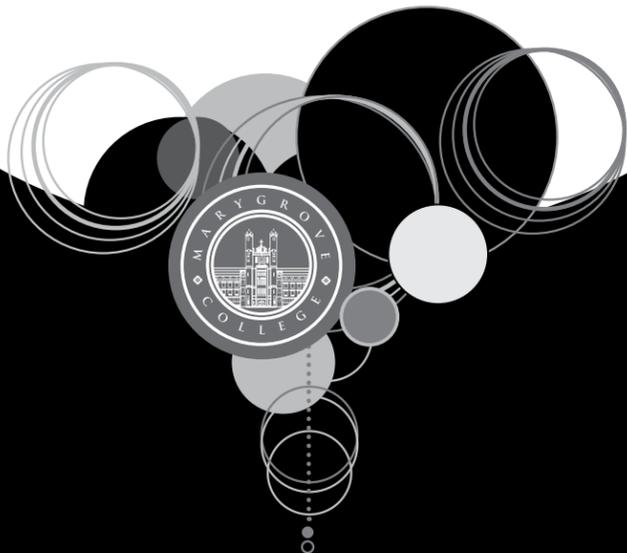
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—Alexandra Palamaru, Eastern Michigan University

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—Bethany Petek, Pacific Lutheran University



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Registration and travel funded through the Livonia AAUW and Schoolcraft College

Registration and Accommodations at University of Maryland, College Park	\$ 395
Bus Transportation	\$ 175
Total Cost	\$ 570
Total Funded	\$ 570
Cost to Student	\$ 0

What do I do to sign up or if I have questions?

Submit a one page essay on why you are interested in attending by February 21, 2014, to Michelle Koss at mkoss@schoolcraft.edu or call 734-462-4402 for more information.

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—Melissa Burkenbine
University of Colorado, Colorado Springs



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Explore the advantages of the new Schoolcraft to U partnership at the Wayne State University and Schoolcraft College Open House.

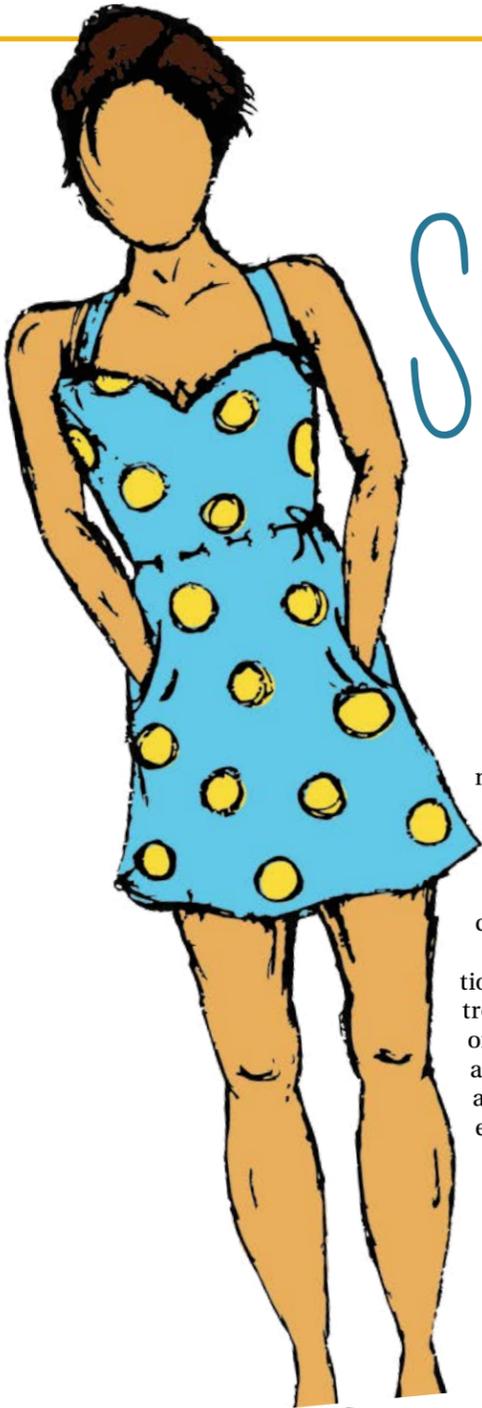
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AIM HIGHER



Spring Break Fashion

BEACHES AND BERMUDAS

STORY AND SKETCHES BY CAMYLE CRYDERMAN
EDITORIAL INTERN

Spring Break offers not only much needed time away from a rigorous school and personal schedule, but also the perfect time to explore forgotten fashion choices.

With the drastic transition from sub-zero temps to tropical climates, the out-of-reach trends will soon be accessible. So pack your bags and be sure to include these essentials.

During the early part of the day when the sun is hot, be sure to wear the proper clothes for sight-seeing. Nothing is more distracting than spending the day tugging at sticky clothes and feeling uncomfortable.

Women should keep it simple, wear lengthier, comfortable fitting shorts, and a loose T-shirt or tank top. Stick with airy fabrics to allow for a breeze, and lightweight articles to allow for movement.

Men should opt for comfortable shorts and a soft shirt that allows arms to breath. Avoid cotton and other heavy materials to beat the heat, and keep in mind that looking good should not always trump comfort.

When spending countless hours lounging on the sands of the beach, it is important to feel good about clothing choices. A swimsuit is necessary for taking a dip in the water, but do not let style outweigh practicality.

Ladies, a modest, yet fashionable swimsuit that shows off personal

assets, yet allows unrestricted movement is the best choice. Not everyone will be able to wear the same style, so go with what fits your body and gives you confidence. Choose a high quality fabric and build offering support for your assets that will not ride up in the waves, and remember to bring a flowing beach wrap to cover up with on walks.

Guys, keep in mind the fit of your swim trunks—you want them to be the perfect size, neither too baggy nor too short. Choose a reasonable pair that stays comfortable when wet, yet offers modest styling. Stray away from extremely bright colors and patterns and keep the design somewhat simple, yet with a touch of personality. Do not forget to pack a loose fitting shirt to throw on after a swim.

Rounding out the perfect day of vacation with a night on the town is much more enjoyable with proper clothing choices. Whether going to an exciting dance club, or just out for a nice dinner, it is important to keep in mind the atmosphere when choosing clothing.

A simple sundress allows ladies movement and airflow to help combat the heat in crowded areas. Make sure to choose a reasonable length, avoiding styles too short or too long that require constant adjustment.

Make it your

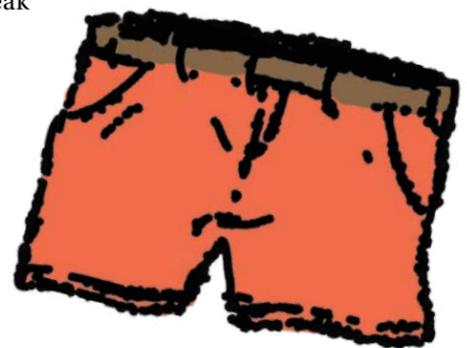
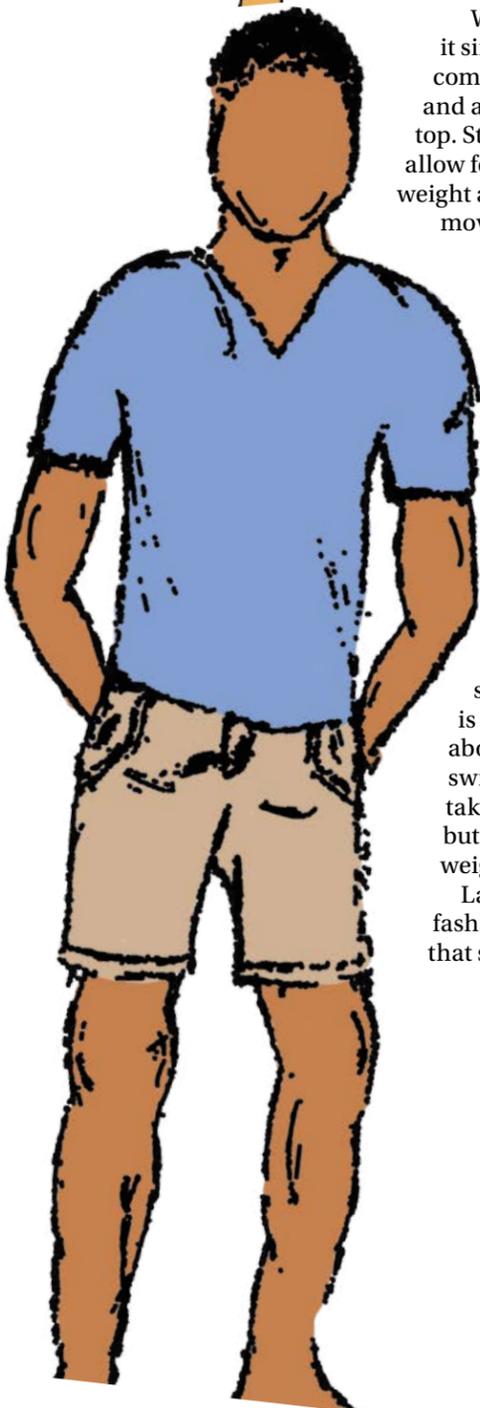
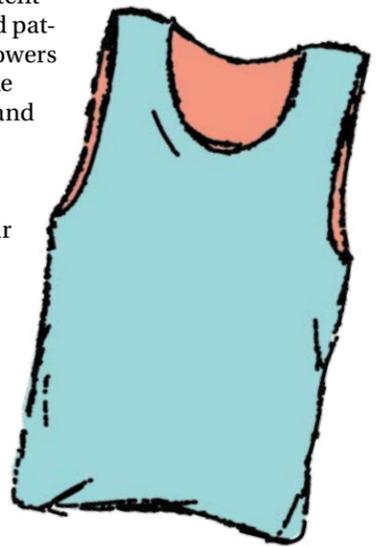
own by staying consistent to your style. Find bold patterns such as bright flowers or polka dots, but make sure it is not too busy and distracting.

Gentlemen should look put together, yet relaxed in a classic pair of shorts and a lightweight shirt. Look for a quality pair of tailored shorts, possibly khakis, which still provide comfort. Pair them with a semi-fitted V-neck t-shirt to stay casual yet stylish. Amp up the style by choosing a colorful shirt—do not settle for black or white, explore differing tones of red, blue, or green.

The relaxation and enjoyment found on a tropical Spring Break getaway is the perfect retreat busy students need. Filled with planned adventures and spontaneous ideas, the escapades of Spring Break are exciting, but incorrect clothing choices can ruin all the fun.

Keep comfort and sun protection in the front of your mind when choosing what to pack, but do not forsake style and accessibility.

Visit websites such as style.com and GQ.com for even more accessible tips and tricks to help along the way. These suggestions, along with your own sense of style, will allow for a memorable, yet comfortable spring break experience. ■



Staycation destinations

Exciting, yet close to home, locales make inexpensive spring break options

BY LAUREN LUKENS
MANAGING EDITOR

“For all of nature’s wonder and beauty, it is also hostile and unpredictable.” Oscar winning Irish actor Liam Neeson captures Michigan winter weather perfectly.

With Spring Break just around the corner, students looking for fun destinations within budget have many local options to choose from. Do not let money woes ruin a well-deserved break. These options offer fun-filled day trips and weekend getaways close to home.

Metro Detroit Area

Detroit and the surrounding metro area is home of plenty of attractions. The Detroit Children’s Museum and Detroit Science Center, housed under the same roof, have plenty of educational enjoyment to offer.

Head west to Dearborn and visit The Henry Ford Museum, a 12-acre historical museum that portrays the Industrial Revolution. Paid admission to The Henry Ford Museum allows purchase of an IMAX movie ticket for half price. Witness automobile production first hand with a trip on the Rouge Factory Tour, a self-guided five-part tour that includes the Legacy Theater, Art of Manufacturing Theater, Observation Deck, Dearborn Truck Plant, and the Legacy Gallery.

Cranbrook, in Bloomfield Hills, is home to two state-of-the-art museums. The Institute of Science, Michigan’s museum of natural history, includes a weather permitting observatory, planetarium, and mineral study gallery, while the Cranbrook Art Museum features examples of art, architecture, and design from the 20th and 21st centuries. All attractions are educational and have quite a few exhibits and extras to offer.

Ann Arbor

One of Michigan’s most pedestrian-friendly and lively downtown business districts, Ann Arbor is filled with places to shop and dine. This close-to-home destination offers enlightening attractions and museums. The African American Cultural and Historical Museum contains materials written, owned, or produced by African Americans from the 1700s to present. Striving to engage the community through visual arts, the Ann Arbor Art Center offers art studio and art appreciation courses, monthly public exhibitions, and a gallery shop promoting regional artists. The Ann Arbor Hands-on Museum is an impeccable place for kids, comprising of hands-on galleries that teach about simple machines, sounds, the human body, telecommunications, and much more.

The Briarwood Mall is a perfect place to end the day,

with anchor stores including Macy’s, JCPenny, Sears, and Von Maur.

Northern Michigan

Boyne Mountain, located in Boyne Falls, offers a plethora of attractions enjoyable through the year. From Avalanche Bay Indoor Waterpark and year-round Zipline Adventures to shopping, dining, skiing, and snowboarding, Boyne has something to offer everyone.

Mackinaw City, known for its beauty during the summer season, offers lovely vistas and a few fun attractions. Grab a taste of Michigan winters on hiking, biking, and snowmobiling trails, or visit the Butterfly House and Insect World for an indoor display of nature.

Traverse City, the largest city in the 21-county northern Michigan region, has plenty to offer during the snowy winter season. Great Wolf Lodge offers warm guest rooms and an indoor waterpark a few miles away from the walking trails along Grand Traverse Bay. Downtown Traverse City offers an abundant choice of boutiques, gift shops, and restaurants offering a selection of local wine and fun northern Michigan flavor.

Frankenmuth



Aside from the delicious chicken dinners that Frankenmuth is famous for, the city has many attractions to keep both children and adults busy for the weekend.

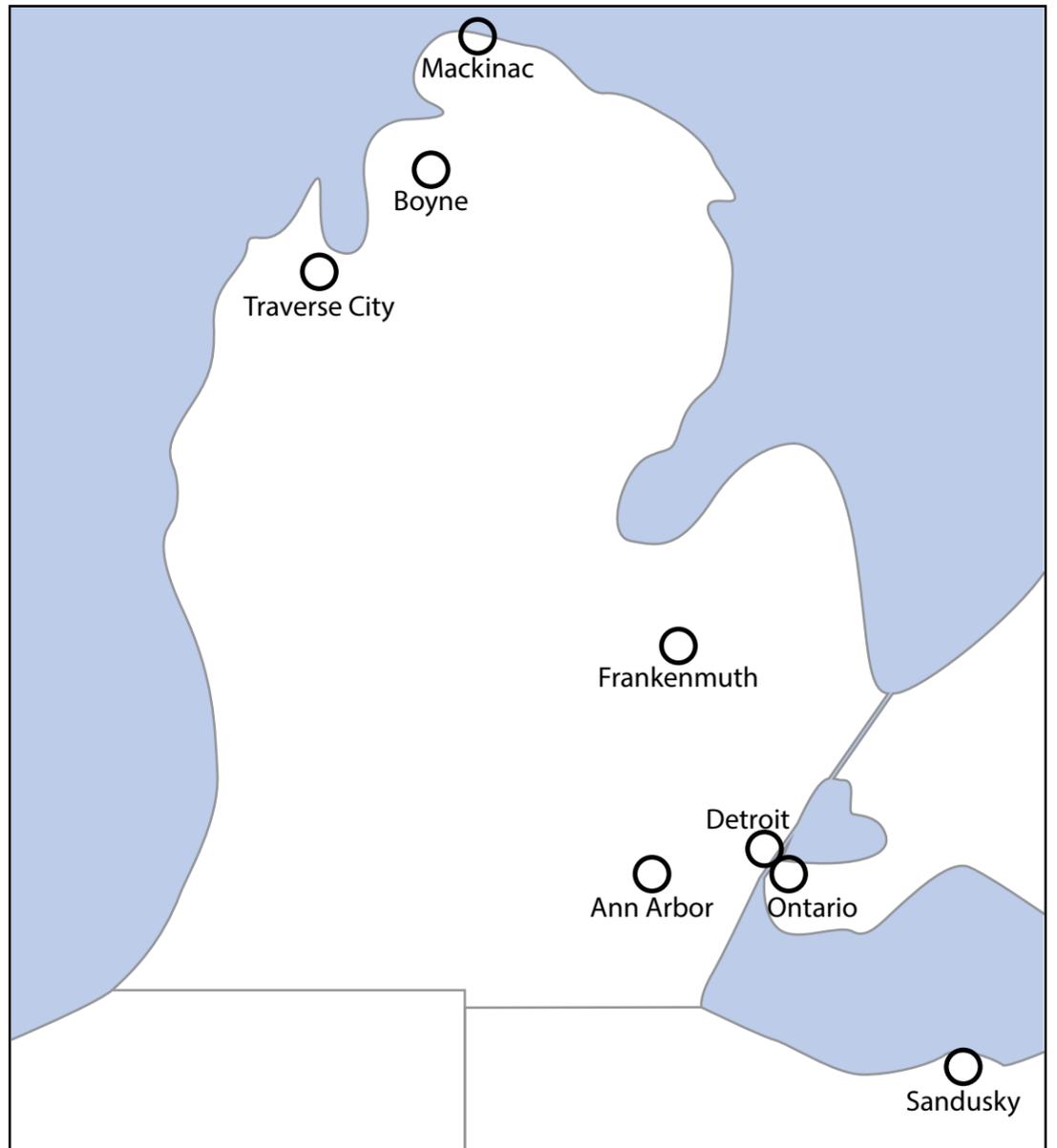
Plan a night or two at Zehnder’s Splash Village Hotel and Waterpark, a whimsical water playground with attractions for the entire family. The four-level indoor water park features 146 deluxe guest rooms, a video arcade, and a restaurant serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

The Bavarian-themed family resort Bavarian Inn Lodge covers 7 acres under one roof. Featuring four indoor pools, two new waterslides, three whirlpools, 360 unique guest rooms, an indoor 18-hole mini-golf course, two lounges, nightly entertainment, gift shops, and dining, there is surely a little something for everyone.

