

FLASHBACK TO THE '60S

Take a look at Schoolcraft's beginning in the farmlands of Livonia on pages 14 and 15.



CANINE SERVICES

Find out what Michigan Dog Training, Plymouth, offers to families and the disabled on page 4.



The **Schoolcraft Connection**

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Dirty secrets revealed

CIA torture report was released; results not pretty

BY ELIZABETH CASELLA
INTERN

Human rights violations and the release of a new view on torture for the U.S. has left a skewed outlook of the nation across the world. On Dec. 8, the rumors of years of torture in the U.S. were confirmed.

The Senate Intelligence Committee report against the brutal treatment of detainees by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) after the 9/11 terrorist attacks is drawing criticism worldwide. Under the Bush administration, the torture of terrorists was approved by the CIA and kept secret, and the torture report was highly criticized by Congress for being released five years after the program was shut down. Interrogation tactics such as water boarding, sleep deprivation for up to a week and unethical ways of feeding prisoners took place.

Some of the key points outlined in the report are the brutal and extensive interrogation techniques, the mishandling of detainees and the misleading of those in Congress and the White House who were unaware of the poor treatment.

Detainees were subjected to anal feedings where their meals were injected up their anal cavities. Locking prisoners in metal boxes for up to a week with no food or water was a common practice as well. One of the other most common practices besides water boarding detainees was forcing those with broken legs or feet to stand in stress inducing positions without receiving medical treatment.

The report is over 6,000 pages, and at least 26 of the detainees were held wrongfully. The 26 people did not meet the government's standards for detention, but were not allowed due process either.

"The treatment these prisoners received is outrageous. I believed that our nation used

SEE CIA TORTURE REPORT ON PAGE 3



The McDowell Center's construction is allowing expansion for various student resources, including the Testing Center, located on the second floor.

Construction allows a more efficient facility for students and staff

BY ELAINE GEROU AND JOE ZYLKA
MANAGING EDITOR AND NEWS EDITOR

Since the McDowell Center opened in 1995, it has been a hub for students and administration, helping with career choices, academic planning and the finances of college. However, the opening of the Jeffress Center is causing a seismic shift in the halls of the McDowell Building. The McDowell Center is currently in the process of its first major renovation ever, costing \$1.6 million, which is being funded by a bond Schoolcraft floated itself.

ENHANCED SERVICES

No longer will the finance, accounting and top Schoolcraft officials be housed at McDowell. Instead, McDowell will become more student-oriented in nature, and everything from the setup to the floor system will be altered to better connect students to Schoolcraft College, career

choices and advancement.

Some may ask why there was a need for so many changes to begin the construction in 2013.

"We really looked at the areas of dissatisfaction for the students [from years of surveys], what they really liked, and our first objective was to try to eliminate some of the areas of dissatisfaction and to capitalize more on our strengths," said Cheryl Hagen, Vice President of Student Services. "One of the areas of greatest dissatisfaction was the wait time for counseling and advising."

One of the major changes coming with the construction will be the separation of the counseling and advising departments, which will help more clearly direct students to what they need. Having students visit advisors for solely class scheduling and counsel-

ors for career planning, choosing a program or an emotional issue will reduce the wait time.

"We have really expanded the counselors' role to deal with more of the mental health issue, which we are seeing—every college is seeing," said Hagen. "In the past, counselors were so busy helping students with their program choices that they really didn't have time for this."

Some of the counselors are even specialized in different areas such as eating disorders and grieving.

Another added asset that tremendously reduced the wait time for counseling and advising is the new Answer Center, located on the second floor, which takes about 7,500 calls a month and can schedule appointments for students, taking a load off of other departments. The hours are from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. from Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday and 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Sunday. Having the Answer Center open over break brought in more students to Schoolcraft as well.

"Nobody else has anything like it, so I think it really is a competitive advantage for us. I don't know of any other community college that has these kind of hours of operation," said Hagen. "We want to make

Jeremy Smallwood, who benefits from the Veteran's Resource Center, speaks with Pam Paxton-Keehner, the Veterans Services Coordinator.



PHOTOS BY NATHAN GARTNER | PHOTO EDITOR



A sign in the McDowell Center guides students, faculty and visitors to their designated destination in the building.

sure that when a student needs us, there is someone to serve them."

One last reconstruction helping reduce the wait time for counselors and advisors is the expansion of Admissions. Hagen says this helps because now parents and interested students who simply want to learn about Schoolcraft as a college have the space to sit down and talk to someone in admissions rather than to a counselor. There is also more space to fill out applications.

The Student Financial Services expanded for discussions

SEE MCDOWELL CENTER ON PAGE 4

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News briefs



BY ELAINE GEROU
MANAGING EDITOR

HEIDELBERG FIRES

There have been eight fires set to the Heidelberg Project in Detroit since 2013. The Detroit Fire Arson Unit has investigated the damage, but is not ready to declare that an arsonist has committed the crimes.

OCEANS ARE TRASHED

A new study concluded about 5.25 trillion pieces of plastic trash litter the oceans with the weight of 269,000 tons. The figure may actually be smaller than the actual amount of plastic garbage in the water, as tracking pieces of plastic is difficult. The pieces are tiny, only one to 4.75 millimeters, because currents carry large pieces, and when two currents meet, plastic is torn and broken down. Many small pieces are lost beneath the ocean's surface, leaving a potentially huge amount of plastic on the seabed not calculated into the study's estimation.

LOW HOMICIDE RATE FOR 2014

Although counting of about the last week of the 2014-year is still in progress, as of Jan. 4, there have only been 300 homicides in the city of Detroit for 2014. If the number remains below 308, which was the number of homicides in 2010, it will have been the fewest number of murders Detroit has had since 1960. While this is progress for Detroit, the city is still one of United States' most violent per-capita.

NEW KIND OF CARE

There is a new experimental project being used in 44 states for people receiving Medicaid to pay for living arrangements outside of nursing homes, so they can live an independent lifestyle. Before Medicaid has only paid for receivers to live in nursing homes, but the program is experimenting with paying for house-hunting help, deposits for rent and furniture. It also provides a transition coordinator to help find the home and connect the Medicaid receiver to the services they'll need, which could be home health workers. This actually saves the federal government money. With tradition Medicaid, it costs \$64,000 annually in Ohio, but with the experimental program, it is estimated to only cost \$49,000. There are 5,400 people in the program in Ohio. Many in the program are old and disabled with physical and/or mental challenges make finding proper, affordable housing difficult, but one of the main problems is the funding that was extended under the Affordable Care Act in 2010 expires in September 2016.

Questions all around

BY ELIZABETH CASELLA
INTERNS

Women often are criticized for claiming to be raped. In many instances, women are too scared to come forward immediately or come forward long after the actual altercation. Rolling Stone Magazine reported in November a horrific rape incident on the campus of the University of Virginia, which turned out to be false.

The victim, Jackie, is a student at the university. She claims that seven boys from a fraternity at the university assaulted and raped her. However, a later report released by the Washington Post questioned parts of the victims story. Her friends and family felt dubious about the details as well.

The girl originally said she was raped and then changed her story to she was forced to perform sexual acts on five of the seven men. How she met the boy who invited her to the party where the events occurred as well as fake photos and fake text messages from the night of the supposed attack have been released to the public. Jackie gave Rolling Stone text messages that were fabricated by Jackie and she posed for the photos.

"I think that it's horrible that people get raped on college campuses. I do believe that it's a problem, but it's one that people can get together and

help to reduce or even stop. The main problem is that the colleges have rapes going on on campus and aren't doing anything to help reduce the number of rapes occurring," said Schoolcraft student Stephanie Heller. "It is upsetting to me that if it is published in a newspaper that something is done then. Nothing is ever printed showing how rapes are being reduced anywhere."

The story brought attention to the immense problem of rape on college campuses in the U.S. Now, it is being criticized and shining a different light on rape than what the intent was. Jackie's intent was to tell her story and bring awareness to the struggle girls face with rape. Many have criticized Rolling Stone for even publishing the story and feel the real discussion is about women trying to get attention through rape calls.