Bronner’s Christmas Wonderland, the world’s largest Christmas store, is a festive sight to see. Both inside and out, the store is a magical Christmas wonderland featuring many great ideas to make your house a showstopper when the season comes back around.

Grand Rapids

Michigan’s second-largest city boasts an inviting downtown area filled with amiable



stores, bars, restaurants, and an abundance of attractions for the whole family. An educational experience begins at the Children’s Museum, Art Museum, Roger B. Chaffee Planetarium, and Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. The Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park offers year-round botanical enjoyment and many opportunities for learning and photography.

Nearby cities Grand Haven, Holland, and Saugatuck, known for their beautiful beaches during the summer, offer appetizing restaurants and charming shops as well as hiking, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling trails.

Windsor

With just a short trip across



the Detroit River, experience one of the greatest cities that Ontario has to offer. Caesars Windsor Hotel and Casino is an adult playground. Bet on some excitement at Ontario’s premier gaming complex,

featuring more than 80 table games, 3,300 slots, and tournament series. Caesars also offers a 5,000-seat theatre, The Colosseum, which hosts world-class performers of all genres of dance, music, comedy, and more.

The Comedy Quarry at Rockhead Bar, Ontario’s Premiere Comedy Club, brings guests a better atmosphere, level of talent, food, and drink than any other comedy establishment in Windsor-Essex.

Sandusky

A couple hours south of Detroit, Sandusky, Ohio offers year-round water-themed attractions and plenty of restaurants and shops to keep one busy.

Castaway Bay, Cedar Point’s

and a two-person water rollercoaster that zooms around the park called Rendezvous Run.

Kalahari, the world’s largest indoor waterpark, offers fun for all ages. This African-themed resort features a Swahili Swirl 60-inch diameter bowl raft ride, Zip Coaster uphill water rollercoaster waterslide, and Cheetah Race four lane mat slides, as well as raft rides, a lazy river, indoor/indoor spas, a swim-up bar, and much more.

Currently offering a 15 percent discount for guests staying two or more nights during February or March, Great Wolf Lodge includes over 33,000 square feet of water-packed excitement where you can splash the day away. Offering both jaw-dropping slides for thrill seekers and zero-depth entry areas for little ones, this attraction has something for everyone. Gather the family in the Grand Lobby for nightly, fireside Story Time—the perfect ending to a Great Wolf day.

Michigan and surrounding areas offer many different options for exciting, budget-friendly Spring Break getaways. This year, use this time to explore Michigan, conquer a waterpark, appreciate art, learn about history and nature, or just shop and dine in a city away from home. Vacations, no matter how far from home, help rejuvenate and refresh the mind and body. Use this week to relax, clear your head, and prepare yourself for the rest of the semester. ■

Packing essentials

Travel fundamentals for every suitcase

BY JACKIE CHARNIGA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

1. What you normally pack: Complete artillery of hair products including blow driers and curlers. What you should pack: Your flat iron. Hotels generally provide hair dryers, and you shouldn't waste vacation time styling. Packing it in an oven mitt allows for safe travel even while hot.
2. What you normally pack: Every pair of pants you own, half a dozen shorts/skirts/skorts combinations. What you should pack: One sturdy pair of jeans, one casual pair of shorts, and one classy skirt for eating out. Worst case scenario, visit a dry cleaners or just buy a new pair.
3. What you normally pack: Your full size shampoo, conditioner, body wash, body-lotion, body spray, et cetera. What you should pack: A travel pack, easily purchased anywhere, should have everything needed for at least one week. Most hotels can provide the basics if you run out.
4. What you normally pack: Every snack or packaged good in your home to avoid eating-out expenses or food poisoning. What you should pack: Self-filtering water bottle. Often the most expensive commodity, water is a godsend on any beach, bus tour, shopping mall, or boardwalk. A reuseable bottle keeps your suitcase light, and the filter helps provide clean, fresh tasting refreshment when you need it.
5. What you normally pack: Enough underwear and socks for the allotted time you'll be on vacation. What you should pack: Two, or three times that amount. You never know. Also slide extra underwear/socks into your carry on, plus an extra shirt in case your bags get lost.
6. What you normally pack: New, expensive name-brand trainers, and attractive strappy heels. What you should bring: Two pairs of comfortable shoes in neutral colors, one dressy and one casual. They don't have to be orthopedic, but you should be able to walk several miles in them comfortably.
7. What you normally pack: Body lotion. What you should pack: Sunscreen. Everyone burns, no matter your skin tone or how "macho" you are. Opt for a lotion with sunscreen to both soothe and protect.
8. What you normally pack: Speedo/string bikini. What you should pack: A bathing suit you wouldn't be embarrassed to be seen in by your boss, mother, or grandmother. Pick one that has maximum support and stay-put straps to make swimming as comfortable as possible.
9. What you normally pack: Your phone, iPod, iPad, laptop, camera, Gameboy, and Kindle with chargers for all. What you should pack: Pick two. If you need more than that you might as well stay home.
10. What you normally pack: Your entire makeup bag that looks like a monolith on National Geographic. What you should pack: Ladies, it is understandable that in the case of mysterious vacation man of your dreams appearing on the next beach towel, you'll want to be fully covered. However, besides a spot of concealer, a swipe of mascara, and maybe some lip color, there isn't much more you'd need. Besides, all that extra beauty sleep and water will have you glowing anyway! ■

Rethinking the flu shot

Natural options help combat the flu

BY LEESA PRECHESKY
STAFF WRITER

As students gear up for spring break, some look forward to a chance to rest and recharge, while others anticipate an exciting getaway. Either way, students want to make the best of their time off. Staying healthy is important; no one wants to waste their spring break battling sickness.

An all-too-common illness affecting many people each year is the flu. Coming down with a case of the flu could leave a student bed-ridden and easily eat up the few precious days of spring break. According to flu.gov, flu season begins in the fall and reaches its peak in the colder months of January or February. Record breaking cold temperatures this year account for a more intense flu season.

Traditional medicine offers one treatment to prevent the flu: a yearly flu shot.

However, the shot alone is not a guarantee to avoid coming down with the flu. Oftentimes, people will become sick from receiving the shot itself, which carries side effects including headaches, fever, and nausea. Sickness and side effects occur most often in young children, adolescents, the elderly, and people with a compromised immune system. Advice



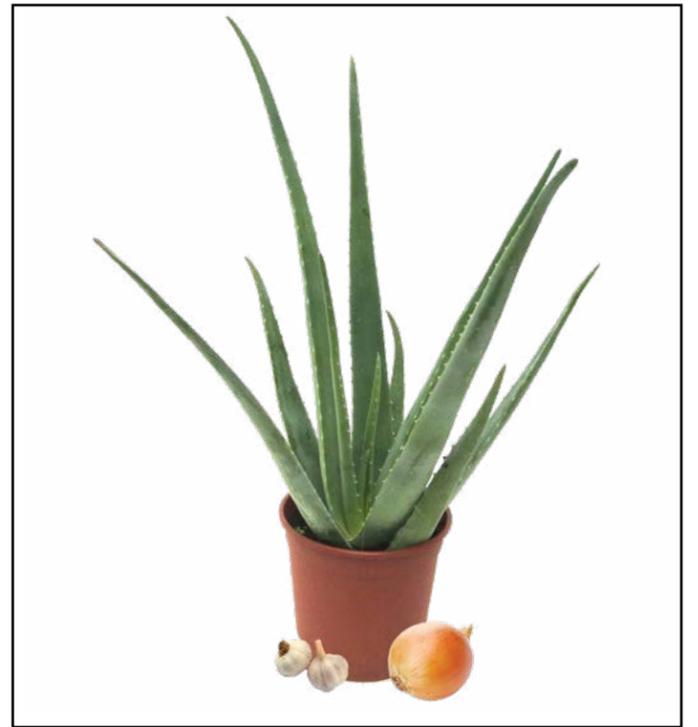
from a medical doctor about the flu is simple: get enough rest and drink plenty of fluids; wait it out and eventually it will go away. Few people are aware of the numerous natural methods to treat and even prevent the flu.

Several natural substances offer antiviral, antibacterial, and immune boosting properties. Examples include aloe vera juice, onions, garlic, colloidal silver, and essential oils. These options are easy to include in everyday life and, as a bonus, packed with healthy nutrients.

Aloe vera juice offers an incredible amount of beneficial health properties. Aloe is a natural antibacterial, antifungal, and antiviral that is nutrient rich, containing a variety of vitamins, minerals, and amino acids. It offers pain-relieving properties that help reduce flu aches and pains.

Pure aloe vera juice is available at local health food stores and other natural food stores, such as Trader Joe's, while single-serve premade aloe juice drinks blended with ingredients, such as mangosteen and honey, can be found at many gas stations and convenience stores. These beverages are a simple, delicious way to incorporate aloe vera juice into your diet. Adding aloe vera juice to a cup of fruit juice or a smoothie offers yet another easy way to add a punch of health benefits into your day.

Classic kitchen staples, onion and garlic, assist in preventing and treating the flu as well. Herbalencyclopedia.com states that onions and garlic contain strong anti-viral and anti-bacterial properties from the natural substance known as allicin. Raw onions and garlic offer the strongest illness fighting properties, but cooked versions also provide great



benefits as well. All varieties of onion, red, yellow, white, or Spanish, contain the same health benefits. Start by adding onions and garlic directly into food or seek out raw versions available in the local vitamin or health food shop.

According to herbalwisdom.com colloidal silver is an effective agent in combating the flu.

Colloidal silver functions by interrupting the life cycle of various pathogens and offers beneficial antibacterial and antiviral properties. It is available in liquid form easily dispensed with a dropper. Colloidal silver can be found at local health food stores.

The sales person can recommend a dosage.

Essential oils have become a popular staple of medicine cabinets everywhere. Many offer anti-bacterial, anti-viral, and antiseptic properties making them an easy, healthy alternative to chemicals. For example, melaleuca oil, commonly known as tea tree oil, has strong antiviral

and antibacterial properties. A few drops of this oil serve as an effective, natural replacement for hand-sanitizer and is free of harsh chemicals. Adding a few drops to some white vinegar creates an effective cleaner and sanitizer for various surfaces in your home. Lemon, peppermint, clove, thyme, thieves, and lemongrass essential oils offer similar properties. A flu bomb recipe and other recipes and tips can be found at doterrablog.com and all over Pinterest.com

These options represent a small few of the natural options available to help combat viruses; try them individually or combine them for a greater effect. Many people are opting for more natural and less expensive options to improve health and clean homes. Head out to the local health foods store to pick up these items and start adding them into your diet to boost your health and prevent future illness. ■

They Made a Difference

BY MATT MURPHY | NEWS EDITOR

One cold December evening, a woman makes her way home from a long day at work. She is tired from her labors as a seamstress at a department store and seeks nothing more than a few minutes rest before she prepares the evening meal. During the ride home, the driver speaks to her. A white man has boarded the bus and she, a black woman, must surrender her seat and move to the rear of the bus. She knew this might happen and had resolved to meet the request with an act of civil disobedience. The Civil Rights movement traces its birth to this moment.

A composer of music sits at his piano; the opera he writes is no ordinary piece of music. His opera, "*Tremonisha, an Opera in Three Parts*", is written to accomplish many goals. He writes to honor his mother,

to inspire his people and to show an ignorant world that the black man, truly, has the capacity to compose music of a magnitude worthy of the classical masters. The heroine of his opera, modeled after his mother, is invested with the best qualities of womanhood and

of his race. She seeks to lead her people out of darkness and into the light of a bright tomorrow. Sadly, he never lives to see his masterwork performed; the world was not ready and judged his work unworthy.

Mrs. Rosa Parks became the living embodiment of the struggle of Black America to throw off the yoke of past oppression. She sought to seize their full rights of citizenship, so long denied them and their ancestors. She lived to see others inspired by her bold step reach out and fulfill the promises of the thirteenth amendment to the Constitution.

Scott Joplin, the "King of Ragtime", went to his grave never to know the impression he left on American music. It was many years after his death before his life's work was recognized for its brilliance and beauty. It was longer still before his opera was performed, to great acclaim. Although he never knew success in his effort to raise the condition of his fellow man his efforts helped lay the foundation upon which today stands.

The characteristics these two Americans share are simple: they were ordinary citizens who dared to believe they could make a difference, and they dared to act. ■

Writing
Corner



Tantalizing tropical treats

Experience a taste of the tropics without the high cost of airfare

Pineapple Chicken Kabobs

Ingredients:

- 3 large boneless chicken breasts
- 3 sweet bell peppers
- 1 can sliced pineapple or 1 fresh pineapple
- 2 ripe but firm tomatoes
- 1/2 cup soy sauce
- 1 cup pineapple juice



Directions:

- Cut chicken into 1 inch cubes.
- Place cubes into soy sauce/pineapple mixture.
- Marinate for 2 hours.
- Wash bell peppers and cut into 1 inch squares.
- Slice pineapple into 1 inch squares.
- Slice tomatoes into salad wedges.

Using wooden or metal skewers, place an equal number of each ingredient onto skewers. Cook over medium heat or heat or grill on medium until chicken is thoroughly done.

- * Serves 6, but can easily be increased. Can also substitute chicken with seafood or beef.
- * Also try changing up the veggies to what you like.

Mango Pina Colada Smoothie

Ingredients:

- 1 mango - peeled, seeded and cubed
- 1 1/4 cups ice cubes
- 2 tablespoons white sugar
- 1 1/4 cups pineapple juice
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 (14 ounce) can coconut milk



Directions:

- Place the mango cubes, ice, sugar, pineapple juice, cream, and coconut milk into a blender.
- Puree until smooth, pour into glasses and serve.

Watermelon Cooler Slushy

Ingredients:

- 4 cups cubed seedless watermelon
- 10 ice cubes
- 1/3 cup fresh lime juice
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon salt



Directions:

- Place watermelon and ice into a blender.
- Pour in lime juice, sugar, and salt.
- Blend until smooth.

Perfect Fruit Salad

Ingredients:

- 2/3 cup fresh orange juice
- 1/3 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon grated orange zest
- 1/2 teaspoon grated lemon zest
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups cubed fresh pineapple
- 2 cups strawberries, hulled and sliced
- 3 kiwi fruit, peeled and sliced
- 3 bananas, sliced
- 2 oranges, peeled and sectioned
- 1 cup seedless grapes
- 2 cups blueberries



Directions:

Bring orange juice, lemon juice, brown sugar, orange zest, and lemon zest to a boil in a saucepan over medium-high heat. Reduce heat to medium-low, and simmer until slightly thickened, about 5 minutes. Remove from heat, and stir in vanilla extract. Set aside to cool. Layer the fruit in a large, clear glass bowl in this order: pineapple, strawberries, kiwi fruit, bananas, oranges, grapes, and blueberries. Pour the cooled sauce over the fruit. Cover and refrigerate for 3 to 4 hours before serving.

Grilled Peanut Butter and Banana Sandwich

Ingredients:

- cooking spray
- 2 tablespoons peanut butter
- 2 slices whole wheat bread
- 1 banana, sliced



Directions:

- Heat a skillet or griddle over medium heat, and coat with cooking spray.
- Spread 1 tablespoon of peanut butter onto one side of each slice of bread.
- Place banana slices onto the peanut buttered side of one slice, top with the other slice and press together firmly.
- Fry the sandwich until golden brown on each side, about 2 minutes per side.

Tropical Popcorn Snack Mix

Ingredients:

- 2 c popcorn
- 1/4 c freeze-dried mango, roughly chopped
- 2 tbsp dried pineapple, diced
- 1 tbsp sweetened shredded coconut



Preheat the oven to 350°.

Directions:

- In a medium bowl, toss together the popcorn, mango, and pineapple.
- Pour the coconut on a small baking sheet, and bake at 350° for 3-4 minutes, stirring every minute, or until light golden.
- Cool for 2 minutes before sprinkling on top of the popcorn mixture.





MOOCS AND YOU

An Ivy League education for all

BY PETE HELMS
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

College is expensive—there's no doubt about it. Many American students attend community and preparatory colleges such as Schoolcraft to defer costs and meet their prerequisites in lieu of starting at more expensive universities. But what if you could attend Harvard or MIT for free from the comfort of your own bed? Enter the MOOC: massive open online courses.

MOOCs utilize the reach, speed, and open nature of the Internet to deliver lectures and other college course content to students all over the world—for free. The idea of the MOOC began with Dave Cormier and Bryan Alexander in 2008. Since then, MOOCs have exploded, and the "New York Times" dubbed 2012

"year of the MOOC." EdX, one of the first MOOC organizations formed by collaborators Harvard and MIT, now offers courses from over thirty institutions, including UC Berkeley and the University of Texas, according to their website edx.org. Classes can be audited for free, or students can pay a small fee for an identity-verified completion certificate. Most MOOCs operate like traditional online courses; they have start and end dates, may require homework, and require both commitment and internet access.

The downside to completing a MOOC is that traditional credit isn't offered for completion. Therefore, one must take weeks to complete a course where no credit is offered, only personal enrichment. Some organizations are attempting

to remedy this situation, at least in part. For example, Georgia Tech, in conjunction with Udacity, began offering a masters in computer science for only \$7,000, down from a \$40,000 price tag according to Forbes. Coursera, an organization that includes Stanford, Yale, and the University of Michigan, allows you to display your completion certificates when synced with your LinkedIn profile. While MOOCs will most likely not replace traditional degree achievement, they can prepare students to test out of classes and prepare for subjects they know will be difficult if they do choose to take them for credit later on.

Schoolcraft College is currently preparing to give a workshop on MOOCs at the Bradner Library at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 20. Presenting are Reference Librarians

Wayne Pricer and Vicki Dixon, who are also available to students during regular business hours. Mr. Pricer is especially excited about the opportunities offered by MOOCs, and says they are "cool for people who are thinking about going back to school" or testing out the waters for a class they will have to take in the future. He also mentioned the evolution of distance learning, noting how it was achieved using short-wave radio and video transmissions before the advent of the Internet, and how things have changed to become more flexible and interactive. "It started out in places like Can-

ada and Australia, and now it's everywhere,"

Pricer said.

He also mentioned that students and faculty could access a variety of MOOC resources through the Schoolcraft Library website using the "faculty professional development" link. Following the "MOOC Resources" link will lead you to Schoolcraft's collection of MOOCs and related open-source learning tools, all of which were reviewed by library staff.

Students should look forward to taking advantage of the opportunities offered by MOOCs. The friendly staff at the Bradner Library is always on-hand to assist students in navigating the myriad of resources offered both on-site and online. Stop by and learn something new! ■

Coollest thing since bowties!

Get wibbly-wobbly and timey-wimey with the Doctor Who Club

BY KATIE TRACY
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

"Doctor Who" is one of those shows that are difficult to describe to people. It is a British sci-fi adventure show that began Nov. 23, 1963. The Doctor is a Time Lord, a member of an alien race that regenerates instead of dying. The Doctor and his companions that he meets along his adventures in the TARDIS (his time machine) defeat evil alien threats and save planets. With each regeneration of the Doctor comes a new incarnation, hence the names Nine, Ten, Eleven, et cetera. For those who are still confused, the regeneration can almost be com-

pared to James Bond; there are different incarnations (Sean Connery, Pierce Brosnan) of James Bond, and each actor who plays him has a quirk that is his trademark, but he still has the same name. After eight Doctors and an extended hiatus starting in the 1990s, "Doctor Who" returned with the Ninth Doctor in 2005.

On Christmas Day, 2013, the Eleventh Doctor (played by Matt Smith) regenerated into the Twelfth Doctor (played by Peter Capaldi). Many of the Doctors' actors have been long-time fans of the show. Capaldi wrote to the "Radio Times" as a fifteen-year old about his love for the show. David Tennant, who portrays the tenth Doctor's incarnation, got into acting because he dreamed of being the Doctor one day. It just goes to show how much this show means to Brits and now Americans



who can watch the episodes on Netflix or on BBC America.

Time can be a confusing concept; some see it as a linear sequence of cause and effect, when it is really more like "a big ball of wibbly wobbly timey wimey stuff." If that theory makes sense to you, you might want to check out the Doctor Who Club. The club is led by Claire Whittbracht, who sees the club as just "something fun for Whovians to do." The club meets every Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the Lower Waterman, Conference Room D, to watch episodes, discuss news in the Doctor Who-verse, and share

(Above) Pictures of The Doctor through previous incarnations. (Right) The Dr. Who club is led by Claire Whittbracht.

the anticipation for new episodes. It is a humble club, with a small number of fans, but it will welcome anyone who is interested in becoming a Whovian (in the past they have promoted "Bring Your Non-Whovian Friend Day" to get more people to see how great the show is). "Doctor Who" is not the only topic of discussion;



Whittbracht says that the club spends much of its meetings discussing other shows such as NBC's "Hannibal" and

The author wore black

Alyssa Alexander visits Schoolcraft

BY JACKIE CHARNIGA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

At nine o'clock in the McDowell Center on Feb. 7, authoress Alyssa Alexander held the attention of a full conference room. Her novel, "The Smuggler Wore Silk," rested against the whiteboard behind her as she answered questions and shared her experience of publishing her first novel. In attendance were the staff of the Writing Fellows and hoards of other eager students, staff, and faculty members.

A full-time administrative assistant at a law firm, Alexander has more than enough on her plate.

A local girl, Alexander grew up in Plymouth and attended Grand Valley. She currently resides in East Lansing with her husband and 5-year-old son. Writing is usually done from 8 until 11 p.m., occasionally at 5 in the morning, five days a week.

"I don't get a lot of sleep," she joked.

Among her supporters is Alexander's mother, Marla

Hafemeister, who works at Schoolcraft's Brader library.

"She was always an avid reader, ever since she was little. When in middle school, she'd hurry up and eat breakfast before school and sit on the heater to read. She wouldn't like to be bothered at this time."

When prompted on Alexander being drawn into fiction, Hafemeister said, "[She was] always making up stories, characters, in her head. Since age ten or twelve."

Upon reading her daughter's first novel, Hafemeister reflected, "I kept having to remind myself that she wrote it. She even got my husband to read it. But she moved out twelve years ago or so. This was a long time coming."

Alexander chose the pen name to remain anonymous, and to protect her son. Confidentiality is important in the pursuit for privacy among authors, and Alexander knew that the pen name would separate her private and public life. Not to mention it was a strategic advantage, de-



Author Alyssa Alexander discusses her struggles throughout the publishing process.

termining where her book would be situated on the shelf in the romance.

"I wanted my novel to be on the upper-left side of the shelf, at eye level."

Another difficult task on the road to publication is going through the process. Alexander took the "traditionalist" method of acquiring an agent and going through a publishing house. In this process, writers must woo potential agents by submitting one-page reading samples. If that is chosen, the agent may request an entire chapter, or ten. According

to Alexander, only after this process may an agent take on a writer as a client. "In 2013, an agent received 3,206 letters. She requested manuscripts from only 46, and took on two clients as a result."

When asked about her writing process, Alexander stated that she does not write in a recognizably linear pattern, but rather jots down scenes as they occur to her, which is known as writing by the "seat of your

SEE AUTHOR
ON PAGE 12

Secrets of the Quill

I have always been a very good writer, but I still want to improve. What are some of the tricks of the trade that professional writers use?

—Pursuing Professionalism

Dear Pursuing Professionalism,

Start breaking the rules. This is what the great writers do, and this is what you need to do if you want to take your writing to the next level. But first you must understand the rules. You want to make rhetorical choices, not grammatical errors. It's like a chef who does things in the kitchen that you would never see in a culinary school. Once he has mastered the essential skills and techniques, he has the freedom to improvise – which is to say, to bend and break many of the rules he learned along the way.

Consider the fragment. Your English professors will tell you a thousand times to avoid fragments, but the giants of literature use them all the time. Nabokov begins *Lolita* with the fragment "My sin, my soul." This sets the tone for the entire novel. And Rimbaud uses the fragment "L'aimee." ("The beloved.") for emphasis in "Vigils," one of his most famous poems. These are examples of the rhetori-

cal fragment being used for a specific purpose and to create a specific effect. The authors did not forget to use verbs, but rather chose to omit the verbs for a reason.

Another rule professional writers choose to break is beginning sentences with conjunctions. In one of world literature's most renowned works of short fiction, "The Tell-Tale Heart," Edgar Allan Poe writes, "And every morning, when the day broke, I went boldly into the chamber..." He creates his rhythm and tone by beginning sentence after sentence with the conjunction "And." Even though it appears somewhat subtle on the page, the technique helps to illuminate the narrator's mental state. Professor Roger Scruton, a senior research fellow at Oxford, uses this construction throughout his critically acclaimed study of wine

entitled *I Drink, Therefore I Am*. In his prelude, Scruton writes, "And while societies differ over which intoxicants should be encouraged..." and "But such a belief persists if only renewed in imagination." The result is a natural voice and a melodic rhythm.

And what about contractions? We are told never to use them in formal writing, but this is another rule that begs to be broken. You don't want your essays to sound like formal business letters. It is crucial to use language in a way that will get through to your readers and engage their interest. In his award winning essay "Some Lessons from the Assembly Line," Andrew Braaksma writes, "I'm so relieved..." and "I couldn't believe..." Katy Piotrowski, M.Ed., writes in her exposition essay "Preparing for the Job Interview: Know Thy-

self," "Don't forget..." and "it's important..."

Some of the examples I've given come from works of fiction and poetry, but practical application may always be applied to academic essays. Look closely when you read the example essays in your textbooks: you will see just how often the rules are broken. And look at some of the most respected journalists and syndicated columnists – they too break most of the rules you have been warned about since your middle-school English classes. The thing to remember – one more time – is that they are making rhetorical choices, not grammatical errors. Only after you know and understand the rules can you break them.

—Michael Polano ■

Contact Us
Bradner Library, L119
P: 734-462-4436
fellows@schoolcraft.edu

Writing
Fellows



STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE club MEETINGS

PHI THETA KAPPA

Lower Waterman | Saturday 11 a.m. and Wednesday 7 p.m.

SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

Conference Room E, Lower Waterman
Every Monday 4 p.m.

MATH AND PHYSICS CLUB

BTC 320 | Friday 10:30

PHILOSOPHY CLUB

Meeting times and location will vary

BIO-MED CLUB CONNECTION

Meeting times and location will vary

METRO DETROIT ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN STUDENT CHAPTER (MDAECYC)

Meeting time and location will vary

BUSINESS CLUB

Lower Waterman
Monday and Wednesday 2:15 p.m.

VIDEO PRODUCTION CLUB

Lower Waterman
Friday 3 p.m.

TRANSFERYOU

Lower Waterman
First and Third Friday 11 a.m.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD

Lower Waterman | Thursday 4 p.m.

EDGERUNNER SKI & SNOWBOARDING CLUB

Meeting times and location will vary

PROJECT PLAYHEM GAMING CLUB

Lower Waterman | Monday 2 p.m.

ECCENTRIC MOVIE CLUB

Conference Room D, Lower Waterman
Tues and Thurs 12–6 p.m.

TABLE TOP GAMING CLUB

Lower Waterman | Thursday 5–10 p.m.

DOCTOR WHO CLUB

Lower Waterman | Wednesday 3 p.m.

LACROSSE CLUB

Meeting times and location will vary

RUGBY CLUB

Meeting times and location will vary

OTAKU ANIME

Lower Waterman
Every other Saturday 5 p.m.

PING PONG CLUB

Lower Waterman | Tues and Thurs 2:30–6

FIT CLUB

Fitness Center, PE Building
Wed 12-1 & 3-4 | Thurs 7-8 p.m. | Fri 12-3

BREAK DANCE CLUB

PE 210 | Tues and Thurs 2:30–5 p.m.

COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

Lower Waterman | Every other Thursday 2

YOUNG AMERICANS FOR LIBERTY

Lower Waterman | Monday 1 p.m.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS GROUP

Lower Waterman | Wednesday 4:30 p.m.

CHRISTIAN CHALLENGE

Lower Waterman | Tuesday at 12 p.m.

CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Lower Waterman | Every other Thurs 2 p.m.

STUDENTS FOR LIFE

Lower Waterman | Every other Thurs 1 p.m.

STUDENTS OF AMF

Lower Waterman | Every other Tuesday 4

LGBTQI ALLIANCE

Lower Waterman | Wednesday 1:30 p.m.

SCHOOLCRAFT FEMALE INITIATIVE

Lower Waterman | Wednesday 2:30 p.m.

ASIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Meeting times and location will vary

NATIVE AMERICAN CLUB

LA 521 | Wednesdays, Oct 16 & Nov 20 4:30

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTION CLUB

Radcliff Rm 420 | Thursday 5 p.m.

All meeting dates and times are subject to change.
For more information, visit the Student Activities Office
or call 734-462-4422



campus EVENTS

COMPILED BY KATIE TRACY
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

MADONNA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS VISIT

TUESDAY, FEB. 18, 9 TO 10:45 A.M.
APPLIED SCIENCES BUILDING
11 A.M. TO 1 P.M. AT HENRY'S, VISTATECH
CENTER

A college representative from Madonna University will be available on Tuesday, February 18 to meet with Schoolcraft students to discuss transfer prospects.

LIBRARY WORKSHOPS

TUESDAY, FEB. 18, 10-11:30 A.M.,
BRADNER LIBRARY, L105

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19, 10-11:30 A.M.,
APPLIED SCIENCES BUILDING, COMPUTER
LAB AS930

THURSDAY, FEB. 20, 10-11:30 A.M.,
BRADNER LIBRARY, L105

There are three workshops at the end of February to teach any students, faculty and staff about resources that will help when it comes to writing research papers or taking classes online. The first workshop will be about Library Resources for Artists, Writers and Musicians. Another workshop will be about the EBSCO Discovery Service Library Database. A second workshop on the same topic will be on March 3 at the same time and location as the first EBSCO workshop. The third workshop this month will be about Exploring MOOCs. For more information on any of these workshops, contact Wayne Price

at wprice@schoolcraft.edu.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY CAMPUS VISIT

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19, 11 A.M. TO 3 P.M.,
HENRY'S, WATERMAN,
VISTATECH CENTER

Schoolcraft students will have an opportunity to meet a college representative from Oakland University who will be available to discuss transfer requirements, programs of study, and answer questions.

NEED SOME ADVICE ON HOW TO GET INTO THE FOOD BUSINESS?

WEDNESDAYS, FEB. 19 TO MARCH 19, 6-9
P.M., BTC170

Sign up for a class on Cooking up a Successful Food Related Business to learn all about it! This is a 5-week course starting Wednesday, February 19. There is a \$225 fee. Check out the Business Development Center's website, <http://schoolcraft.edu/bdc>, for more information.

NOON CONCERT SERIES

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19, 12-1 P.M.,
VISTATECH CENTER

Attend the Noon Concert in the VisTaTech Center and listen to piano soloist and educator, Anthony Bonamici. Bonamici is Associate Professor at the Hertzen State Pedagogical University in St. Petersburg, Russia, teaching piano performance and chamber

music since 2007. As a young boy, Bonamici gave solo performances, played in orchestras, won first place in the BMI student competition for his Piano Concerto. He was educated in piano at Schoolcraft and composition at University of Michigan and received his Master's in Piano Performance from the St. Petersburg State Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory in 2001, and a degree in composition in 2004. Stop by for an enjoyable performance between classes, or spread the word to music-lovers. The event is free and open to the general public, although donations are accepted at the door.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN – DEARBORN CAMPUS VISIT

THURSDAY, FEB. 20, 11 A.M. TO 1 P.M.,
RADCLIFF CENTER

A representative from the University of Michigan – Dearborn will be at the Radcliff campus to discuss transfer prospects with students. The representative will be available to answer any questions about transferring to UM Dearborn.

DIGITAL LITERACY WORKSHOP

THURSDAY, FEB. 20, 1-2 P.M., LA 320

The Digital Literacy workshop will address online sources and will teach you how to evaluate the legitimacy of online sources. This information will be valuable in the future when it comes to

writing a substantial research paper or adding impressive material to presentations. This workshop is free and available to all students.

SAVANNAH COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN CAMPUS VISIT

FRIDAY, FEB. 21, 9-11 A.M., FORUM

A representative from the college will be available to meet with Schoolcraft students interested in transferring to the Savannah College of Art and Design. Any questions about transfer requirements or programs of study will be answered.

STARTING A BUSINESS

TUESDAY, FEB. 25, 9:30 A.M. TO 12:30
P.M., VISTATECH CENTER, ROOM 445,

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2-5 P.M.,
RADCLIFFE CAMPUS, RC310

There are two options for attendance, both are three hours long. There is a \$30 fee for the class. For more information, check out the Business Development Center's website: <http://schoolcraft.edu/bdc>.