Regardless of the lack of truth to the story in Rolling Stone, rape has been a serious issue in the U.S., and a new debate on rape has surfaced regarding what should be done in cases such as these. Recently the star Bill Cosby has been accused of raping 27 women over the past sixty years of his career. These women never pressed charges because they were harassed into silence by Cosby. This is another example of the problem women face after being raped.

Rolling Stones Magazine UVA rape story is a fraud

"It is a problem, but both genders are responsible. Women do not come forward and report these cases, and the men are responsible for them happening. It is awful that men cannot control themselves enough to prevent attacks such as these happening," said Schoolcraft student Hunter Cleland. "A real man should respect women, and a real woman should respect herself enough to get justice in events that really are rape."

The University of Virginia has not launched any investigations into the case due to the fraudulent evidence surrounding the story.

According to an interview

with CNN, Rolling stones said, "These mistakes are on Rolling Stone, not on Jackie."

They continued to say that she was a victim, and the magazine should have looked into the story more. It was a case of bad journalism unfortunately. This apology from Rolling Stone came after a statement released two days after the article came out on Nov. 19 stating Rolling Stone stood behind Jackie and her story.

The discussion on rape that this story has led to is now the focus of Rolling Stone and other media sources that have covered the story in hopes to prevent attacks in the future.



IMAGE FROM RYAN M. KELLY | THE DAILY PROGRESS

Protestors gather outside a University of Virginia frat house demanding that campus rape should be taken much more seriously when the initial article came out.

More American troops remain in Afghanistan

About 1,000 soldiers were added to ranks in December

BY JOE ZYLKA
NEWS EDITOR

Outgoing U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel visited U.S. forces in Kabul last month, and it is fair to say that he was not pleased with what he saw. During his visit, he announced the United States will add 1,000 troops to its forces in Afghanistan, raising the total number of American troops stationed there to 10,800.

President Obama approved the increase, despite earlier

plans calling for only 9,800 troops to stay beyond 2014.

"President Obama has provided U.S. military commanders the flexibility to manage any temporary force shortfall that we might experience for a few months as we allow for coalition troops to arrive in the theatre," Hagel said at a joint press conference with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani. "This will mean the delayed withdrawal of up to 1,000 U.S. troops, so that up to 10,800 troops, rather

than 9,800, could remain in Afghanistan through the end of this year, and for the first few months in 2015."

Although many Americans often want the troops to come home to their families, there is support from the people behind the decision.

"I support the increase in troops in Afghanistan because they do not have the building blocks in place to protect themselves," said Schoolcraft student Kyle Lepore. "Although our presence is coming to an end, it will make Afghanistan a safer nation thanks to the increased number of American Forces."

Still, there is only a lukewarm feeling of security in Afghanistan right now, as the Taliban has been increasing its number of attacks across the country in recent months. Hagel said the increase in Taliban attacks did not sway him to put more U.S. boots on the ground, and he has full faith in the Ghani administration to solve the Taliban problem.

The Taliban ruled Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, when they were forced from power just weeks after the U.S. launched an invasion of

Afghanistan following 9/11. However, they began to gradually recover in 2003 when the U.S. shifted its focus to Iraq and is now trying to reestablish power in the region.

"Sending additional troops into Afghanistan is the right thing to do, so as long as there is a clear objective, timeframe to accomplish an objective and a hasty withdrawal upon completing the mission," said a former Lieutenant Colonel who served in Afghanistan from 2006 to 2007. "As a third world country, Afghanistan is ill equipped to fight Al Qaida on their own. In spite of the incredible work of the U.S. and NATO forces for the past ten years in helping to establish a structured Afghan Army and National Police Force, there is much left to do to build the capability that Afghanistan needs to fight terrorism on its own."

Hagel added the U.S. will restart the withdrawal of troops later in 2015. The plan is to have 5,500 troops in Afghanistan at the end of next year, and by the end of 2016, there will be even fewer.



IMAGE FROM THE U.S. ARMY.

U.S. Army bases, like this one in Parwan Province, Afghanistan, are starting to disappear across the war-torn nation. The U.S. officially ended its combat mission in Afghanistan on New Year's Eve, but troops will remain until at least 2016.

Lost to the world

Photojournalist killed in rescue attempt

BY ELIZABETH CASELLA
INTERN

Al-Qaida was only two days away from releasing South African hostage Pierre Korkie, who was being held with American photojournalist Luke Somers. However, both were killed after an attempted rescue took place. Somers was taken hostage in September of 2013 in the capital of Yemen by Al-Qaida affiliates in the country.

Korkie was a fellow hostage who was only two days away from being released after negotiations had taken place for almost a year when the rescue attempt by the White House for both of the men took place. The negotiations for Korkie's release were unknown by the White House at the time of the rescue. Somers died after being transported to a U.S. Navy ship near the area where he was being operated on after being wounded during the rescue attempt. Korkie died while in transit to the ship by helicopter.

On Dec. 7, the raid of the Al-Qaida base took place after a U.S. drone surveyed the area earlier that week. Al-Qaida members shot the Somers, an American, and Korkie, a South African, when an alert of the raid was sent out at the base.

President Obama said in a speech after the mission, "There were compelling reasons to believe Mr. Somers' life was in imminent danger. The mission was ordered and arranged after a video released by Al-Qaida showed Somers pleading for his life and only a three-day timeline given for demands to be met."

The Secretary of Defense, Chuck Hagel, backed Obama's decision for

ordering the rescue.

"It is a shame that a journalist had to die during the rescue mission. It happens all the time though that journalists get captured and killed by terrorist groups. I believe that Obama did the right thing by sending in a rescue team though," said Schoolcraft student Shaun O'Brian.

Korkie and his wife Yolande were kidnapped in May of 2013. The Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula known as the (AQAP) group later decided to release Korkie's wife. His wife was working with the Gift of the Givers group to work for her husband's release. The group agreed to pay the ransom to the AQAP. Korkie was an innocent schoolteacher. "I think that the rescue team did all they could do to try and save the two men. It is sad that they could not be brought home alive. The U.S. government does not negotiate with terrorist though, and the president needs to stick to that policy," said Schoolcraft student Matt Smith.

This was the second attempted rescue mission since Somers has been kidnapped. The first attempt failed for lack of secrecy, as did this attempt. Unfortunately, nothing could be done to save the hostages after the terrorist

"There were compelling reasons to believe Mr. Somers' life was in imminent danger. The mission was ordered and arranged after a video released by Al-Qaida showed Somers pleading for his life and only a three-day timeline given for demands to be met."

—Barack Obama

CIA torture report

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

torture such as waterboarding because that has been leaked in the past, but the details of the lengths interrogators went to is inhumane," said Schoolcraft student Zach Western. "It truly is ridiculous what the government hid from the American people as well."

Around the world, the initial reaction from allies and enemies were relatively mute. The United Nations has called the U.S. to bring those responsible to trial for legal prosecution. Allies of the U.S. such as Great Britain, China and Germany have all deplored the nation for going beyond the rights of humans with the treatment of terrorists. The report's main reaction was the lack of democratic values shown by the U.S. to the international community

"U.S. foreign policy is better served by coming clean about U.S. abuses rather than continuing to bury the truth," said Human Rights Watch's Washington Director Sarah Margon to BBC America.

The world media has criticized and emphasized the horrible acts in the report, as well as nothing being done to those responsible for the treatment of the prisoners. Some of the media in the U.S. has not been kind while reporting the story, but does not feel those in Congress responsible need to be prosecuted for their actions. The impact has been almost softened by the reports by the media within the U.S. compared to the harsh criticism worldwide by almost every nation getting their say in.

"Those that kept this report a secret and actually followed through with the



IMAGE FROM MARSHALL RAMSEY | CREATORS SYNDICATE



Many Americans were outraged to read the details of the Senate's torture report in December.

acts of torture need to be held accountable. I feel that the United Nations should also hold the U.S. accountable for the violations to Human Rights," said Schoolcraft student Roger Holland.