FAFSA WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26, 9 A.M. TO 2 P.M.,
LOCATION TBD

THURSDAY, FEB. 27, 2 P.M. TO 7 P.M.,
LOCATION TBD

It's that time of year again...time to fill out those FAFSA forms. This can be a daunting task, but you can get free, professional

help completing the FAFSA form for 2014-2015. There are two opportunities to attend the workshop; however the location is not yet confirmed for either date. Contact the Financial Aid Department at finaid@schoolcraft.edu, or 734-462-4433, for updates on the location of the workshop, as well as the complete list of items necessary to fill out the form.

WRITING A BUSINESS PLAN 101

THURSDAY, FEB. 27, 9:30 A.M. TO 12:30
P.M., VISTATECH CENTER, ROOM 445,

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2-5 P.M.,
RADCLIFFE CAMPUS, RC310,

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 6-9 P.M., VISTATECH
CENTER, ROOM 445

There will be three dates offered to attend a class on how to write an effective business plan. A recommended course for this class is CES2 1547. For a fee of \$40, attend one of the three meetings listed above. For more information about registration, visit <http://schoolcraft.edu/bdc>.

LAST CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMENCEMENT!

Monday, March 3 is the deadline to participate in Commencement on Saturday, May 3 at Computware Arena. Call 734-462-4400 for more information. ■

Who

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

BBC's "Sherlock." Since "Doctor Who" is on hiatus while filming the new season there is not much new information to discuss, so tangent topics such as "Hannibal," "Harry Potter," and "Sherlock" make up the majority of the meetings' agendas. Whittbracht will be more than thrilled to have a discussion about any related topics. She started the club during her first semester

at Schoolcraft in the Fall of 2012. She is a passionate club leader and she is open to any suggestions for fun events that the club can put on. Unfortunately, she will most likely not be attending Schoolcraft in the Fall 2014 semester and she is looking for applicants for her successor.

Whittbracht has some advice for Whovians in training: Don't skip Nine! Watch "Blink" (a Tenth Doctor episode) and then go back and watch Nine's seasons. ■

Briefs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

better than what sits in that space now, which is nothing," she said in an article by MLive. "So I'm ready to move forward on this." According to a December agreement, the Downtown Development

Authority's coverage was expanded to include the "entire 45-block development district for the project", and granted Olympia Development to "operate the arena and allow for its use for 95 years."

The arena is estimated to cost in the neighborhood of \$650 million, \$284.5 of which would be funded by taxpayers. ■

Author

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

pants". After this is done, she lays them out in order. "The pieces don't always fit together. You have to make them fit," Alexander said.

However, while she is fueled by life experiences, such as the scene in her novel about childbirth that she added several weeks after going through the process herself, Alexander cites her imagination as being the main source for her writing.

"Characters and plot just come out of the ether, in a way."

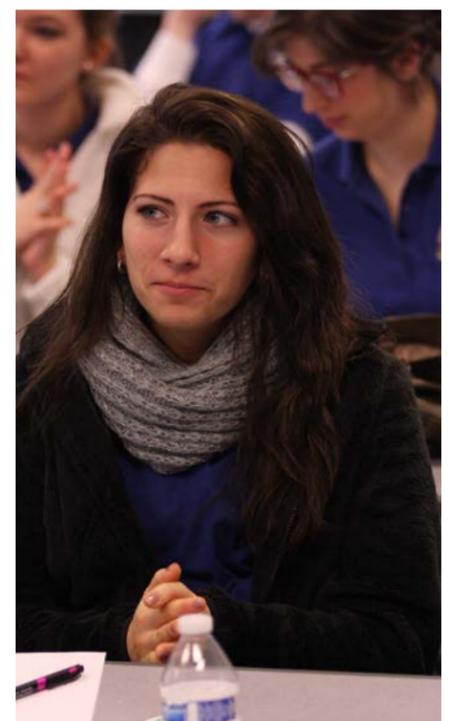
When dealing with writer's block, Alexander recommends stepping away from the manuscript—but not for too long. In order to resolve her own writer's block, Alexandra said that she prefers to add a plot twist to shake up the scene and take the story in a new direction. "If you can't figure out what should happen, I just drop a dead body in there."

Launching a brand is the most difficult step after becoming published, and Alexander assured her audience

that publishers do not want to invest in "one-hit wonders." In order to remain notable, keep pace with her readers, and maintain social media sites and promotion, Alexander plans on releasing another book in the winter of 2014.

When discussing the path one takes after having actualized a life dream, Alexander affirmed that one should never stop or give up. Once one has achieved the first goal, she says that, "The goal changes. The bar just gets set differently. You finally have one book sitting on the shelves, now it's time to work on the next book. And then five. And then start appearances at book signings. You never have to stop dreaming."

"The Smuggler Wore Silk" is available for purchase at Barnes and Noble. For more information, check out alysa-alexander.com. ■



Writing Fellow, Alexis Cano, listens attentively to author Alyssa Alexander's discussion about the book publishing process.

ENJOY THE CONNECTION'S NEWEST SECTION

Life & Style

BEGINNING ON PAGE 6

IN THIS ISSUE...

Staycation Destinations
Spring Break Fashion
Natural Flu Remedies
Tropical Snack and Drink Recipes





club EVENTS

COMPILED BY KATIE TRACY
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

NEW CLUB ON CAMPUS!

THURSDAYS, 5 P.M., RADCLIFF CAMPUS, RC 420

The Civil Rights Action Club is a new club that advocates for the "Full Humanity of ALL!" Topics that the club will address include Racial Liberty, Women's Freedom, LGBT Visibility, Workers Protection, Religious Independence and Free Speech, among other topics.

ASSIST THE VIDEO PRODUCTION CLUB

WED. FEB. 19, 2-9:30 P.M., MAIN GYM, PE BUILDING

The Video Production Club is in need of assistants to help film the Women's and Men's basketball games on Feb. 19 at 5:30 and 7:30, respectively. The club asks that those interested meet in the Gym in the Physical Education Building at 2 p.m. for set-up and 3 for filming. To participate in the filming of both games, assistants must be available 2-9:30p.m. on Feb. 19. No prior experience necessary, there will be training before the games. For more information call Jeanne at 734-462-4400, ext.5559.

VOLUNTEER AT ST. LEO'S SOUP KITCHEN

SATURDAYS, FEB. 22, MARCH 22, APRIL 19, 8 A.M. TO 1 P.M., MEET IN THE LOWER WATERMAN

Need stars for PTK? Volunteer at St. Leo's Soup Kitchen! Just meet in the Lower Waterman at 8 a.m. on the day of service: Sat., Feb.

22, March 22, or April 19. Volunteers will be at the soup kitchen between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. This is also a great opportunity to get volunteer hours for a résumé, or just to take some time and give back to the community.

BUFFALO WILD WINGS FUNDRAISER FOR PHI THETA KAPPA

MON., FEB. 17, LIVONIA BUFFALO WILD WINGS

Head over to the Livonia Buffalo Wild Wings location (37651 Six Mile Road) and present a flyer to your server. Flyers are available in the Lower Waterman and will give 20% of your purchase to support Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. This offer is valid all day on Feb. 17, so make lunch, dinner, or snack-time plans and support Phi Theta Kappa.

PHI THETA KAPPA MOVIE NIGHT

WED., FEB. 19, 6-9 P.M., IN THE LOWER WATERMAN

For any members who need starts, Phi Theta Kappa will present the movie "ReGENERATION." This documentary focuses on young people and what influences them politically. It takes a look at the political apathy of young people and its contribution to the Occupy Wall Street movement. PTK members will get half a star for full attendance. P.S. It is produced and narrated by Ryan Gosling...squeal if you must.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS GROUP PRESENTS...

TUES., FEB. 18, 3:30 P.M., IN THE LOWER WATERMAN

The political documentary, "Of-ByFor" features interviews with prominent politicians, as well as American citizens who are upset with the status quo in Washington. Presidential-hopeful for 2012, Ron Paul, says that "OfByFor" is a "must see." You can see for yourself why this documentary is creating such a buzz.

SUPER SMASH BROS BRAWL TOURNAMENT

MON., FEB. 17, 4 P.M., IN THE LOWER WATERMAN

The Project Playhem Gaming Society is holding a competition to see who can BRAWL the hardest. On February 17 at 4 p.m. in the Lower Waterman, you can show off your skills for the opportunity to win money prizes. For a \$5 fee, come and play, no prior registration necessary. The rules for the tournament will be explained at the event. For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422. ■

We want you!

For Student Activities Board

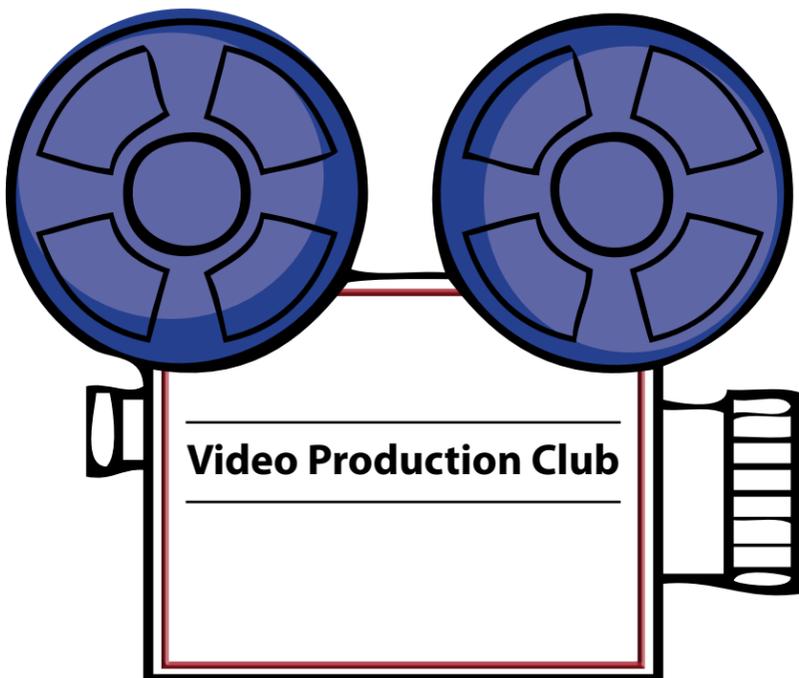
Join us Tuesdays @ 4:00 pm in the Lower Waterman of the VistaTech Center to plan and run events on campus.

Great for your resume!

For more information contact the Student Activities office at 734.462.4422

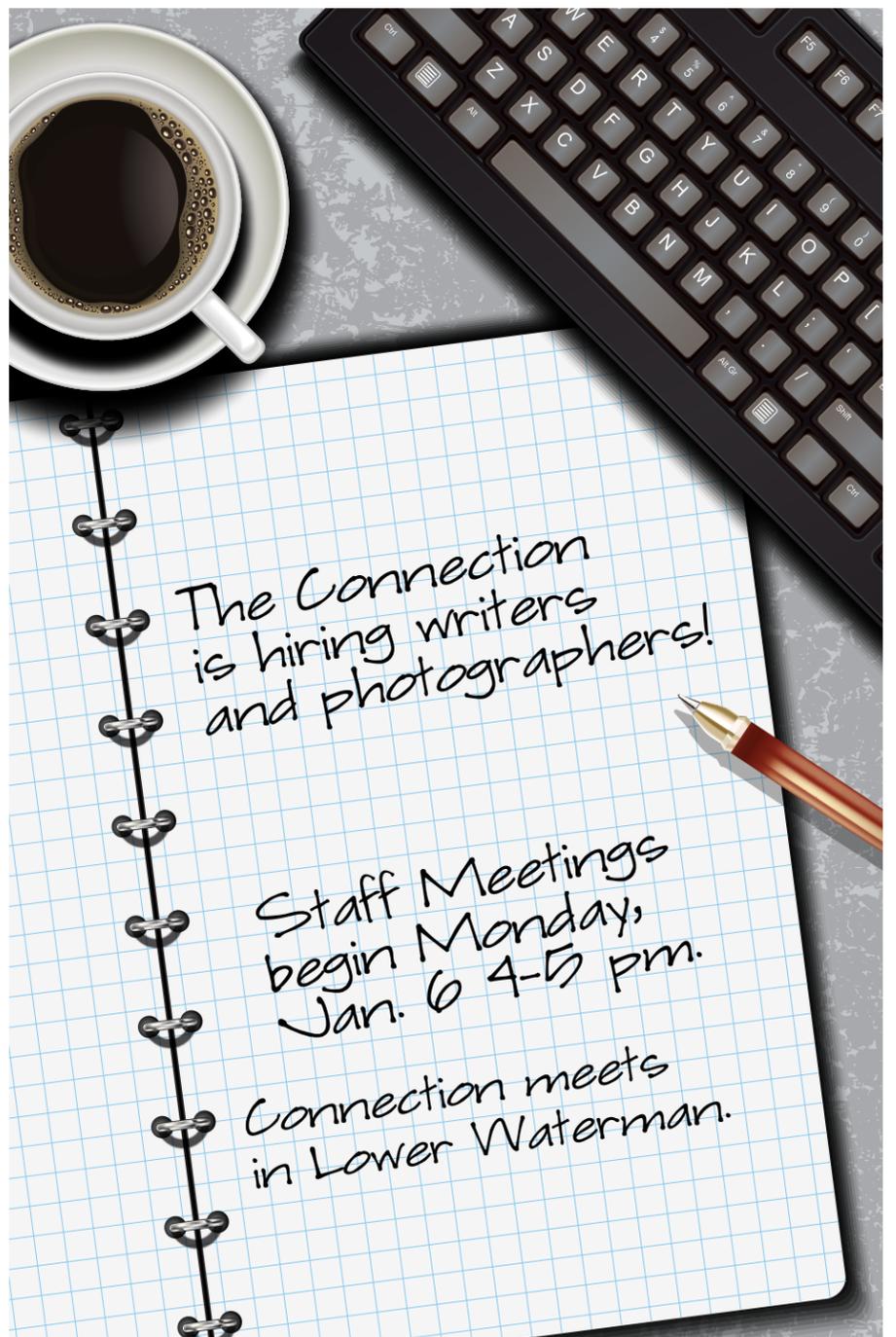
INTRESTED IN VIDEO?

Join the Video Production Club and film Schoolcraft sport events and make videos.



No experiance necessary. We will train. Anyone interested in joining is welcome to participate.

For more information contact the Student Activities Office at 734.462.4422



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

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

Editorial Policy: Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board. Signed columns solely reflect the opinion of the writer. The Schoolcraft Connection abstains from criticism of, or discrimination against any person on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, age, marital status, handicap, national origin, or sexual orientation.

The Schoolcraft Connection is a student forum and is self-monitored. We reject censorship and support a free student press. Material in The Schoolcraft Connection may not be reproduced in any form without prior written consent.

The Schoolcraft Connection corrects all errors of fact. If you have discovered an error, please contact the Editor in Chief, 734-462-4422, or sceditor@schoolcraft.edu.

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International style



JACKIE CHARNIGA

EDITOR IN CHIEF

sc.connection.editor@gmail.comCulture in every
article

I can generally tell what country someone is from by their clothes.

I'm not claiming to be Sherlock Holmes, or that I possess any sort heightened sensorial ability or exceptional intelligence, but from being observant and tirelessly pouring over fashion magazines. I have a devout interest in the subject.

I spent a large part of my childhood traveling the world with my father, who sells weightlifting equipment internationally. I have attended competitions and other convention-like events with my family since I was small enough to fit under the fold-away table that held the por-

table DVD player on which my father sold his wares. When I wasn't amusing myself in that fashion (pun intended), I would watch the locals and notice their mannerisms, their clothes and the way they moved inside them (I obviously wasn't watching the weightlifting--they pick the barbell up, they put the barbell down--rinse and repeat until insanity).

I began to recognize that what was considered fashionable in each city reflected what was of cultural significance in that society. You could start to see through the clothing itself clues that revealed how much money a family had, what their religious beliefs were, a societies attitudes about women, the current political climate, what was culturally acceptable, and what inspired the city as a whole.

My dad is different, he uses his ears, if he picks up even the faintest of accents, he can place a man to his country. When this happens, he usually pulls my headphone out of my ear in order to point this person out to me. He generally does this in public, loudly, and usually within earshot of said individual—which isn't em-

barrassing, or anything.

My technique is more subtle—I use my eyes, taking in the material and visible brand names—and deciding, right then and there, from whence they hailed. I am usually right (even more often than he is).

I am fascinated by clothes because of what they have the power to say about a person. I can usually discern, just by what they are wearing, whether they are: practical, conscientious, culturally driven, proud, shy, or accident-prone. It tells a lot about what they care about.

This becomes especially easy during the summer or winter months when clothing options are narrowed down significantly. Clothes reflect and reveal whether one is accustomed to extreme heat or cold, or from lands in the familiar temperate climate regions.

If I see a young man in casual jeans and a plaid shirt looking uncomfortable in a heavy coat, I envision someone from a temperate climate with heavy Western influences: The cowboy, used to warmer weather and not-used-to-being-off-my-horse type.

When I see a woman in monochrome colors with matching boots, coat, and gloves, along with a well-cared for umbrella tucked under her

arm, I can almost hear her heels clicking down gray rain-soaked pavement on their way to work: the professional, reserved, successful, city-slicker type.

World travel has enriched my perspective and broadened my stylistic horizons. Being exposed to this range of cultural influences, has taught me that fashion can say more about a person's heritage than they might expect.

Despite all of the other ways that we learn about how different cultures can be perceived—magazines, television, food, etc.—I prefer to rely on the clothes. Not only do I start to understand how different we are and why, but that way I also have the opportunity to purchase something from a store for my own, and to take a slice of the culture back with me.

Today, I am able to open the doors to my closet and see the poncho I purchased in Peru, the silk dress my father brought back from China, the t-shirt I bought in London, the turtleneck picked-up in France, and the blue jeans I got in Italy. These articles of clothing can take me on a mental journey back to the places I've been and help me conjure up images of the locals who wore them with dignity and grace. ■

Do your ears hang low?



Lauren Lukens

MANAGING EDITOR

sc.connection.me@gmail.comEar stretching—
tremendously
trendy or downright
disgusting?

Body piercing has become mainstream in modern society and youths participating in many subcultures now have a growing interest in ear stretching.

Some think of the growing popularity as stylish, while others, particularly the older generation, find the trend to be remotely repulsive.

While the ear stretching has just recently become popular in modern society, the custom dates back to indigenous people in ancient times. Tribes in various countries—such as Africa, Eurasia, and America—have practiced the ritual of ear stretching for cultural, religious, and traditional motives.

Historically, the practice has been used for the purpose of tribal status, to scare enemies in war, and for beautification. Ancient figures, such as King

Tutankhamen, Otzi the Ice-man, and Siddhartha Gautama, prove that ear stretching is about as old as human history, along with scarring, tattooing, branding, and hairstyling.

For men, the practice has generally been used to indicate the authority of tribe members; the bigger the stretching, the higher the ranking. Women, on the other hand, have historically stretched their ears for decorative purposes and also to signify that a girl has reached womanhood.

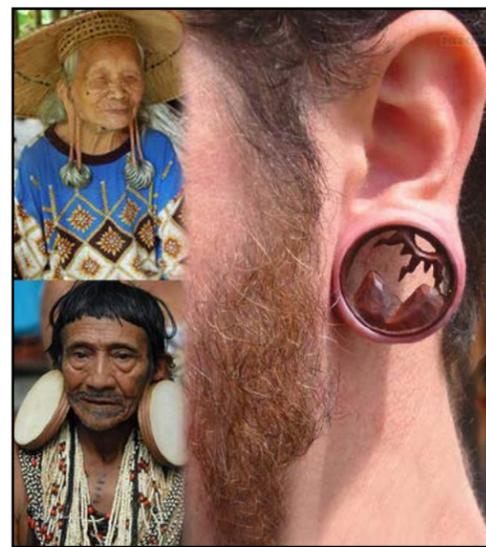
Now people of all races, rankings, and ages are adapting to the modernized style. Celebrities, such as Chester Bennington from Linkin Park, Adam Lambert from American Idol, and Brandon Boyd from Incubus, have stretched ears anywhere from 4 gauge (5.19 mm) to 1 inch (25.4 mm). Plugs are now made of thousands of different styles, colors, and materials, and can be found at any mall, including stores like Hot Topic and Spencer's.

There are two ways to apply this style to one's ears: gradually stretching the skin using different sized tapers, which are cone-shaped pieces of jewelry, or dermal punching for immediate results. Tapering with at least a month between each size is the smartest way to stretch ears, but it can be pricey. Each time one wants to go up a size, new tapers are needed as well as new plugs.

While body modifications are becoming more socially acceptable over time, the decision can potentially ruin one's future career. While some hate to admit it, the truth is that few-to-no professional teachers, cops, doctors, lawyers, accountants, etcetera are hired with stretched ears. Unlike tattoos and some piercings, stretched ears are nearly impossible to hide and the beauty statement eliminates the ability to wear normal earrings, which can be a downfall for women in a professional environment.

Along with the possibility of not being able to acquire a desired job due to ear stretching, health risks come along with the decision. While the risks are minimal, they vary from person to person.

Most properly stretched ears do not create a wound and, depending on the elasticity of one's ear, most heal well after stretching. Over-stretching or stretching too fast, known as blowouts, can cause scar tissue. Quickly stretching or skipping sizes can cause bleeding and infection. For many, going to a half-inch (12.7



mm) is known as the point of no return and minor surgery is needed if one wants their ears to return back to a normal state. In some cases, ears stretched too large or improperly cannot be corrected.

While it is known worldwide that body modifications are becoming a thing of the future, I strongly recommend thoroughly thinking the idea through before making a decision to stretch your ears. If you aspire to someday be a leader in the community or work in a professional setting, think twice before mutating your earlobes. It may seem like a guiltless decision now, but could be one of your biggest regrets in the future. You never know what opportunities may arise and whom you will be competing against. ■

IN OUR OPINION

Kudos for campus leadership

Board achieving vision and more

Can an on-going mission ever be considered accomplished?

Schoolcraft's mission is "to provide a transformational learning experience designed to increase the capacity of individuals and groups to achieve intellectual, social, and economic goals," while its vision is "to be a first choice provider of educational services, a competent organization, functioning with integrity, behaving strategically, and providing value beyond expectations."

We at the Schoolcraft Connection feel the Board, under the guidance of President Dr. Conway Jeffress, have gone a long way in living up to the promise of its mission and vision. Nothing illustrates this more than the recent

partnerships with Wayne State University and the University of Toledo.

The "Schoolcraft to U" program demonstrates the College's commitment to furthering and increasing its students' intellectual and economic goals, as well as its goal of behaving strategically.

By partnering with major local universities, Schoolcraft will gain the competitive edge in providing a more seamless transition for students transferring to the partner universities guaranteed beyond anything by the MACRAO agreements offered by other colleges.

It will also serve to increase the prestige of the college, which will in turn ensure a greater professional talent pool and further increase the quality of service provided to students.

While the Schoolcraft to U program is a great first step,

we at the Connection hope to see this program expand to other area universities and include a greater breadth in the programs.

For instance, we feel it would serve both the students and job market to expand the Nursing Program by expanding our agreements with Wayne State or partnering with Madonna University, or both.

Choice and competition are key to continuing to develop the best minds and best practices when it comes to shaping those minds. Schoolcraft is in a unique position to tear down the barriers of cost and rivalry between universities and make a premium collegiate experience accessible to all.

Instrumental in this ongoing skyward climb to success is the leadership and direction afforded to the College by Dr. Jeffress. During his time at the helm, we have seen the reno-

vation and modernization of the Bradner Library, the creation of the VistaTech Center and Biomedical Technology building and the recent acquisition of the new Jeffress Center, which will house Schoolcraft to U partners and create more space for classrooms. The building is also fiscally beneficial for students and the college. With an oil well that produces about 100-110 barrels of oil daily along with natural gas, half the campus will soon be running on Schoolcraft's entrepreneurial opportunities.

It comes at no surprise why the Board voted to name the building after Dr. Jeffress, despite such an honor generally being reserved for the retired or deceased.

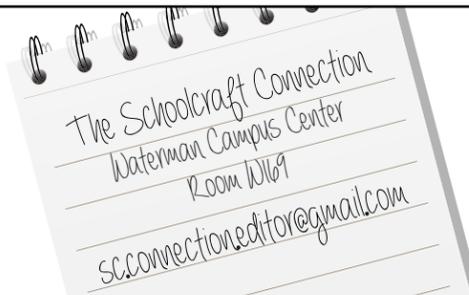
Dr. Jeffress' business acumen and close ties to the community have only served to strengthen the college, local communities, and most importantly, the students. We'd

like to extend out thanks to both him and the board, and we hope to see even greater things in the future. ■

Agree with us?
.....

Disagree with us?
.....

Want to make
your voice heard?
.....



Write to us, we
want to know!
.....

Break Dance Club

Come join Schoolcraft's Break Dance Club.
No auditions or experience necessary.
Bring comfortable clothes, shoes, and water.

Thursdays 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm
in the dance room, PE 140

For more information contact
the Student Activities Office at
734.462.4422.





Ocelot Opinions

INTERVIEWS AND PHOTOS BY APRIL VERNON
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Dominique Jones
Major: Nursing
"Going to Florida with my girls!"



Joshua Patton
Major: Electrical engineering
"Florida"



Breana King
Major: Psychology
"Nothing much besides work"



Brandon Wesenberg
Major: Computer Engineering
"Working at the fitness center"



Jordan Wynn
Major: Graphic Design
"Eating a 2 1/2 pound bag of carrots and hanging out with friends"



Lexii Mason
Major: Early Childhood Education
"Party!"



Jalin Rawls
Major: Physics
"Working out"



Katelyn Le
Major: Biochemistry
"Hopefully get to Canada"



Rachel S
Major: Child development
"Studying at home with my family"

What are your plans for spring break?



Want more Ocelot Opinions?

Visit www.schoolcraftconnection.com to see next week's question!

A SCREENING OF

MORE THAN A MONTH

ONE MAN'S JOURNEY TO END BLACK HISTORY MONTH

FEBRUARY 20TH @ 9:30^{AM}
LOCATED IN THE LA 200

HOSTED BY THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACTION

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

A SCREENING OF

FRUITVALE STATION

FEBRUARY 18TH @ 11^{AM}
LOCATED IN THE LA 200

HOSTED BY THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACTION

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

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Mike Freeman
Ford Motor Company
Northwood University Class of 2015

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Projecting March Madness

How to fill out a NCAA Tournament bracket

BY EVAN PAPUTA
SPORTS EDITOR

The NCAA Tournament features 68 of the best college basketball teams in the country that play single-elimination games until there is one team left standing.

On March 16, a six-round bracket, compiled by a ten-person committee of athletic directors and conference commissioners, will be announced on national television. The bracket will be broken up into four regions with 16 teams per region.

The committee will rank the teams from 1-68. The lowest eight teams will compete in "play in" games to earn the final four spots in the actual tournament.

With 63 regular tournament and four "play in" games, it is always tough to fill out a successful bracket. So here are some tips from a well-seasoned bracketeer.

Pick your champion first

After the bracket has been announced and you have a blank bracket in front of you, pick your champion. Decide who you think will be cutting down the nets on April 7 at Cowboys Stadium in Dallas, TX.

Flying by the seat of your

pants forces you to make too many crucial decisions. Pick your champion and fill them in from the first round until the championship.

This way you do not need to worry about stressing out over who you want to win 1-2 matchups in the elite eight or final four.

Pick your champion with a purpose. Whether they have shown you something extraordinary during the season, just won their conference's post-season tournament, or have all the makings of an effective March team, determine your champion before doing anything else.

Be wary of the upset[s]

Bracket-fillers must trust their guts, but in the art of picking upsets, there has to be a cut off.

An upset is any time a lower seeded team wins a game.

Every year, national experts sell one game as their primary chance for an upset. That is all fine and dandy, but there are not as many upsets as some people may think. That all depends on how you put your bracket together.

Some choose to include tons of upset picks. From the first round to the Final Four there are always some upsets that

take place, but not as many as some think.

Choosing tons of upsets or not enough always come back to bite you. The tough part is finding a happy medium.

After you have your national champion picked, go through and pick about five upsets in the first round.

Once you have that done, pick one of the teams that you chose to win one game to win at least one more game. This is your Cinderella team.

A Cinderella team is the lowest seeded team that goes the farthest.

Finish up to the Elite Eight

Complete your first round bracket and pick up until you have eight teams remaining.

Out of the eight teams left, one of them is your champion and one of them might be your Cinderella if you have deemed them worthy of a spot in the elite eight.

The task becomes difficult to determine which of the eight teams left is worthy enough to fill out the final three spots of your final four.

Each of them has won at least three games in a row so leave "hotness" out of it.

The teams that succeed at this point in the tournament have two common qualities:

bench play and inside presence.

Pick the teams that have four or five decent bench players and can score in the paint as well as defend their own.

Finishing your bracket

After your final four teams have been elected and your champion has 'won' one of the two semifinal games, pick your other finalist.

Base it on whatever criteria you think is necessary to boost a team to the National Championship game.

Good luck

Now you have all the information and knowledge to build a successful bracket.

Stick to your guns as you determine which teams will continue to win games until they are alone on top of the mountain that is the 2014 NCAA Tournament.

Good luck! ■

BRACKETOLOGY TOP 25 PROJECTED SEED PICKS

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. ARIZONA | 14. OHIO STATE |
| 2. VILLANOVA | 15. UCLA |
| 3. FLORIDA | 16. KENTUCKY |
| 4. SYRACUSE | 17. IOWA STATE |
| 5. KANSAS | 18. IOWA |
| 6. DUKE | 19. SAINT LOUIS |
| 7. MICHIGAN STATE | 20. CONNECTICUT |
| 8. CREIGHTON | 21. SAN DIEGO STATE |
| 9. MICHIGAN | 22. CINCINNATI |
| 10. WISCONSIN | 23. NORTH CAROLINA |
| 11. VIRGINIA | 24. TEXAS |
| 12. LOUISVILLE | 25. GONZAGA |
| 13. WICHITA STATE | |

Tourney time

Countdown to March Madness action

BY JOSH COVERT
STAFF WRITER

It's Christian Laettner's turnaround winner at the buzzer in '92; it's Magic Johnson besting Larry Bird for the championship in '79; it's legends being born, history in the making, Cinderellas, and Teams of Destiny; it's March Madness, and it is almost upon us once again.

America's favorite basketball playoff tips off in just a few weeks for the 76th time, and figures to bring with it the usual collection of iconic plays and colossal upsets.

Some might say it is crazy to try to "preview" such an unpredictable event, and those sentiments are not without merit.

After all, an upset is not an upset if you see it coming, right? Well I would like to respectfully disagree with those people and offer my preview of the upcoming NCAA Men's Basketball tournament.

What to watch for

Michigan State head coach Tom Izzo is one of the five greatest college basketball coaches the sport has seen in the last quarter-century. That is not up for debate. Thus far, throughout an illustrious career at MSU, Izzo has compiled six Final Four appearances,

seven Big Ten championships and one National Championship.

Nevertheless, the question that has begun to linger over Izzo and MSU the past few years is: Can Tom Izzo bring another title to the Spartans?

While nobody can take anything away from what has no doubt been a Hall of Fame career for Izzo, the fact remains that it has been 14 years and counting since that lone championship, and six Final Fours to only one ring is a ratio that can certainly be cast in an unflattering light. With all the pieces seemingly in place for a big run this year, it will be interesting to see if Mr. March can get the job done.

In today's college hoops landscape it is the era of the freshman, aka the "one and done." With rules now in place requiring at least one year of college basketball before gaining entry into the NBA, freshman sensations have become the new norm in the NCAA, and this year is no different.

Eighteen year-old prodigies Jabari Parker of Duke and Andrew Wiggins of Kansas have been the focus of NBA scouts and analysts since November, probably because they have displayed NBA skill sets since their high school days. They

are great players, and both will hear their names called on draft night - but what about the "it" factor?

The big stage of the Big Dance offers these young men an opportunity to show both NBA scouts and GM's that they possess the "clutch gene." The killer instinct trademarked by legendary greats like Michael Jordan and Kobe Bryant, the competitive edge that wills a team to victory against all odds.

Will one of these future professionals have himself a coming-out party this March? Or perhaps a more under-the-radar player crashes the party, a la Iowa's Aaron White or Louisville's Russ Smith?

Everyone knows it would not be March Madness without a Cinderella story, so who will be this year's edition?

It is tough to forecast these things, obviously, and although Wichita State is the trendy mid-major, I think the small-time school with the best shot at a deep run this year is St. Louis.

Head coach Jim Crews has guided the Billikens to a third straight tournament appearance; the team should be hot to close out the regular season, and this year they could have the players to compete with the big boys.

Honorable mention goes to VCU, because Shaka Smart's havoc defense can cause problems for any team.

Who's overrated?

Arizona: Nick Johnson and Aaron Gordon are nice players, but I don't see Arizona's penchant for narrow victories carrying them through the gauntlet of the tourney. Not enough offensive weapons with this team.

Kentucky: Tough to discount one of Calipari's units, but Kentucky looks to be another year away to me. Youth can be exposed fairly quickly in March.

Oklahoma State: The Cowboys boast a future first-rounder in Marcus Smart, and Markel Brown can play some ball as well. Sometimes too much is put on Smart's shoulders; however, I think a Sweet Sixteen appearance is the ceiling for this team.

Who are the sleepers?

Ohio State: The Buckeyes offense has been woefully inconsistent, but these guys can play stifling defense and Thad Matta should have them ready to play.