The report was supposed to be released in 2013, but was suspended by Congress. President Obama and the Senate Intelligence Committee made the final push to release the report this year.

"There is, I fear, misinformation being used today to prevent the release of this report, disputing its findings and warning about the security consequences of their public disclosure," said Arizona Senator John McCain in a speech to Congress following the release of the report.

Senator McCain, a former prisoner of war, had criticism towards the report like many officials have. The report left many officials in Congress split on their views, but investigations into the CIA program and those involved have begun. The Senate Intelligence Committee has promised to hold those responsible and bring justice.





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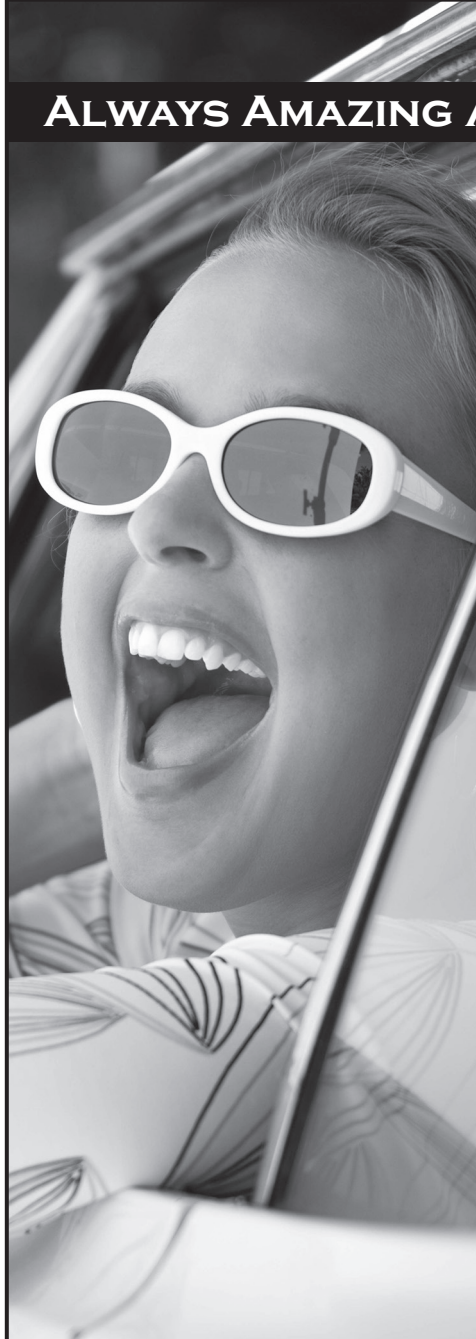


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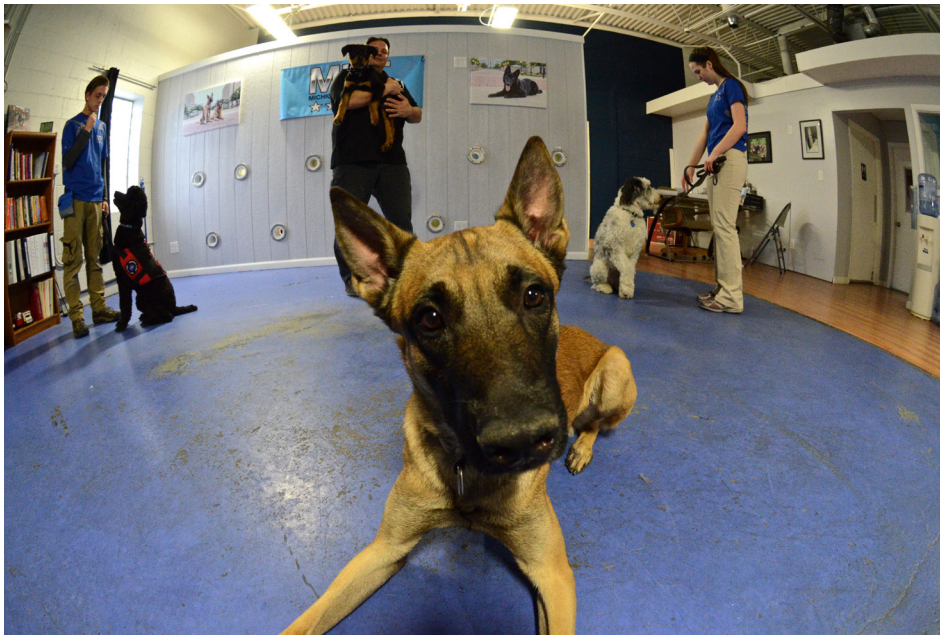
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PHOTOS BY MARGARET SHAW | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Burkey introduces his dog Kaboom to a smell wheel, which is used in various types of training.

Canines in action

Michigan Dog Training helps high-energy dogs become ideal companions



ABOVE: Michael Burkey, owner, and staff members stand with dogs in the training area of the MDT facility.

LEFT: Burkey holds Clutch, a rottweiler puppy trained at MDT.

PHOTO BY NATHAN GARTNER | PHOTO EDITOR

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Service Dogs (Diabetic alert)



ABOVE: Michael Webber holds the attention of Radar, a standard poodle, who is being trained for diabetic alert.

RIGHT: Maddy Petitpas has Raiden, an Aussiedoodle, sit nicely on a leash.

PHOTOS BY NATHAN GARTNER | PHOTO EDITOR



BY LAUREN LUKENS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Officially “man’s best friend,” dogs can be trained to do much more than sit, stay and speak—they can be an essential part of one’s life if trained properly.

Michigan Dog Training (MDT), located in downtown Plymouth, was founded to cater to restricted people with dogs who show fearful and aggressive tendencies. The business also trains calm and happy family dogs.

Michael Burkey, who was given a service dog at the age of four due to allergies that prevented him from hearing sounds, started the business. Burkey is a highly recommended and experienced Professional dog trainer, Dog Behaviorist and Diabetic Alert Dog Trainer. He is also an Expert trial witness, Certified Canine Good Citizen (CGC) evaluator for the American Kennel Club (AKC), former Police K9 Handler, Search and Rescue (SAR) K9 Training Director and SAR K9 Handler, obedience and rally competitor and social worker, according to michigan-dogtraining.com.

“It was a natural desire to continue helping pet owners with their dogs,” said Burkey. “Seeing the satisfaction on the clients’ faces when getting a new dog back [is the best part of my job].”

Dogs can assist the blind in walking, act as ears for the deaf, work with people who have psychiatric disabilities, be an exciting tool in the management of Type One Diabetes, sniff out its owner’s allergies before an allergic reaction can arise and more.

MDT offers two or four-week K9 camps, training day camps and private

and group classes. Customers have the option of bringing in a dog they purchased on their own, or experts at MDT can help one select and buy the perfect dog for them.

“People just call in and say what they need. We write it all down, schedule a consult where they talk to Michael and lay out information like their household situation and movement. Then, the process of finding a dog, doing training and meeting each and every person’s individual need happens,” said Dog Trainer Erica Hensley. “People can get a dog that is specifically designed for them.”

The employees at MDT can train a dog to retrieve objects that are out of their owner’s reach, opening and closing doors, turning light switches off and on. Dogs can also be trained to do more advanced tasks, such as barking to indicate that help is needed, assisting ambulatory persons to walk by providing balance and counterbalance, providing deep pressure, finding another person and leading the person to the handler and many other individual tasks as needed by a disabled person.

“I think the passion that the trainers have for the dogs to make them good companions for their family, as well as the service they can provide through the service dogs is impressive,” said MDT Executive Assistant Deanna Hensley. “There is a lot of love for service dogs and making them great companions at Michigan Dog Training.”

Dogs of any age or size can enhance one’s life. Whether purchasing a service dog or a family pet, MDT can help create an ideal canine companion for any person or environment.