Iowa State: A team that lacks a true headliner, but one that plays hard and scores the ball. If they finish the season hot, watch out.

Creighton: Two words—Doug McDermott. If this guy catches fire, there's no telling how far Creighton could roll.

A future NBA draft pick, McDermott is the most underrated superstar in the game.

Final Four lock?

Michigan State: When healthy, this could very well be the best team in the country.

Gary Harris is lethal, and Tom Izzo did not get the nickname "Mr. March" for nothing. The Spartans are bound for Arlington—book it. ■



CREIGHTON



Building a better movie

Animated family film is a feast for the eyes and imagination

By CARLOS RAZO
STAFF WRITER



The Lego Company has a motto: "only the best is the best."

What could have been a shameless, toy-selling gimmick has instead become one of the most entertaining family movies in ages. When Warner Bros. first announced they were making a major motion-picture based on Lego (which comes from the Danish phrase "Leg godt," meaning "play well"), audiences everywhere simply asked, "How?"

Rest assured, "The Lego Movie" is not another mediocre tie-in film designed to baby-sit younger kids. Instead, audiences are treated to one of the funniest, most stunningly-animated, and clever films to grace the screen since Pixar raised the bar for animation with "Toy Story." This is the best of the best.

When a powerful weapon known as "the kragle" is stolen by the evil Lord Business (Will Ferrell), the wizard Vitruvius (Morgan Freeman) warns Business of a legendary prophecy. The prophecy speaks of a chosen one known as "The Special" who will find the "Piece of Resistance,"

which is capable of stopping "the kragle."

Years later, a completely average lego man named Emmet (Chris Pratt) discovers that he may be "The Special" and bring balance to the bricks. With the help of a young girl named Wyldstyle (Elizabeth Banks), a unicorn-cat hybrid named Uni-Kitty, a robotic pirate named Metalbeard, and...Batman (Will Arnett) Emmet sets out to save the Lego world from destruction, though they are pursued by Business' henchman, Bad Cop (Liam Neeson).

Just when it looked like computer-animation had shown us everything it has to offer, this film comes along. Everything looks photorealistic, and no brick is spared in the design of the city. Water, smoke, and fire are all created from the blocks, which lends to hilarious sight gags. For those who grew up playing with Legos (you know, 100% of kids), the in-jokes come fast and furious, and a few surprise Lego cameos will garner laughs. The humor is sim-

ple

enough to have kids laughing, but constant and clever enough for adults. There is no forced crudeness, no out-of-place profanity, just blatant silliness combined with creativity.

The voice acting is flawless, with every actor adding richness to their roles. From Arnett's brooding and self-centered archetypal Batman, to hearing Freeman and Neeson let loose into a microphone, the all-star cast raises the film to an even higher level.

But what is comedy without character and story to drive it? Luckily for us, this film has a wonderful story about coming to terms with who we are and our individuality in a large society. The film reminds us that, while

we are expected to follow certain social structures, we should not be afraid to stand out and (quite literally) not follow the instructions.

"The Lego Movie" is a perfect film. It is not on the level of "Gone with the Wind" or "The Godfather," but when a film has no apparent flaws, well, the boot just fits. The young and young at heart will find themselves smiling for the entire 100 minutes, because as the company itself says, "only the best is the best." ■



British Dames and mind games

“Downton Abbey” gives you more in season four

BY JACKIE CHARNIGA
EDITOR IN CHIEF



Having premiered Jan. 5, season four of the highly acclaimed Masterpiece Classic is attracting well-deserved media attention.

Being hailed as “An instant classic” by the New York Times and “Impossible to resist” for the writers of the Wall Street Journal, “Downton Abbey” has crept into our living rooms and into our hearts.

The period piece details the lives that reside inside Downton Abbey, the titular setting of the Emmy award-winning drama. The interior lends itself to associations akin to quintessential aristocratic superiority, with lavish drawing rooms filled with antiques.

The central subject of the show is the divide in class structure, which is a conclusive indicator of the time period. In the great house, who is below the stairs and who resides above is an easy metaphor to interpret. While the period drama is conservative, it remains current and relatable due to its fast pace and common themes. Jealousy, scandal, revenge, pride, tradition, and tragedy run rampant throughout the house.

The series begins in the year 1912 at the Crawley Estate, an Edwardian-style country home in Yorkshire. Lord of the estate is Robert, the Earl of Grantham (Hugh Bonneville), and his American wife Cora (Elizabeth McGovern). The Dowager Countess, played by the revered Maggie Smith, possesses a razor-sharp wit and is a pure delight. Their three daughters, the cold-hearted Lady Mary, the easily overlooked Lady Edith, and the open-minded Lady Sybill, enjoy their lives of luxury despite the social constrictions of the period.

The estate is in uproar in the aftermath of the sinking of the Titanic, as among the lives lost to the sea was the current heir and fiancée to Lady Mary. Scrambling to acquire a replacement heir, as females are not allowed to inherit, Cousin Matthew Crawley and his mother, Isobel, arrive on the scene to stir up trouble for the grandiose Crawley family.

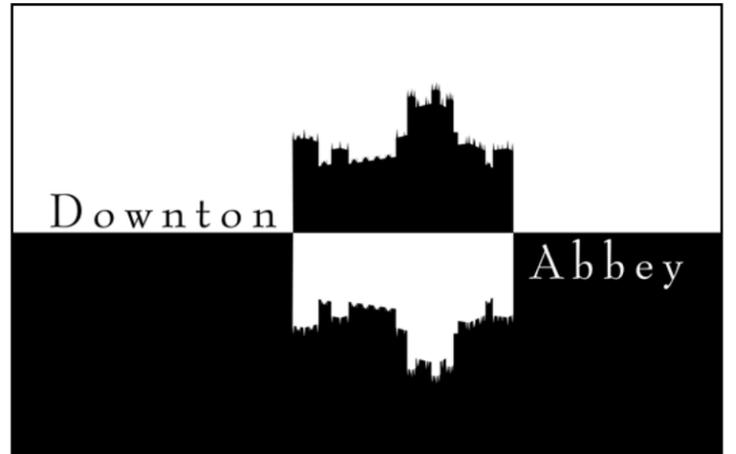
With stodgy, matronly uniforms for the women and clean-cut debonair styles for the male servers, it is clear which roles in the household carry the most weight. Likewise, there is also drama and intrigue in the lives of the servants. A tumultuous relation-



ship springs up between Mary and Matthew.

The arrival of a new footman for His Lordship causes controversy as the man introduced, John Bates, is crippled. He quickly strikes up a romance with the head housemaid, Anna, though he is not well-received by every servant. The villains of the downstairs, O'Brian and Thomas, are conniving and treacherous allies who attempt to bribe, extort, and propagate their way to the top of their social circle as the season progresses.

The estate may be falling steadily into disrepair, but fresh drama continues to heat up for the Crawley family. As Season Two kicks off, the War in Europe is shown in full swing as the initial shot is of the battle in the trenches. The vivid realism is then contrasted with the grandeur of Down-



(Top) The assembled cast of “Downton Abbey” including the Crawley family and their assorted servants. Catch season four, airing during Masterpiece Classics on PBS Sunday's at 9 p.m.

ton Abbey, which in comparison appears to be unaffected by the bloodshed. That is, until the season progresses.

War time affects and hardens the already stiff upper lips of the Crawley Estate,

threatening relationships and the lives of its inhabitants as the storm of war takes its toll.

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Dawn of the Pony

My Little Pony is the new number one franchise

By COLIN HICKSON
STAFF WRITER

In 1984, four little turtles were exposed to glowing ooze and became pizza addicted ninja vigilantes. In 1993, Zordon of Eltar chose five teenagers to become the Power Rangers to battle the wicked Rita Repulsa. But enough about those has-beens, let's talk about My Little Pony.

Created in 1982 by designer Bonnie Zacherle and launched in 1983 by Hasbro, the original My Little Pony toy line was geared towards the female demographic, and became one of the many icons of the 80's like “The

Smurfs,” “Tales from the Darkside,” Michael J. Fox, or Van Halen.

And like many toys of that decade, a cartoon adaptation followed.

However, unlike its sibling franchises, “G.I. Joe” and “The Transformers,” or its competition, “He-Man and the Masters of the Universe,” the show wasn't really something to write home about. (At least He-Man and She-Ra's cartoons had morals to complement the action.)

The ponies were rather dull and one dimensional—usually

just being giggling goofs or stumbling into trouble—while the main human protagonist, Megan, was the only one who actually defeated the villains.

It could have been that the writing staff, despite having big names like Michael Reaves (“Gargoyles,” “Batman: The Animated Series,” “The Real Ghostbusters,” “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles,” “He-Man”),

Gerry Conway (“Justice League,” “The Amazing Spider-Man,” “Firestorm,” “The Punisher”), Martin Pasko (“Secret Six,” “Dr. Fate,” “Wonder Woman,” “Superman,” “Batman: Mask of The Phantasm”), and David Wise (“Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles,” “Transformers”) were more used to writing male-oriented action stories.

Then in
1990
an-

other cartoon, “My Little Pony Tales,” debuted on Disney Channel and in syndication. But once more, despite some talented writers, the show came off as a bad sitcom (though it would have worked well on Disney Channel if it were made today). For years, the franchise seemed to be the runt of the litter, forever doomed to ridicule for its over-

SEE PONY
ON PAGE 23



what's on NETFLIX

BY ELIZABETH CHAPA
STAFF WRITER

STUCK IN LOVE



Painfully obvious as it is, this film centers around love. The storyline is based off

divorcees and their two children. The daughter, Samantha, is played by the dazzling Lily Collins and father by Greg Kinnear. Samantha is a college student and up-and-coming writer, following in the footsteps of her father. Meanwhile, Samantha's younger brother, Rusty, struggles to find that same passion for writing. In some way, all four family members become entangled in personal relationships. The movie covers different perspectives of love that are realistic and relatable, setting this film apart from other romantic movies. One feels the emotions and empathizes with the characters. This romantic drama will captivate audiences' attention and touch their hearts. It will have you tearing up one second and laughing the other. I would recommend "Stuck In Love" to anyone looking for a great entertaining romance movie (Just in time for Valentines Day!).

KEVIN HART: LET ME EXPLAIN



This comedy show was recently added to Netflix and is one of the newest comedy

shows Kevin Hart has released. Kevin Hart takes on a show at Madison Square Garden in New York. This show was a dream-come-true for Hart because he was able to perform in front of 30,000 people. Kevin Hart is a little guy taking over the world with his oh-so entertaining humor. At the beginning of the show, there are clips of different sold out performances that he did around the world. Kevin (with no censor) talks about his divorce, crazy girlfriends, and other hilarious experiences of his. This sixty-five minute comedy will have you laughing uncontrollably and is surely a must-see.

REVENGE



This TV drama takes you on a risky journey following Amanda Clarke, the daughter

of a framed executive, while she attempts to get revenge on every single person associated with her father's imprisonment and murder. Amanda Clarke/Emily Thorne is played by Emily VanCamp, former actress on the show "Brothers & Sisters." Amanda attempts to take down the rich people of the Hamptons and make them pay for what they did to her father. Although, this task is not easy, as many things get in her way. A show filled with affairs, money, and sabotage, the suspense of what will be revealed or uncovered next is what keeps you hooked. This TV series will keep you on the edge of your seat, and glued to the screen.

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what's the BUZZ

COMPILED BY CAMYLE CRYDERMAN
EDITORIAL INTERN

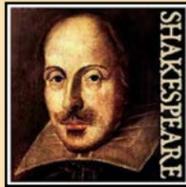
Yoga Rocks Ford Field



Come enjoy a day filled with music, giveaways, and yoga, all on the grounds of Ford Field at

the first ever Yoga Rocks event. Sponsored by ComePlayDetroit and Yoga Shelter, this event is aimed at bringing the community together, while showing the positive changes happening in the city. On the morning of Feb. 22, attendees will receive the opportunity to partake in yoga classes with renowned instructors, as well as receive an exclusive bus tour that highlights the landmarks of Detroit. For just \$25, this event will not only promote wellness, but be an excellent way to learn more about the community, so come enjoy the experience. For more information, visit www.yogashelter.com.

The Improvised Shakespeare Company



Combine the standard language of Shakespearean literature with the non-sensical ideas of improvised

acting and get a classically comedic piece provided by the Improvised Shakespeare Company. On Mar. 1, at 7 p.m., the Macomb Center for Performing Arts will be hosting the company as they improvise an entire play in front of the audience's eyes. With no planning or rehearsing whatsoever, the group creates an entirely unique dialogue on the spot, including an improvised title, plot, and characters. For only \$25, audience members can get a first-hand look at this entirely unique and hilarious experience, so do not miss this opportunity. For more information, visit www.macombcenter.com.

Robin Thicke Concert



On the evening of Wed., Mar. 12, pop sensation Robin Thicke will be rocking the Fox Theatre at his

Downtown Detroit concert. Featuring many songs, including his hit "Blurred Lines," Thicke will not only be performing his well-known tracks, but travel back to his R&B roots as well. With tickets as low as \$42, this concert is an enjoyable yet affordable event, and a great way to spend the night with friends. Through a combination of Thicke's soulful rhythms and upbeat lyrics, this concert is sure to be a unique experience, and not one to miss. For more information, visit www.robinthicke.com.

DIA: Behind the scenes tour



Travel through the world of unseen, iconic art work with an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour

of the Detroit Institute of Arts. Get an up close look at the pieces not on display in the museum through the art conservation lab with a guided tour. On the morning of Mar. 14, all who are interested must meet at the St. Clair Shores Public Library ready to board a sponsored bus. For just \$20, attendees will receive transportation to and from the DIA, admission for the tour, and a \$10 gift card to the museum cafeteria. This unique experience will provide intrigue and excitement, and is an excellent way to spend the weekend. For more information, visit www.scsculture.com. ■



Of Mice and Men

Restoring Force



BY ELIZABETH CHAPA
STAFF WRITER



Of Mice & Men released the much-anticipated album "Restoring Force" on Jan. 28, following their album "The Flood," released back in 2011.

Two days before the album dropped, "Restoring Force" made it to number two on the iTunes Rock chart on just pre-order. Right after it was released at midnight, the album soared to top of the charts to number one on both the Rock charts and all of iTunes.

The metal core or post-hardcore band from California formed in 2009 and was created by Austin Carlile, the former Attack Attack! vocalist, and Jaxin Hall, who is no longer in the band.

Since then, the band has gone through ups and downs, with members leaving and new members joining the band. The group has been on tour with numerous well-known bands, including Pierce the Veil, Blessthefall, Alesana, and We Came as Romans. Three albums have been released by the band, which include their most recent, "Restoring Force."

Of Mice & Men has definitely become a competitor with sold-out shows, especially after the success of an earlier album "The Flood." They gave fans a preview by releasing two singles in December from the new album: "You're Not Alone" and "Bones Exposed."

The majority of iTunes reviews give the album five stars and countless reviews saying that the new vocalist, Aaron

Pauley and Austin Carlile, mesh well with their vocals. Clarissa Roberts, a student at Schoolcraft comments, "If you don't have the album yet, you're missing out."

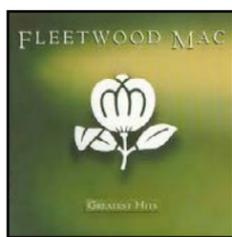
In the new album, Of Mice & Men is said to have gone more in the direction of rock, rather than it's well-known post-hardcore. Some who have fallen in love with the old band's sound may have a hard time liking this album.

The band has progressed and gotten better with time, and they sound just as good as they have before. On the album, "Feels Like Forever," "Bones Exposed," and "Would You Still Be There" are some of their best tracks.

The very enthused artist, Austin Carlile kept fans posted on instagram of the progress the album was making. Following the release of the album, the band went to stores that carried their album and did signings.

According to Billboard news, Of Mice & Men had the best sales week they had ever experienced. The highest they have gone was up at number 28 back in 2011, accounting for the best sales when they reached at 15,000 albums sold. The release of the new album certainly became an eye-opener after Carlile posted a picture on instagram of a Billboard chart where the new album was ranked

SEE MICE
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"Fleetwood Mac"

"Fleetwood Mac"



BY ALEXANDRA CIZEK
STAFF WRITER



When Fleetwood Mac was formed in the late 60s, they were a hardcore blues band. After Peter Green left and with the additions of Christine McVie and Bob Welch, they shifted away from blues music towards a more pop sound.

In 1975, Bob Welch left the group and Mick Fleetwood enlisted an unknown duo of Lindsey Buckingham and his girlfriend Stevie Nicks in the band. With these additions, Fleetwood Mac had their most successful album in years.

Released in 1975, Fleetwood Mac's self-titled album was a complete change for the British blues rock group. No longer in that genre of music, they were now pop rock and the album "Fleetwood Mac" spawned three major hits in "Rhiannon," "Over My Head," and "Say You Love Me."

The album as a whole featured some excellent well-written songs by band members such as "Monday Morning," "Landslide," "Blue Letter," "World Turning," and the few mentioned above. This album is a 70s classic and the tone of the lot is very emotionally in-depth; the songs are nothing less than catchy.