READ ABOUT ERICA HENSLEY, SCHOOLCRAFT STUDENT AND DOG TRAINER, ON PAGE 12.

McDowell Center

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and privacy, and the Testing Center expanded and moved to the second floor. 20,000 tests per year take place in that room for GED tests, placement tests or make-up tests. The English as a Second Language program (ESL) has more dedicated labs in the building as well.

A completely new addition to the McDowell Center is Student Relations on the first floor, which is a centralized area to attend to filed complaints. Students can file complaints at the SC Care website and will get timely feedback.

A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

The McDowell Building is also better

helping our local war heroes through the Veterans Resource Center (VRC), located on the second floor, which has computers and printers among other resources. The VRC opened appropriately on Veterans Day this past fall.

“One of the main things we do is process their education benefits,” said Pam Paxton-Keehner, who runs the VRC. “Now that we actually have a room for them, we have space school and community resources to help them with anything they need.”

The Women’s Resource Center is also re-opening with the renovations and will have a lactation room available to mothers feeding or pumping. It will be a part of the counseling and career services to help women become more independent by giving them a support

system, get a job and support themselves.

CONSTRUCTION WORTHWHILE

Although there is currently noise, dust and cold air inside the McDowell Center from the restructuring, all students will benefit from the changes, even if it is just by the appeal.

“There will be a more modern feel to the architecture here, and the painting of school colors gives a sense of school spirit,” said second-year Schoolcraft student Chauné Rael-Whitsitt. “It will also make the building more welcoming and inviting for people.”

Cameras have also been added throughout the building to ensure safety during the long, tough renovation project.

“The biggest challenge is maintain-

ing construction schedules, while working in a building that is fully-occupied by students and staff,” said Jerry Piasentin, Project Manager. “If one phase should fail to keep schedule, all subsequent phases would be pushed back and some might fall on peak business periods that would present additional challenges.”

Until construction is completely finished in September or October this year, services may be moved around a bit. Despite the changes and construction, one can always reference the front desk that has staff updated on where everything is to help one navigate the newly renovated and more efficient McDowell Center.



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-EDITORIAL-

Winter perks

Michigan's colder months should be enjoyed, not dreaded

Winter brings cold weather, dim days and bleak attitudes. The cold snow and wet sheets of ice cover the roads creating problem after problem. Accidents and slow driving send rage to those behind the wheel making the mood of the season even worse.

While many dread the cold weather of the winter months in the metro Detroit area, the winter months are much worse elsewhere. In Traverse City and locations close to it, the winter usually lasts about six weeks longer than the winter season here. Most years, northern Michigan cities have two or more feet of snow on the ground.

The metro Detroit area rarely gets unbearable amounts of snow. Citizens in this area should be grateful that snow chains are not needed for their cars, as they are needed in the mountains where roads are

snowy, icy and treacherous.

When the weather is harsh or unmanageable, winter is the one time of the year when it is possible to unexpectedly miss a day or two of school or work. Snow days can happen from icy roads, heavy snow or low temperatures, and in Michigan, it is normally a combination of all three.

Another perk of winter is the chance for one to wear a completely different style wardrobe. The possibilities on what one could wear are endless, with the different types of pants, boots, jackets, hats, sweaters and more. Shopping for all of these items is something that can not be done in the summer, and there is nothing better than spending Christmas money and gift cards on new apparel.

Instead of staying inside all winter to avoid cold temperatures, snow or ice, it is best to



IMAGE FROM FREEALLPICTURES.COM

Students, faculty and community members should take advantage of Michigan's winter by participating in activities, such as making snow angels.

avoid laziness and enjoy all Michigan has to offer in the colder months by engaging in winter sports and activities.

People of all ages can enjoy skiing, snowboarding and snowmobiling up north and locally, as well as ice skate competitively or for fun on public rinks. If one has never done these activities before, winter is the perfect time to invest in a lesson and learn.

Michigan is definitely one of the chillier areas on the map, so instead of complaining about winter, one can bundle up, lace up and play some pond hockey with friends and family somewhere in their community.

When looking for free entertainment, building a snowman with a carrot nose and stick

arms is a winter must at any age. Building snow forts, having snowball fights, making snow angels, hunting; even ice fishing can only be done in the winter months when powdery white snow covers the ground, and these activities will not break the bank. One can also challenge themselves to make an igloo or sledding hill in their backyard or somewhere nearby.

After enjoying a day of winter activities, the enjoyment of hot beverages, such as coffee and hot chocolate, is prominent. From snow days, fashion, to sports and activities, winter in Michigan should be cherished and enjoyed by all.

The bigger picture



Lauren Lukens

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
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Religious Freedom Restoration Act is an excuse for discrimination

"In God we trust" was adopted as the official motto of the United States in 1956, and clearly appears in "The Star-Spangled Banner" and on U.S. currency.

Coinciding with the motto, the Republican-led House approved the Michigan Religious Freedom Restoration Act (MRFRA) in early December, which essentially states that people do not have to perform an act that requires any sincere religious belief to be substantially burdened. The act is modeled after a federal bill signed into law by former President Bill Clinton in 1993.

There are several loopholes in this act, and I believe it goes against the First Amendment right of freedom of religion. While the act promotes one

to legally abide their religious customs in any situation, whether discriminatory or not, it allows those who worship other religions, or no religion at all, to be susceptible to mistreatment.

In response, the general media has been spreading cons of the act, while thinking about a narrow range of possibilities if it is approved by both the Michigan Senate and Governor Rick Snyder. For example, CBS News' headline, published on Dec. 11, reads: "Bill would let Michigan doctors, EMTs refuse to treat gay patients."

The act would not only affect gays, however, but anyone whose beliefs or traditions do not agree with one of another religion.

It seems that any congressional bill that advocates for religious freedom would be positive, as one of the most valued benefits of living in the United States is everyone has the right to practice their own faith. Nonetheless, approval from Governor Snyder could mean more hardships and discrimination in Michigan.

Not only would the act allow a medical worker to deny treatment to a homosexual if their religious beliefs are troubled, a Catholic pharmacist could refuse to fill a prescription for birth control. Likewise, a Muslim shopkeeper could refuse to sell a bottle of wine to a fellow

Muslim, citing his own Islamic belief of forbidding substances that are harmful to one's health or well-being.

The proposed law directly contradicts Michigan's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, which has protected state residents from all kinds from discrimination since the 1970s.

As Thanksgiving 2014 approached, national attention fell upon Fort Lauderdale, Florida, when two pastors and a 90-year old friend were charged and arrested for feeding the town's homeless, which is a violation to the town's ordinance. The previous month, in Houston, a group of ministers were told by the City Council that their sermons were required to ensure their language would not violate a recently passed ordinance. Similarly, the Jewish Orthodox family of a young man who died in a car accident in Clinton County, New York, was furious when the county medical examiner performed an autopsy despite the religious objections of the family several years ago.

While the MRFRA would protect citizens from witnessing their First Amendment civil-liberty rights eroded by some sectors of society and government in such instances, the act is not worth the risk.

The truth about discrimination is that it is not truly based on membership in a particular

group. Discrimination is based on stereotypes, being able to pinpoint "tells" that tag certain people as a member of a certain community.

The MRFRA promotes those most vulnerable to become more vulnerable, and every demographic could encounter discrimination if passed by the Senate and signed by Snyder. Others and myself will leave the state of Michigan if the MRFRA is allowed to promote a level disgrace that permits discrimination in "the land of the free."



PHOTO BY JOHN BEUTLER | SENATE.MICHIGAN.GOV

If the House-approved Michigan Religious Freedom Restoration Act is passed by the Senate, the bill will move on to the Michigan State Capitol, which is pictured above. There, Governor Rick Snyder could decide the bill's fate.

Trying before buying



Elizabeth Casella
 INTERN
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The opportunity to “test drive” a career

Internships are different for every person. No matter what the internship is though, there can be positives. These positives can be a chance for networking, making friends, getting business experience or deciding if the career choice you are pursuing is the right choice for you.