The first song on the album, "Monday Morning," sets the tone for the rest of the album, as well the next few years of the group's career. Surging with a melodic chorus and a breezy Californian feel. It is a positively brilliant slice of pop songwriting, at the same time serious and timeless.

Next in line on the album is

the song "Warm Ways." This is a very melodramatic and slow song. It gives your body the impulse to sway to the rhythm of the song. This song will take you to the tropics with its "steel guitar" sound sliding in and out of your ears.

"Blue Letter" follows behind. It's almost like any other song of wanting someone but realizing you cannot wait around for them to decide. It has a great beat and the vocals are smooth, but definitely not the best song on the album.

Following is one of Fleetwood's most popular songs "Rhiannon." Stevie Nicks sings this song with gusto, and it has a great beat. She has excellent guitar back up, and the song moves along well.

Christine McVie dazzles and seduces with "Over My Head," a subtly wispy number with McVie's affecting lyrical and vocal delivery. In regards to the ladies of the band, Christine McVie's songs and vocals seem to be slightly more enjoyable than Stevie Nicks' on the whole.

Nicks writes the next song "Crystal," which is a slow-groove song with an airy atmosphere. This is a beautiful, emotional, poetic piece, composed by Stevie Nicks and sung mostly by Buckingham. Nicks had a great gift for conveying powerful emotions in simple compositions.

Next, it's Christine McVie

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Mice

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

number three just days after the release. In the caption, he thanked everyone who purchased the album and those who have been talking about the album and with hashtags such as #DreamsComeTrue and #WorkHard.

The band will set on tour in the beginning of February with Bring Me the Horizon. Of Mice & Men will make its only Michigan stop, playing at Compuware Arena in Plymouth on Feb. 21 with bands We Came As Romans, Issues, Attila, and Wilson. Do not miss out on a show of this much magnitude and intensity. It will be time well spent for any music fans.

For more information on the band go to <http://ofmiceandmenofficial.com>. ■

Abbey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

Lady Mary and Matthew's relationship is thwarted by his engagement to another woman, Olivia Swire. Meanwhile, Edith pursues an older gentleman with disastrous results and Sybill joins the workforce.

Season Three starts thrillingly with a long-awaited marriage and disappointments as Downton is found to be nearly bankrupt at the end of the war. Luckily, Cousin Matthew has a secret that may be the key to saving the future of Downton Abbey.

This season, even more turmoil awaits the Crawley family. New characters burst stereotypes and preconceived notions in the house, and the family attempts recovery after an egregious loss.

This Sunday night, I entreat you to put the kettle on, grab a cup of tea, and tune into the critically acclaimed show airing in America on PBS stations. ■

Netflix

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

BREAKING BAD



This action-thriller series is about a chemistry teacher diagnosed with cancer and

faced with the struggle of ensuring that his family will have enough money after his inevitable demise. The chemistry teacher is played by the well-known "Malcolm in the Middle" actor Bryan Cranston. After his diagnosis, he is feeling as if he has nothing to lose, and he comes to a realization on how he could make money; he will use his abilities to create and sell crystal meth with a former student. They undergo a chain of events that they are faced with by the involvement of drug dealing; as one watches they can't seem to take their eyes off. The show's fan-base has outsiders wondering and wanting to find out about Heisenberg. All five seasons are on Netflix and this show keeps people hooked for weeks. Reviews on IMDb said the show was "mind-blowing," "incredible," and "beautifully written." "Breaking Bad" will have you obsessed and leaving viewers wanting more. ■

Fleetwood

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

again, with the charming; romantic, and hummable "Say You Love Me." This one can be heard on radio stations even today. It is very upbeat in tempo and sway-worthy, as well as a great sing-along song and fun addition to the album.

"Landslide" is favorite song among many. This song is a classic; it's as simple as that. This song opens up with a beautiful guitar melody and is soon accompanied by Nicks sweet voice; sung with such emotion and power, this song is sure to stop the listener in their tracks.

After "Landslide," there is nothing like an upbeat song to pick you up and get you moving, and "World Turning" will do just that. This song bears a slight resemblance to Disco, but not enough to pull one away from Mac's pop rock feel.

Christine McVie charms listeners once again with "Sugar Daddy," but this one is not as charming as the other McVie numbers that appeared earlier

on the disc. It has a good beat, simple drums and mediocre lyrics. It is a good filler song to the album, but not one of my favorites.

Last but not least, "I'm So Afraid," written and sung by Buckingham, this song is a minor-key, somber number with a haunting, semi-chilling atmosphere brought on by the minor chords that dominate the track. The lyrics are quite melancholic and saddened as well. The solo near the end of the track can be described as devastating. The final track of the album leaves much to be desired. It is much too dreary for the whole of the album, but nonetheless, this album is a classic and will continue to bring great pop-rock music to generations to come. ■

Pony

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

ly saccharine tone. Enter Lauren Faust, an animation legend known for her work on "The Powerpuff Girls" and "Foster's Home for Imaginary Friends," and a longtime fan of the toys. Faust was commissioned to create a new show based on the toys for The Hub (now The Hub Network).

How did her version differ? Her vision gave the show new life with characters actually having personalities, stories that could be dark, and episodes that were more maturely written.

What resulted was The Hub Network's highest rated show, massing a large adult fan-base known as "Bronies" (though some prefer "Pegasisters" for female fans). These people show their love for the series in different ways, such as creating fan art or writing their own songs. There's even an



ongoing comic published by IDW Publishing, known for "30 Days of Night," and their own Hasbro licensed comics, which is giving DC and Marvel a run for their money.

The most likely reason is that it does not treat the audience like idiots. Unlike "SpongeBob SquarePants" or the widely hated "Ultimate Spider-Man," the writers know that their younger audiences can handle more mature stories and adult audiences can watch along and enjoy it as

well.

The franchise also attributes its success to the fact that characters are very relatable; audiences are able to see a bit of themselves in one or all of the characters. Even background characters like the cross-eyed

Derpy Hooves have massive fan-bases, despite having minor roles.

Since the debut of "Friendship is Magic," the My Little Pony franchise has finally shed the image its past forms established. Having easily become the next "Baywatch" or "Hercules: The Legendary Journeys," it is very apparent that the franchise will stick around for a while this time. ■

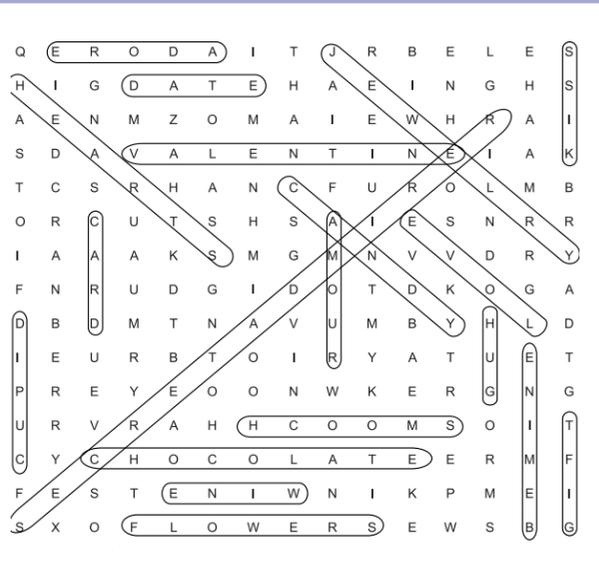
POKÉMON
X & Y
Tournament

March 19, 2014
2pm Through Completion

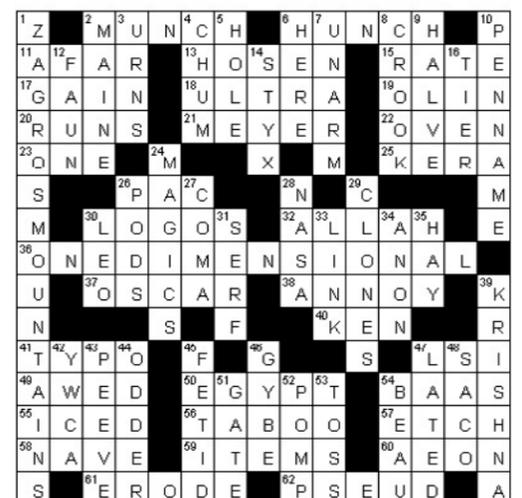
There will be a ruleset and ban list.
Single 3v3 matches. Free Entry.

Project Playhem

Solutions



1	4	9	6	2	5	7	3	8
8	3	2	7	4	1	9	6	5
7	6	5	9	8	3	2	4	1
2	8	4	3	9	6	5	1	7
5	7	3	4	1	8	6	9	2
9	1	6	5	7	2	4	8	3
6	2	7	1	3	9	8	5	4
4	5	1	8	6	7	3	2	9
3	9	8	2	5	4	1	7	6



A family divided



EVAN PAPUTA
SPORTS EDITOR

sc.connection.sports@gmail.com

Southfield High School football standout goes against mother's wishes on signing day

Southfield High School senior football player Malik McDowell's announcement to attend Michigan State on the morning of National Signing Day on February 5 was supposed to be the end of the story. However it was only the beginning of a media frenzy and an announcement.

McDowell did not sign his National Letter of Intent which would officially make him a Spartan. Instead, he awkwardly announced his decision in front of a gym packed full of students, faculty, and media and left it at that.

While 17 other student-athletes signed their NLI's with their parents beside them and enormous smiles on their face, McDowell stood there with an upsetting frown on his face with his father there consoling him.

The consoling took place after weeks of McDowell's parents publicly embarrassing their son by knowingly giving negative quotes about school[s] that Malik was very interested in.

Disappointment

At the end of the day, McDowell chose the school that his mother, Joya Crowe, publicly told him not to.

Crowe was missing from the Signing Day festivities.

She said on 105.1 FM on Tuesday that she did not want her son to attend Michigan State. She revealed that the reasoning was for something unpleasant that happened during McDowell's visit to Michigan State the previous weekend. A long pause was made by Crowe when asked if it involved one of the Michigan State coaches.

Whatever Crowe's reasoning for her absence at Signing Day is irreverent and showed her true colors.

At this point in her and her son's life, the family is supposed to be larger than anything else in the world. Not only was it not, but Crowe showed selfishness while she sent a paining message to her son: she didn't support him going to Michigan State and was so disgusted with whatever happened on the visit, that she didn't care to watch her son sign after she found out earlier that morning that he had de-

SEE PAPUTA
ON PAGE 30

Finishing strong

Second half surge seals victory for Ocelots

BY TARA GESSLER
STAFF WRITER

After losing to Oakland Community College (3-18, 2-8) 67-85, nearly a month ago, the Ocelots were in search of redemption.

On Feb. 5, the Women's Basketball team played host to the Raiders with one goal in mind, and that was to win.

Right from tip off, the tempo of play was evenly matched. The Raiders led majority of the first half, but Schoolcraft didn't slow down their intensity as they only trailed by two points throughout the first 20 minutes of play. Despite not playing as hard as they would have liked to, by matching the Raiders offensive press, the team finished the first half only trailing by two points, 30-28.

After returning from the locker room for the second half, the momentum shifted for the Ocelots on the court.

The team started pressing defensively on the Raiders. Between both teams, the scoring was evenly paced until sophomore Brianna Berberet tied the game at 37-37, with a 3-point dagger at 16:06 mark. The two squads alternated between scoring offensively while generating strong defense.

Schoolcraft sophomore Alexis Smith had nine defensive rebounds to show for herself in the second half. However, OCC didn't back down and continued to press hard. With 14:08 left to go, Berberet sank another 3-point shot (her third for the night) to take the lead, 42-39.

As play continued, Smith drove to the basket and was fouled giving the Ocelots the opportunity to shoot for an extra point increasing the team's lead by six points, 45-39. Just as it seemed that SC was taking a commanding lead, OCC battled their way back to tie the game at 45-45 with 12:20 to go. Neither team appeared to be showing signs of fatigue, until Smith drained her only three-pointer for the

night giving SC the lead. The 3 pointer by Smith proved to be the game changer.

During the final six minutes of the game the Ocelots continued pressing offensively as the clock wound down.

Schoolcraft went on to defeat the Raiders by 15 points with a score of 72-57.

"I think I had a good game and I thought I stepped up when I needed to," Berberet says.

Berberet having sank four 3-point shots on the night aided the Ocelots in the victory.

"We came into this game very well prepared, practicing their plays, and knew all their moves," Smith says.

The Ocelots second half surge on both sides of the ball, contributed to solidifying the win.

"I was very happy with how our team played, especially in the second half. I thought we played well as a whole with everyone contributing and it was great having some players really step up," head coach Kara Kinzer said.

Berberet completed her all-around game with 24 points, 10 rebounds, two steals and one assist while freshman Chelsea Wesley had 22 points, eight rebounds, one steal and one assist.

Joining the fight one basket at a time

The Feb. 5 game also marked the sixth annual Pink Zone fundraiser game night. The night was a success giving Schoolcraft a win off the court by raising money and awareness for a great cause. This was not only just a game, but also a night to recognize and support women from all over that have fought beaten and lost to breast cancer.

"I love getting the pink shirt to support Pink Zone night and think that this served as a great lesson for kids to get involved for such a great cause," coach Kinzer said.

Schoolcraft raised around \$1,150 from admission and t-shirt sales that will go toward breast cancer awareness and will be donated to the Play 4Kay fund. This event

WOMENS BASKETBALL



(Top) Julene Pummil (3) powers through an OCC defender during the Ocelot win on Feb. 5.

(Middle) Chelsea Wesley (30) powers around an OCC defender. (Bottom) Center Tabitha Mann struggles to keep the ball away from two OCC defenders.



gave hope to many women out there that are suffering from breast cancer each and every day. For more information on the Play 4Kay organization or how to donate to the cause go to www.play4kay.org ■

Women's Basketball

Men's

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2.19.14 @ 5:30 & 7:30 vs. ST. CLAIR

2.26.14 @ 5:30 & 7:30 vs. KIRTLAND

Power outage

10th ranked Oakland CC overpower Ocelots

BY DAVID KEITH
STAFF WRITER

After a thrilling one point victory over Delta College on Feb 1, the Men's Basketball team looked to continue their winning streak on Feb 5 when they hosted 10th ranked Oakland Community College (10-1, 20-2).

The Raiders who are currently in second place of the Michigan Community College Eastern Conference standings, proved to be both an offensive and defensive challenge to the Ocelots which lost the game 110-68.

Schoolcraft fell behind early getting outscored 21-2 at the 14:03 mark. What proved costly for the Ocelots were turnovers. The team had a total of 20 turnovers in the first half which allowed the Raiders to easily elevate their point margin. The Ocelots faced a nearly thirty point deficit at the half with a score of 55-27.

The Raiders shot 50% from the field hitting (41-82) collectively; and were 54.4% from free-throw line hitting (24-44).

The Ocelots struggled shooting 40.9% making (27-66) and shot only 36.1% from the line (13-36).

The Raiders had five players in double digits. Raiders for-

ward Jametrius Wade carried the team's offense with 23 points, five steals, five blocks, six rebounds and shot 4 of 11 from the field.

Despite a valiant offensive effort by Schoolcraft sophomore Terrell Sewell who had 23 points, the Raiders overpowered Schoolcraft.

Using the full court press on a consistent basis helped to force Schoolcraft into a whopping 38 turnovers.

"They pressed a lot and used a lot of traps which

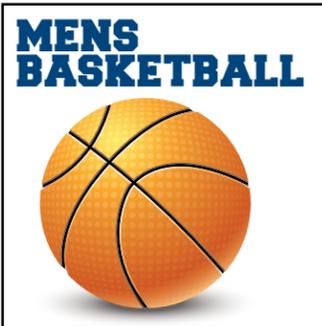
was the reason we lost. We just had a hard time reacting to it," Sophomore Terrence Coles said.

Freshman Basel Ibrahim added, "Chemistry is what we're lacking.

Head coach Randy Henry was visibly upset with the outcome of the game.

"We just got overworked.... We need to be more competitive. You could just see the embarrassment and anger on the bench of the players. We need to work harder in practice, and increase our confidence."

With the loss Schoolcraft falls to 11-10, and 4-7 in MCCA good for seventh place in the Eastern Conference. With less than five games left in the regular season the Ocelots are facing an uphill battle to clinch a postseason berth. ■



(Above) The Ocelot bench is visibly disappointed by their performance during the game against OCC. (Middle Far Left) Freshman guard Nathan Kamel fails to prevent an OCC score. (Middle Near Left) Sophomore forward Andrew Mapley (32) and Freshman forward Olushakin Cole (35) fail in preventing an OCC offensive player from rebounding the ball. (Bottom Far Left) Adorable girl scouts peddle their cookies during the Pink Zone game on Feb. 5. (Bottom Near Left) T-shirts were sold to raise money for Play4Kay.



shorts from the court

WOMEN'S

FEB. 1 DELTA CRUISES PAST SCHOOLCRAFT

Delta College 103 Schoolcraft 63

Delta College stormed past Schoolcraft 103-63 in the Feb. 1 contest.