Since the age of five, I have known I want to be a journalist. For most people, this is not the case. On and off, I wrote articles for several papers starting in ninth grade and still felt that journalism was the career for me. My senior year of high school gave me the opportunity to have an internship for a semester in journalism working at The Connection, Schoolcraft’s

student newspaper.

This internship has offered me many things that will benefit me in the future. The most considerable benefit has been the reassurance that journalism is the career I know I want to pursue and will love. Without this internship, I may not have realized my focus. Now I can spend time over the next four years working towards that career goal.

The most beneficial part of an internship is gaining experience in a career. While applying for paying jobs, standing out is an essential. Internships are a way to stand out from others applying for the same job who may not have taken the time to gain experience beforehand. Internships not only teach one about what a job entails, but also gives a person hands on experience. Good job experience is more than running for coffee and being bossed around, doing meaningless tasks; it is working on assignments with employees who can teach helpful skills for the future.

Another vital part of an internship is networking. The opportunity to work with experts in a field is important

for future opportunities. Networking is creating contacts through co-workers who can make opportunities possible by giving recommendations or creating a job depending on the contact. A network can also build bridges to key people in the field.

Finally, Making friends with those working at the same place is not essential, but makes the job more gratifying. A profound intern should be able to make friends with their co-workers. It not only makes the work atmosphere more enjoyable and memorable, but it makes working with others easier as well. Those are the people who will continue to be supportive and encouraging throughout the entire internship experience.

Internships are offered in a variety of different fields that can suit everyone. Finding the right one may be tough, but experiencing several is also beneficial. Deciding to gain the extra knowledge and experience in a chosen career at a young age is worth more than anything money can buy and will pay off in the long run.

Pleading reality



Casey Samyn
 CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR
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Mental illness pleas in court cases need to be redefined

Adam Lanza walked into Sandy Hook Elementary School on Dec. 14, 2012 and killed 20 children and six adults before fatally shooting himself in the head in Newtown, Connecticut. Since that date, there have been at least 94 school shootings in America, which averages to one a week. Lanza, like some of the other shooters, had a history of various mental health problems, and that was a justification to his actions.

Mental illness is not an excuse for killing others. Not all of the school shooters had a history of mental health related issues, but nearly all of them, with the exception of a few gang-related shootings, had developed them after their shooting attempts.

Although Lanza died of sui-

cide, most of the 94 shooters did not. Most of the shooters who went to court were tried as adults, only to plead insanity. Pleading insanity means the defendant is not responsible for their actions during a mental health episode, and this allows sentences and charges to be reduced.

One example is in Colorado v. Connelly (1986) when schizophrenic Francis Connelly argued that his condition rendered him innocent from his murderous actions, and he was granted a sentence of only ten years. However, his case opened back up, and the court repealed the insanity plea, increasing his sentence to 40 years.

The requirements to pleading insanity are too loosely defined, and something needs to change. People who murder innocent children should not be allowed to get their sentence reduced when rapists cannot. The psychological effects are not different for the victims of either crimes.

Insanity should not be a justification for people’s actions. Murder should not have a justification; murderers should be sentenced appropriately to the degree of their murder, without using mental illness as an excuse. Mental health standards should also be improved upon to prevent the excuse of an insanity plea.

Appreciate the classics



Elaine Gerou
 MANAGING EDITOR
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Symphony music helps everyone

Many think of classical music as “boring,” because it usually has no singing, is not extremely upbeat or catchy and is a bit too complex for most to enjoy regularly. This genre should be greatly appreciated though, especially by younger generations, because classical symphony music is the basic building block of all genres of music.

Almost everyone watches movies, and regardless of how often, viewers usually listen to classical music that is used as background music. Viewers are not usually conscious of the background music in movies, but many times, the harmonies and melodies setting the scene make all the difference in a film. Background music helps build suspense, horror, passion, etc., and it also assists in stimulating those emotions within the viewing audience.

In many films, there is a reoccurring “musical phrase,” or leitmotif, which listeners come to know and expect a certain kind of action or feeling from. For example, “The Lord of the Rings” movie series uses several leitmotifs.

One of them is that of the Shire. When the peaceful tune plays, the viewer can expect a scene of happiness to play, and they will feel at ease, but when the leitmotif of Mordor plays, the viewer will feel anxious as suspense builds, and they can expect something ominous to occur.

Classical symphony music has the capability to capture all emotions through the power of wordless music, and not many genres can do that. Most genres tell a story through the words sung by singers, but a symphony can tell a deep story through the combination of woodwind, brass, percussion and string instruments, and everyone should value that impressive form of art.

Classical symphony music is the basic building block for all musical genres. Without classical symphony music, hip-hop, pop, jazz, country, funk, rock n’ roll and all other musical genres would not exist.

Most people would not be able to listen to their favorite jams or have diversity in their taste in music without the artists classical foundation. Without the birth of classical music in the 1700s, people would have to listen to much simpler sounds, and life would probably be more boring.

Classical symphony music is a beautiful, complex art compiled by many talented musicians of all ages and races who come together to create sounds that evoke strong emotions and memories in people. Whether one listens to classical music regularly or only in movies, they should appreciate it for its involvement in the film business and modern music industry.

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Ocelot Opinions

Interviews and photos by Durwin Johnson | Staff Photographer



Josh Toccalino
Major: Computer Science
"To get good grades again, hopefully"



Jessie Hengy
Major: Child Care
"To 4.0 every class"



Jessica Griffin
Major: Child Care
"To get the best grade in my class"



Mrinal Sharma
Major: Information Technology
"To become more familiar with the workings of the computer information field"



Calvin Kahler
Major: Pre-Med
"Hopefully get all A's and B's in my classes"



Lisa Cusumano
Major: LPN to RN
"To see what classes I can take while waiting to get into the LPN to RN program"



Tania Gavida
Major: Nursing
"To have at least a 3.5 GPA"



Ryan Cassar
Major: Criminal Justice
"Pass all my classes above a B. That would satisfy me. Also, to do better on tests"



Jacob Ohm
Major: Biology
"To balance education with a social life"

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACHIEVE THIS SEMESTER?



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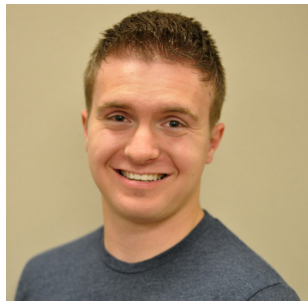


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Know your politicians



Joe Zylka
NEWS EDITOR

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It is one's patriotic duty to know their representatives

The fiery Patrick Henry proclaimed on March 23, 1775, "Give me Liberty or give me death." Henry's famous speech inspired the American colonists to revolt against the British Empire in the pursuit

of liberty.

While many Americans today would likely not go to that extreme to defend their liberty, there is a way to make sure one's liberties are protected, and it is by getting to know your politicians at the local, state and national levels.

The 114th Congress took office on Jan. 6, and many new faces are representing the people of Southeast Michigan. Newly elected Senator Gary Peters joins Debbie Stabenow in the Senate, while freshman Republican Dave Trott will represent Michigan's 11th Congressional District for the next two years. In the Michigan Legislature, new faces will join old ones in representing the likes of Plymouth, Canton and Livonia.

Of course, the most import-

ant thing one can do in the political process is vote.

"Election outcomes are determined by those who participate," said Steve Frantzich, Professor of Political Science at the U.S. Naval Academy in an interview with CongressLink. "Elected officials make important (often life and death) decisions about how our society will expend its collective resources and the restraints it will place on individual behavior, and elected officials respond to people who bother to vote more than to those who abstain."

After the polls close, what else can one do? Many Americans tune out political news and events after election season, but there is so much more that must be done after the votes are counted.

Every citizen, regardless of party affiliation, should either meet with or contact their

representatives every now and then to talk about policies and possible changes that can be made to improve conditions. Far too often, citizens will not speak to or stand by their representatives in office because they are affiliated with a party that the citizen does not like.

While one does not have to agree with every proposal or idea from their representative, communicating directly with your representative can increase the chances of seeing the results one wants.

Good citizens must push their representatives for the changes they want to see happen in their community, state and country. Many politicians are able to get away with making empty promises around election time, but fail to deliver their promises because citizens are not putting enough pressure on them to get things done. Meeting with your representatives will

show them that they must act swiftly on an issue, because they will anger many people if they do not.

Another way of changing public policy is to discuss issues with friends and family. If one is passionate about a certain issue, discussions with others can spark ideas and creative thinking toward a solution. Openly discussing public policy will also get more people involved in the political process, which would make it tougher for politicians to get away with doing nothing.

Democracy is sometimes messy, and it is not always the easiest solution to solving problems affecting millions of people. However, getting involved in the democratic process is how one's voice can be heard to keep their liberty protected.

Better, but not the best



Nick Misiak
SPORTS EDITOR

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College Football Playoff System has imperfections, but should stay

The new playoff system put in place by the NCAA for Division I football has several critics up in arms with its decision making, based on the four teams selected to play in the College Football Playoff. Alabama, Oregon and Florida State were locks to be in the playoff, but the fourth and final seed was given to a team that did not belong.

The College Football Playoff system was introduced for the 2014 season to replace the aging Bowl Championship Series. With the new system, the top four ranked teams are placed in a four-team bracket consisting of two semifinal games, with the winners meeting in a true national championship game.

A selection committee composed of 13 experts chooses and seeds the teams based on their record, strength of schedule and head-to-head matchups with other top teams.

The new playoff is already causing uproar with fans and analysts, as three teams, with almost identical resumes, were vouching for the final spot in the playoff. Ohio State, Baylor and Texas Christian University (TCU) all had 12-1 records and won their respective conference championships.

TCU was ranked third in weeks prior to the final decision, but was dropped to sixth, being leap-frogged by Ohio State, who earned the final spot in the playoff. Baylor, who was ranked sixth heading into the final weekend, defeated Kansas State, a top ten team, but finished fifth and was also out of the playoff.

It makes no sense that a team ranked third in the country can drop three spots to be out of the playoffs, while blowing out teams in their conference all season. In the final week of the season, both Ohio State and Baylor defeated ranked opponents, while TCU blew out Iowa State, one of the weaker teams in their conference.

TCU proceeded to drop three spots in the ranking while Baylor and Ohio State passed them. TCU is one of the top four teams in the country, and because they did not play a strong opponent in the last week of the season when Ohio State and Baylor did, they were denied a spot in the playoff.

Some are calling for the playoff to expand to eight teams to give more teams a chance at the national title, but there would still be controversy surrounding the teams that get in and the teams that do not.

Teams on the bubble will always believe they should receive a chance to prove they are the best, but it is useless to create a larger playoff because it takes away from the importance of the regular season. Every week in college football, there is a game that has national championship implications, and as a fan, I do not want the regular season to lose credibility.

Put into perspective, 40 percent of NFL teams make the playoffs, but only three percent of college teams do.

Having an important game to watch every Saturday makes the season more exciting, and the late season games that carry importance weed out the teams that are not strong enough to last an entire season. No matter how large or small a playoff system is, there will always be controversy, because it is selected by a committee and is not determined by head to head matchups like professional sports.

Although TCU was essentially bumped out of the playoff, the system that is currently in place must not be expanded. The importance of the regular season is what separates college football from the NFL and is what makes many viewers, including myself, tune in every Saturday to watch the top ranked teams battle it out on the gridiron.

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New year, new you

Fit Club offers students opportunities to get in shape

BY REBECCA BREAZEALE
STAFF WRITER

The New Year is a time for resolutions. Some aspire to get a new job, others try to learn a new language and some want to get fit.

Thankfully, the Schoolcraft Fit Club is here to help with student health and fitness goals, whether it is to lose weight, get fit, eat right or to just feel better.

"Fit club is designed like any other club on campus, to bring together like-minded students who want to get together and work out, get some guidance for their selves and have fun making friends," said Patty Donohue Ebach, the fitness center manager. "Students will get a good work out and can set goals for their self."

The club is run by students for students to create a welcoming, non-judgmental environment for people of all

health and fitness levels.

"Living a healthy lifestyle is so important when you're young. The eating and exercise habits you form now will last a lifetime and control both your future and current feelings, attitude and the drive to better yourself," said Maggie Leins, a student leader for the Fit Club. "For me, being active and going to the gym is my happy place where I enjoy spending much of my time. Each day can bring something new to look forward to and a time to improve yourself. Once you get into a routine, living a healthy lifestyle becomes easy to maintain."

Each meeting of fit club has different workouts and offers a complete, full-body workout. The club leaders offer advice on cardio, lifting and nutrition.

"It's great to see students come together and learn dif-

ferent techniques to get fit or stay fit that are safe yet fun to do," said student Krystina Stephan. "Fitness club helps motivate students to work out in a fun environment. Seeing the progress students make is an awesome feeling of accomplishment for not only the students, but the fitness center staff as well."

Fit Club is held every Monday and Thursday from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the fitness center located inside the Physical Education building. For those interested in learning more about the Fit Club call to speak to a fitness center employee at 734-462-4348.



PHOTOS BY MIRANDA MALEC | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ABOVE: (from left to right) Chad Maura, Frank Suchy, Maggie Leins and Bradley Belager actively participate at Fit Club meetings.

BELOW: Fit Club leaders Maggie Leins and Frank Suchy work on their core stability by doing planks.



Weighing your options

BY CASEY SAMYN
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Around this time of year, many students' brains start to exhibit symptoms of cabin fever, resulting in irritability, restlessness and boredom from the dreaded winter months. Unfortunately, cabin fever can have unwanted side effects, such as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

SAD is a form of depression exhibited in the winter months in individuals without mental health concerns in the summer months of the year. Two symptoms are difficulty wak-

ing up in the morning and a tendency to overeat, especially a craving for carbohydrates, which leads to weight gain.

All facets of health go hand-in-hand with one another, as one's mental health is affected by their physical health. If a student's physical health is failing, chances are their mental health will soon follow. A healthy balance in both is key.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Students can create a schedule for working out, picking a different area of the body for each day of the week instead of working out the whole body

in one day. It is very important to make sure all body parts are exercised equally in order to properly function.

"My biggest advice here is to start slow," said Lisa Cunningham, Fitness lead and personal trainer at Schoolcraft's Fitness Center. "We can take you through some of the machines, show you the proper form and give you more specific advice about what to start with."

Equipment orientations are free and take anywhere between 30 and 45 minutes.

Cunningham advises busy students to schedule work out times or designate a work out

Three ways to consider improving your health this new year

buddy, so it is not only more social, but also gives one accountability.

The Fitness Center also offers written work out logs for each student.

"A healthy work out plan gives you balance to your whole life, and believe it or not, can actually give you more energy throughout the day," said Cunningham.

NUTRITION

College student's lives are busy. From working, to school, to attending to families, finding time to eat nutritious meals can be challenging. What students may not know is that Henry's has a grab-and-go section with items like Greek Yogurt, almond milk, hard boiled eggs, soy milk and string cheese. These are helpful to any student who might not have time to pack a meal and have the habit of making a quick stop at McDonald's before classes.

"We have a lot of great options on the salad bar that I think a lot of students overlook because they assume it's only a salad bar, and they don't want to eat just lettuce," said Executive Chef of Banquet & Catering Services Aaron Cook. Some of the healthy options at Henry's are various fruits, vegetables, soups, turkey and chicken.

"For me, if I eat healthy, I think more clearly. When you eat fast food, fried food, things that are loaded with carbs, they just kind of make you tired, like Thanksgiving dinner," said Cook.

MENTAL WELL BEING

The Counseling office has several pamphlets on various conditions students can face. One of the pamphlets is called Mental Fitness, which gives students tips on how to have a positive mindset. Students can meet with counselors to address their concerns privately and extensively.