It was an all-around victory for the Pioneers as they raced out from the get-go to a 54-31 halftime lead.

More of the same in the second half saw Delta hold their largest lead of the game at 40 points.

Delta's strongpoint of the game came in the paint as they scorched Schoolcraft's interior defense for 56 points in the paint.

Paralleling the stout paint performance was the Pioneers' 55 points off of Schoolcraft's 38 turnovers making it impossible for the Ocelots to overcome.

Tabitha Mann and Teniece Roberts led Schoolcraft with 14 points apiece.

Briana Berberet contributed with 11 points.

FEB. 8 DEFENSE STANDS TALL IN 25 POINT BLOWOUT

Schoolcraft 78 Henry Ford CC 53

Strong defensive pressure proved to be too much for Henry Ford as Schoolcraft held the Hawks to just 53 points.

Augmenting the 53 points was Henry Ford's abysmal shooting percentage (28%) and free throw percentage (50%).

The Schoolcraft victory was never in doubt as the Ocelots raced out to a 12-2 run in the opening four-and-a-half minutes.

Schoolcraft never backed down as they led the entire game.

Bench players like Teniece Roberts, Marwa Sayed, Julene Pummill, and Adajaih Pittman helped Schoolcraft earn the victory combining for 19 points.

Schoolcraft's depth paced them to a comforting victory and allowed everyone to get decent amounts of playing time and rest.

On the other side, Henry Ford fought fatigue all game as they played the same five players the full game.

Briana Berberet led Schoolcraft with 27 points.

Tabitha Mann and Roberts chipped in with 16 and 13 points respectively. ■

MEN'S

FEB. 1 OCELOTS EKE OUT SLIM VICTORY

Schoolcraft 68 vs. Delta College 67

Stellar free throw shooting in the final 21 seconds helped Schoolcraft solidify victory past Delta College on Feb. 1.

After Delta's Tre Johnson tied the game at 65 with 25 seconds left in the second half, the Pioneers fouled Basel Ibrahim who knocked down two consecutive free throws.

On the ensuing Delta possession, Schoolcraft forced an errant Caleb McIntosh 3-pointer that missed.

Drew Mapley grabbed the rebound and was immediately fouled.

Mapley hit the first free throw, but missed the second making it a three-point Schoolcraft lead.

Despite a Kyle Bosch layup as time expired, the Ocelots held on for a one-point victory.

Joshua Campbell led Schoolcraft with 17 points. Terrence Coles (12 points) and Ibrahim (eight) were close behind in the scoring category.

FEB. 8 SLUGGISH SECOND HALF

BURNS SCHOOLCRAFT

Henry Ford CC 62 vs. Schoolcraft 52

After trailing by only one at halftime, Henry Ford outscored Schoolcraft 36-27 en route to a 62-52 victory on Feb. 8.

A 14-5 run in the first four minutes of the second half increased the Henry Ford lead from one to nine points.

The opening run for Henry Ford proved to be the difference as the Hawks and Ocelots were only separated by one point throughout the final 16 minutes.

Joshua Campbell and Drew Mapley were the only Schoolcraft players that scored in double figures with 16 and 12 points respectively. Mapley also grabbed ten rebounds.

Terrence Coles chipped in with nine points and Terrell Sewell had eight. ■



FOR MORE OCELOT GAME COVERAGE CHECK OUT WWW.SCHOOLCRAFTCONNECTION.COM OR FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.

Visit The Connection online for more game day wrapups!
www.schoolcraftconnection.com

Paputa

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

cided to pick Michigan State.

Instead of being there to support her son, Crowe was somewhere else. The decision to attend Michigan State was made sometime in the early hours of Signing Day according to Malik's father Greg McDowell in a post-commitment interview.

Malik's father made it clear that he wanted his son to go anywhere out of the state of Michigan before Signing Day. But instead of being bitter, he manned up, sat in the front row of the media, and supported his son's decision.

With the household clearly split three ways, Malik had to make a tough decision. He made the decision that his heart told him to make, not that his mother or father told him to.

Lack of support for Malik's decision

McDowell's announcement



MALIK MCDOWELL

was the saddest thing I have seen in sports, period.

Whether or not McDowell ever does sign his NLI is irrelevant. It's sad to watch how a 17-year old's parents decided not to be supportive before the biggest and toughest decision of his life.

While other Southfield student-athletes and their parents basked in the glory of the biggest decision of their life, the 6'7/300 pound mountain of a man, McDowell, did all he could to hold back tears.

Even though McDowell was able to hold his tears, it was obvious what was going on.

Smiles were contagious across the gym but never seemed to set in on either McDowell's face. The only smile Malik could muster was when a reporter jokingly asked him for one.

Malik's father stood over his son and consoled him as if his best friend had just passed away in a fatal accident.

Mom sounding off on the radio and dad speaking to the papers about Malik in any negative light is bad enough, but for both parents to talk negatively about his choice of his final four dream schools list is absolutely unacceptable and embarrassing for everyone else involved.

I for one feel sorry for all that Malik has had to go through in his recruiting process. It is a dire shame that neither his parents could set aside their differences and support their son on the next phase of his athletic and academic journey. ■

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MCCAA Sports Standings

As of February 16, 2014

MEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

SCHOOL	MCCAA	OVERALL	GB	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL	STREAK		
Wayne Cnty	13-1	.929	19-3	.864	-	9-1	7-2	3-0	Won 3
Oakland	11-2	.846	21-3	.875	1.5	11-0	7-2	3-1	Lost 1
Mott	11-3	.786	20-5	.800	2	13-0	7-5	0-0	Won 1
St Clair Cnty	7-7	.500	14-11	.560	6	7-4	5-7	2-0	Lost 1
Schoolcraft	6-8	.429	13-11	.542	7	6-4	6-7	1-0	Won 2
Delta	6-8	.429	11-14	.440	7	6-7	4-7	1-0	Won 1
Henry Ford	5-8	.385	10-13	.435	7.5	7-6	3-7	0-0	Lost 1
Macomb	4-10	.286	10-14	.417	9	6-6	3-8	1-0	Lost 1
Alpena	3-10	.231	5-16	.238	9.5	3-7	2-7	0-2	Lost 1
Kirtland	2-11	.154	6-15	.286	10.5	5-6	1-7	0-2	Lost 4

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

SCHOOL	MCCAA	OVERALL	GB	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL	STREAK		
St Clair Cnty	14-0	1.000	21-2	.913	-	8-0	10-1	3-1	Won 17
Delta	11-3	.786	20-5	.800	3	13-1	6-4	1-0	Lost 1
Macomb	10-4	.714	17-5	.773	4	10-2	7-2	0-1	Lost 1
Mott	7-6	.538	13-11	.542	6.5	7-4	5-7	1-0	Lost 1
Wayne Cnty	6-7	.462	7-13	.350	7.5	4-5	3-6	0-2	Won 1
Schoolcraft	6-8	.429	10-14	.417	8	7-3	2-11	1-0	Won 1
Kirtland	5-7	.417	8-10	.444	8	6-4	2-6	0-0	Lost 2
Alpena	5-9	.357	8-13	.381	9	5-4	2-8	1-1	Won 2
Oakland	2-10	.187	3-20	.130	11	3-8	0-9	0-3	Lost 8
Henry Ford	1-13	.071	2-19	.095	13	1-10	0-8	1-1	Lost 1

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"We'll begin collecting canned food on January 17 for students who may be unable to attend the game."
*Activities Office, PE Bldg

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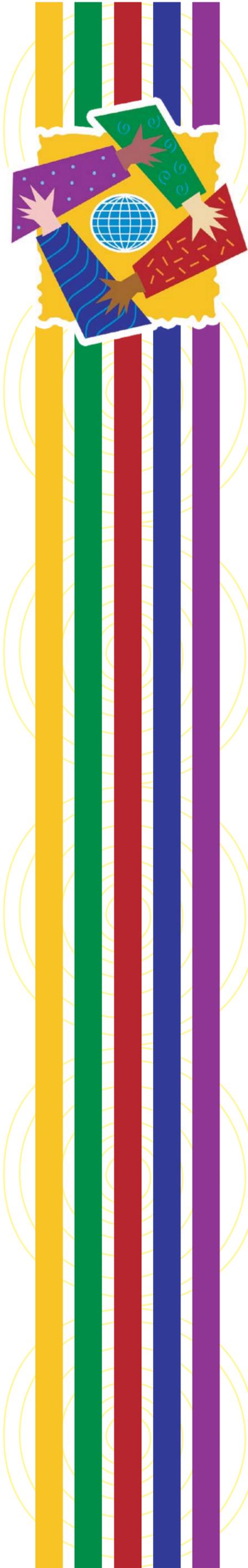
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Gaming Society

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Sudoku

			6	2	5		3	
		2					6	
7							4	
		4		9	6			7
	7				8	6		
9	1	6	5					8
6				3	9	8	5	
	5		8		7	3		9
			2					

Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12		13		14		15		16
17			18				19		
20			21				22		
23		24					25		
	26		27		28		29		
	30			31	32	33	34	35	
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41	42	43	44	45	46		47	48	
49				50	51	52	53	54	
55				56				57	
58				59				60	
			61						62

Down

- Middle Eastern range (6,9)
- US vessel sunk at Havana
- Pots
- Friends
- Jam
- Hither
- Strip of weapons
- Dishonest person
- Divide into two
- Pseudonym (3,4)
- Roman rural deity
- Underworld river
- Level
- Charms
- Protective compartments
- Envelope around a comet
- Space exploration body
- Genetic copies
- Fifth sign of the zodiac
- Villein
- Connect
- At another time
- Fodder
- Avatar
- Young Women's Christian Association
- Source of irritation
- More curious
- Noisome
- Turn running before the wind
- Belated (literacy)
- SW Maine city
- Revenue at an event
- Eclat
- Cast away
- Dandy ■

Across

- Chomp
- Intuition
- A long way away
- Knee breaches (archaic)
- Rank
- Profit
- Excessive
- Male name
- Ranches (Austr)
- Male name
- Kiln
- Smallest whole number
- Chad language
- Political action committee
- Trademarks
- Islamic God
- Linear (3-11)
- Accolade
- Brother
- Range of what one can know
- Literal error
- Integrated circuit technology
- Inspired by wonderment or reverence
- Pharaonic land
- Bleats
- Frosted
- Proscribed
- Corrode to form a printing block
- Church central area
- Particulars
- Two or more eras
- Eat into
- Pretender

Horoscopes

CAMYLE CRYDERMAN
EDITORIAL INTERN

Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

Some well-deserved recognition will soon be received. Continue performing at the current pace, yet be patient. Do not become involved in any workplace or personal drama though, for it will reflect poorly on the view of others. Think outside of the box and be sure to make personal ideas known; they will attract positive attention.

Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Personal love relations will soon take an exciting turn, and past feelings for an old love will quickly resurface. A relationship with a friend will also briefly become rocky, but do not be alarmed; it will even back out rapidly. Be sure to take notice in all surroundings because a new potential love interest will soon come on the scene.

Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20

The draw of elaborate things is all around, so resist the upcoming urge to overspend. There will be the temptation for an intriguing purchase, but do not make the splurge. Be wary of spending habits, and make sure to always have an extra supply of cash because it will soon come in handy.

Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22

Human companionships have recently been lacking. Do not become too down and continue to live from within. An acquaintance from before will soon resurface in either a friendly or intimate way, so be open. Do not put on an act to try to impress others, for the right person will be attracted to the heart.

Scorpio Oct 24 - Nov 22

Life seems to be stuck in a constant routine lately, and upbeat actions and encounters are withering because of it. Try to break away from a strict schedule for a while and welcome the new joy in life. Remember to take time for rest and relaxation because quiet moments are always vital.

Libra Sep 24 - Oct 23

Financial luck will soon be received, so take responsible risks and enjoy an upcoming gracious reward. Do not sacrifice entire earnings or put business ventures at jeopardy, but remember to always practice with slight caution. Invest money in a successful venture, and share in all of the reward.

Virgo Aug 24 - Sept 23

Take some much needed time to primp and pamper and make a change in outward appearance. Others have begun to judge based simply off looks, so make a small, yet noticeable modification. This will grasp the attention of all who are around, and will lead to a wealth of friendships.

Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

Others have been receiving harsh vibes from you recently, so take time to step back and evaluate for a while. Although impoliteness is never the goal, confident opinions sometimes rub others the wrong way. Think about the reaction of others before speaking, and personal appreciation will be valued even more.

Cancer Jun 22 - Jul 23

Life is in a good place right now, stay content with immediate surroundings and do not take anything for granted. Continue to enjoy life and happiness will soon come as a reward. Not everything will turn out perfect. Accept the bad times with the good to maintain peace.

Gemini May 22 - Jun 21

A difficult situation has resulted in a necessary, hard decision. Do not become stressed trying to solve the problem though. Remain calm and let the situation work itself out, then life will return as before. Do not over think any actions, and a prosperous life will continue to grant well-being.

Taurus Apr 21 - May 21

Personal goals and accomplishments lend necessary information to coworkers. Do not become too boastful though. Continue to contribute specialties to those in need of them, but do not interject in those who do not. Remain constant in the workplace, and soon experience a reward for your actions.

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

Others have recently begun to notice personal actions, so continue to live life confidently, yet respectfully. Do not take on the actions of others though, and remain an individual. An unexpected person from the past will arise because of this, but be sure to not cause any confrontations. ■

Word Search

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H M E N I H S N U S W I M M I N G M C S
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H E D A Y T O N A U S T I U S M I W S C
C U V A R E S O R T M E X I C O K T U O
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SANDALS
SUNGLASSES
SUNSCREEN
SUNSHINE
SWIMMING
SWIMSUITS
TAN
TEENAGERS
TRAVEL
VACATION
VOLLEYBALL
■

Quotable Quotes

"Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies."

—Aristotle

"People ask me what I do in winter when there is no baseball. I'll tell you what I do. I stare out the window and wait for spring!"

—Roger Hornsby

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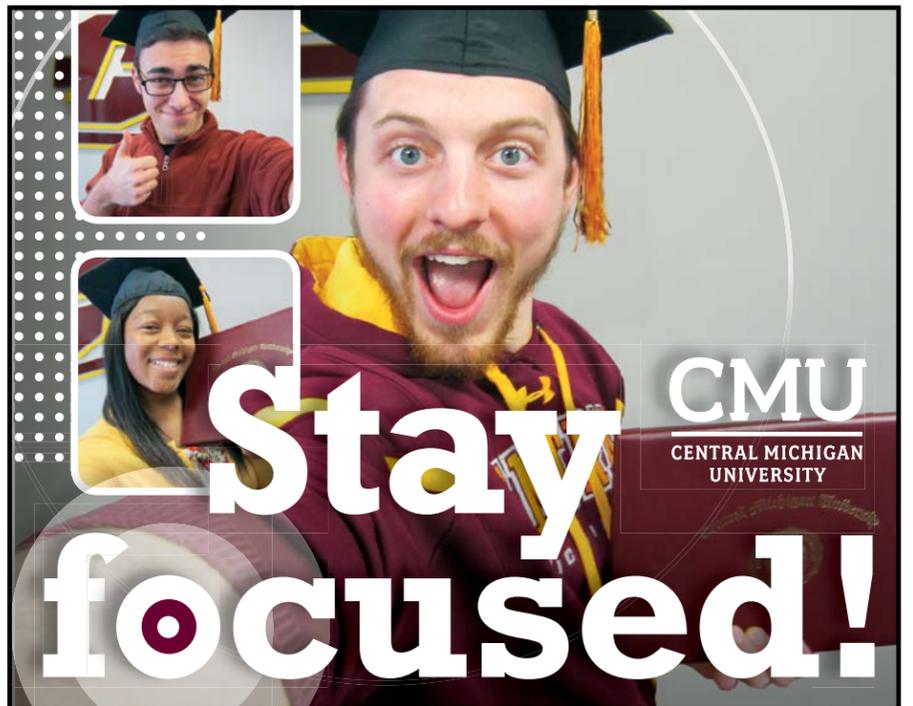
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Shaking Off Cabin Fever

It's been a long, cold winter, but Schoolcraft students are making the best of the current warm spell. Organized by Vincent Allen and Nick Atovski, a group of 7 students got together for a snowy game of capture the flag. They spilt up into two teams, Team Tiger and Team American, and enjoyed being able to run around after being stuck inside all winter.



Team Tiger develops their plan of attack in a huddle prior to the game.



Fred Bisinger catches his breath during a slight reprise in the intensity of the game.



While waiting for people to join the event a few of the players warm up with football, chasing after Nick Atovski.



Nick Atovski tags Matthew Cusin, sending him to jail until a teammate can rescue him.



Vincent Allen leaves Tara Conoff in his dust as he runs towards his side with Team America's flag.



Matthew Cusin is first to grab Team Tigers flag.



Hossein Zabihiyan crosses the finish line with Team America's flag, winning the first game for Team Tiger.



Vincent Allen celebrates his teams victory with a dramatic jump.