"The main point for mental well-being is so that there are not issues that are getting in the way of students being academically successful," said Counselor Stuart Baker. "The resources are here and students are invited to make appointments so we can discuss these resources and some of the best ways to apply them in order to provide opportunities for students to be successful in their academic and professional careers."

Students that take each aspect of their health equally serious will start off 2015 on the right foot. Students who start a steady fitness regime can get rid of winter blues and when the summer months come around, their routine will be easy to keep up with.



PHOTO BY ANDREW RELLINGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Counselor Stuart Baker, left, assists Liberal Arts student Zak Cebulski, right, in the counseling office located in the McDowell building.



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Born to train

Schoolcraft student combines past experiences with her passion

BY LAUREN LUKENS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A dog can teach one many concepts in life—unconditional love, loyalty, dependability, playfulness and living in the moment amongst other concepts as well. As dogs are valuable tools in a happy, safe and comfortable life, humans have a symbiotic relationship with their canine companions.

Erica Hensley and Kaboom, Michael Burkey's personal Belgian Malinois, play tug-of-war.

PHOTO BY MARGARET SHAW | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Just as humans would not be the same without dogs, canines can be trained to live a friendly, helpful lifestyle when an individual trains them properly. Erica Hensley, a 23-year-old Canton resident, is a devoted dog trainer at Michigan Dog Training (MDT), where families in Wayne County and surrounding areas depend on her diligence to teach reliable service dogs and obedient family pets.

Her love and compatibility with dogs is nothing new to her—she has been around hounds her whole life. At a young age, Hensley trained several of her family's dogs to the Canine Good Citizen level, which includes coming when called, sitting politely for petting, walking through crowds and more. She also learned to manage dog-to-dog aggression in a multi-dog household.

"Erica brought her first dog to me when she was 11-years-old. When she was about 15, I hired her as a group class

instructor," said Michael Burkey, owner and president of MDT. "She was awesome. It's hard to find someone that young who relates so well with the dogs, does so well with training and relates well with the clients."

In high school, Hensley worked for Burkey, teaching Puppy and Basic Manners group classes. She also earned a dog-racing title and participated in other dog sports, such as Rally, Agility and Schutzhund, according to michigandogtraining.com.

After graduating from Canton High School, Hensley joined the Air Force and performed a variety of jobs, her favorite being assigned to Lackland Air Force Base in Texas. There, she aided in the training of K9 Military Police Dogs, including puppy socialization and obedience, drive building and decoying for beginner and intermediate dogs.

"In the Air Force, I really started plugging in with the dog training aspect of the military. When I got honorably discharged due to an injury in 2014, I came back to Schoolcraft and Michigan Dog Training," said Hensley.

Aside from being a dog trainer at MDT, Hensley is simultaneously pursuing a degree in Animal-Aided Psychology, currently in her second year at Schoolcraft.

"I honestly love dog training. I like the interaction with them. When they finally get something, they have that eureka moment," said Hensley. "Also, I love seeing them [service dogs] go to the family and watching them [families] realize that their life has changed for the better. When most people find out their son, daughter or they themselves have an issue, they get really upset about it. It's really cool to see them get empowered again."

Hensley spends her free time training her personal dogs, some including: Clowe, a Lab Rottweiler mix, Roxy, a Greyhound and German Shepherd mix and Riley, a Jack Russell Terrier. She also trains horses, focusing on dressage and show jumping.

"I am happy to have her back on board," said Burkey.

The dogs at MDT and her personal dogs are also thrilled to be back in her life, as well as her family and friends.

With talent and personality like Hensley's, there is no doubt she will excel in any direction her degree leads her. In her future career, she sees herself using animals as therapy for those with special needs, and her experiences in a variety of environments will surely make this possible.

READ ABOUT MICHIGAN DOG TRAINING ON PAGE 4.

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club EVENTS

COMPILED BY KELLY RESPONDEK
STAFF WRITER

THE FOLLOWING CLUBS TAKE PLACE IN THE LOWER WATERMAN CONFERENCE ROOMS. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE AT 734-462-4422.

ARTISAN NOW ART CLUB
Every other Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. (next meeting Jan. 23)
Aspiring artists at Schoolcraft can display their art and share ideas with each other. This group helps students express themselves artistically and boost their confidence by receiving constructive criticism on their artwork from peers.

BUSINESS CLUB
Tuesdays from 2 to 3 p.m.
Come for guidance and to develop one's knowledge of the business world. Discuss anything and everything business related at meetings and attend additional seminars to create network possibilities for future employment.

CHESS CLUB
First and third Friday of each month at 12:30 p.m.
This club aims to create a network of chess players and teach people how to strategically play the game. Learn what moves to make and when to make them. Whether one is a seasoned or player or just a beginner, all are welcome.

CHRISTIAN CHALLENGE
Tuesdays at noon
This club challenges participants to explore the Lord's Word and improve the overall college experience through God. Help others grow spiritually by promoting friendship and participating in Bible discussions.

COLLEGE REPUBLICANS
Every other Monday at 3 p.m. (next meeting Jan. 19)
This club wishes to gain more members of the party at the collegiate level by developing a greater understanding of the U.S. Constitution through sponsoring speakers, hosting question and answer sessions with public officials and debating and discussing current events.

DOCTOR WHO
Wednesdays from noon to 2 p.m.
This group brings students with an

interest in science fiction together and introduces newcomers to the show "Doctor Who." The club hosts social events such as costume parties and game nights themed around the show.

LGBTQI ALLIANCE
Wednesdays at 2 p.m.
The alliance creates awareness of gender and sexual identities and creates a safe place for LGBTQI people worldwide. Come help inspire, change and educate others through events like sponsor symposiums and social gatherings.

PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY
Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 to 11 a.m.
Those who have a 3.5 GPA or higher and have completed 12 credit hours above the 100 level are invited to join this prestigious society with access to apply for certain scholarships. At meetings, leaders welcome new members and direct existing members on upcoming events to attend.

PING PONG CLUB
Thursdays and Fridays from 6 to 7 p.m.
Ping Pong can be taken to several levels, including serious world competitions. Come to this club for practices and casual mini tournaments where contestants play up to 11 points and the winner continues on to the next round.

POKÉMON CLUB
Wednesdays at 4 to 6 p.m.
This club is the place for long-time Pokémon fans or people who are just developing the hobby. Play Pokémon and discuss the various facets of Pokémon like the television show. Anyone interested in Pokémon is encouraged to come.

PROJECT PLAYHEM GAMING CLUB
Mondays at 3 p.m.
This group unites members by creating a sense of community among student gamers academically, socially and

competitively. Like-minded individuals can connect for tournaments and get-togethers.

THE SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION
Mondays from 4 to 5 p.m.
Become part of the bi-monthly, award winning student newspaper and help express student opinion and report college and world news related to Schoolcraft. Photograph, write, design, produce videos and multimedia and edit to find a niche in the media.

STUDENTS OF ACTIVELY MOVING FORWARD (AMF)
Every other Thursday at 6 p.m.
This is a nonprofit organization run by students, dedicated to emotionally supporting college students grieving the illness or death of a loved one. The group connects students for support and aims to raise awareness about the needs of various grieving college students.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD
Thursdays at 4 p.m.
Along with involving students in community, the SAB hosts service projects on campus and with local charities. Joining the SAB is a perfect way to get involved on campus and gain leadership and/or volunteer experience.

TABLE TOP GAMING CLUB
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 10 p.m.
This club is responsible for facilitating a fun and comfortable environment in which students can enjoy various non-electronic games. Students who enjoy classic games can join for fun and to make friends.

VIDEO PRODUCTION CLUB
Thursdays at 1 p.m.
This club helps those interested in the multimedia field learn more about the dynamics of media through writing, producing and more. Anyone interested in acting, writing or editing is welcome to come to the club.

THESE CLUBS ARE SPONSORED AND HELD AT SCHOOLCRAFT BUT NOT IN THE LOWER WATERMAN. UNDER THE CLUB MEETING TIMES, ONE CAN FIND THE LOCATION OF THE FOLLOWING EVENTS.

BREAK DANCE CLUB
Fridays from 2:45 to 5:15 p.m.
PE140
This club provides students with a chance to express themselves through dance. Attendees have fun while learning about various dance styles, practicing them and meeting new people. Students can compete amongst themselves and showcase their skills.

CIVIL RIGHTS – CIVIL RIGHTS ACTION CLUB
Every other Tuesday at 3 p.m.
LA 130
This organization promotes, educates and works towards the expression of identity and rights of those on campus and beyond. Members strive to involve students, faculty, staff and the community to promote this purpose.

FIT CLUB
Mondays and Thursdays from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Fitness Center, PE Building
This group introduces various fitness principles and proper techniques through different exercises that will improve fitness levels and team building skills. Students who come to this club will improve their overall health and mindset.

MATH AND PHYSICS CLUB
Wednesdays from 5 to 6 p.m.
BTC 300
This group brings students currently seeking degrees in math or science related fields together. The club strives to foster higher levels of interest and understanding in math and physics related topics. Members have the opportunity

to participate in lectures and contests.

NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE CLUB (NACC)
Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.
LA 140
This club fosters an understanding of Native American culture, history and traditions through showing films, sponsoring guest speakers and hosting other cultural events. Go to the meetings to learn and cultivate your knowledge of the Native American culture.

RUGBY CLUB
Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 5 to 6:30 p.m.
Field behind the Applied Science building
This is the first rugby team at Schoolcraft College. Rugby combines speed, strength and strategy. The club is preparing to compete in the Michigan Rugby League against other rugby teams from the state in the spring.

WALLYBALL CLUB
Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1:30 to 3 p.m.
Wallyball Courts, PE Building
Wallyball is played on a racquetball court and is similar to volleyball, but players utilize the walls. Players of all skill levels welcome.



campus EVENTS

COMPILED BY KELLY RESPONDEK
STAFF WRITER

ALL EVENTS, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ARE FREE OF CHARGE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE AT 734-462-4422.

ASK AN ATTORNEY
McDowell Center, Room 105
Community members will be able to gain information from an attorney about divorce and family law. This service is offered on a first come, first serve basis.

Monday, Jan. 12 from 4 to 6 p.m.
The attorney will be from the Creighton, McLean & Shea Law Firm.
Monday, Jan. 19 from 4 to 6 p.m.
The attorney will be from the firm of Marie A. Pulte.
Monday, Feb. 9 from 4 to 6 p.m.
The attorney will be from the Creighton, McLean & Shea Law Firm.

DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP
McDowell, Room 105
The Divorce Support Group will be facilitated by Cynthia Koppin. Attorney Patricia A. Kasody-Coyle will also be available to answer questions in a private setting.

Tuesday, Jan. 29 from 7 to 9 p.m.
This group is open to anyone going through, contemplating or having difficulty adjusting to divorce. Realtor, Tracy Wick, will discuss the issues of real estate property and its connection to divorce.

Monday, Feb. 2 from 4 to 6 p.m.
Attendees will be given the opportunity to ask a certified divorce planner about the financial concerns of divorce. Vickie D. McLellan from Equitable Divorce Resolutions will be available to meet with people on a first come, first serve basis.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING 101
Thursday, Jan. 15 from 9 a.m. to noon
Jeffress Center, JC103
Learn what it takes to become a successful government contractor and what services and resources are available to small businesses pursuing the government market. This seminar costs \$45.00 per person. For more information visit <http://bit.ly/1sNYBva>

STARTING A BUSINESS
Thursday, Jan. 15 from 4 to 7 p.m.
Jeffress Center, JC110
This workshop is an introductory session will give insight on how to manage and lead a company. Help evaluating the market and sales potential of products will be given also. This costs \$35.00 per person.

SOCIAL MEDIA 101 FOR SMALL BUSINESSES
Tuesday, Jan. 20 from 6 to 9 p.m.
Jeffress Center, JC103
This seminar teaches the basics and etiquette of social networking for small businesses. Learn how to reduce marketing costs while growing a business. This workshop costs \$45.00 per person.

WRITING A BUSINESS PLAN
Thursday, Jan. 22 from 4 to 7 p.m.
Jeffress Center, JC110
Learn about the specifics of marketing, key components of information based planning and management and how to begin creating a business plan. The fee for this seminar is \$45.00 per person.

LOAN WORKSHOP FOR GROWING BUSINESSES
Wednesday, Jan 28 from 9 to 11 a.m.
Jeffress Center, JC103
Information is given directly from financial institutions and small busi-

ness consultants on the necessities of obtaining financing, key elements of a loan package and options available for financing.

MARKETING YOUR BUSINESS
Tuesday, Jan. 29 from 4 to 7 p.m.
Jeffress Center, JC110
Understand the marketing concepts used to grow small businesses. Market research and analysis, target marketing and assessing competitors will all be discussed. Learn to make a strategic approach to marketing. The fee for this seminar is \$45.00.

Business Legal Issues
THURSDAY, FEB. 5 FROM 4 TO 7 P.M.
Jeffress Center, JC110
Guidance for prospective business owners will be given dealing with the organizational structure to help protect businesses from unnecessary legal challenges. This seminar offers attendees assistance in gaining an understanding of types of legal entities. The cost of this session is \$45.00.

NOON CONCERT, MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC CHAMBER ENSEMBLE
Wednesday, Feb. 4 from noon to 1 p.m.
Presentation Room, VisTaTech Center
The award winning Michigan Philharmonic will be putting on a benefit concert for student scholarships. The orchestra will be playing music by Mozart, Debussy, Gershwin and Dvorak using the harp, flute, violin, viola, cello and bass.

COLLEGE VISITS
All are located at Henry's in Waterman VisTaTech Center
Wayne State University
Wednesday, Jan. 14 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
University of Michigan-Dearborn
Thursday, Jan. 15 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Western Michigan University
Wednesday, Feb. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Simple beginning

Northwest Wayne County Community College, surrounded by farmland, began the college known today.

BY CASEY SAMYN AND LAUREN LUKENS
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



In the 1960s, Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile Roads had a much different look. One could drive down Seven Mile Road and experience farmland all around, turn left on Haggerty Road and see the Esch farm property. Eventually, after several construction delays, Northwest Wayne County Community College, eventually changed to Schoolcraft due to length, first hosted students in four complete buildings on Aug. 31, 1964.

A SOLID FOUNDATION

Ultimately, the current site was chosen because the only area city that offered to pay for sewage and water construction was Livonia. Schoolcraft was bought for \$1,732 an acre, totaling at \$237,284 for 137 acres. Today, the estimated total cost for the college's original 137 acres would have been \$1,855,458.

The college's founding principles were to provide terminal two-year programs, transfer two-year programs, continuing and community education and to cooperate with other departments in the school system to give an educational advantage to the community college district.

At the time, there were less than 100 students. People of all ages came to Schoolcraft for its convenient location, price and variety of options. Residents were charged \$8 a credit hour, while non-residents were charged \$12.

Marguerite Kirby, Livonia resident, was a member of Schoolcraft's only sorority, Sigma Gamma Phi, which was meant to create high morals and standards among women. "The campus was pretty bare. You could walk to the Southeast corner at night and see the Detroit skyline," said Kirby.

Schoolcraft College began as an idea in the late 1950s. On Aug. 31, 1964, despite several construction delays, the college was able to host students with four completed buildings; the library, the Forum for classes, the administration building that housed the President and other faculty and the service building

for shipping and receiving.

Shortly after construction of the buildings, a bell tower was completed with one big bell and five bells from 19th century schoolhouses in Clarenceville, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth and Northville, which all make up the districts that represent the college today.

Due to construction delays, there was no heat in the buildings until December 1964. Also, students were not provided a cafeteria for the first semester of enrollment.

Alan Tope of Garden City, the valedictorian from Schoolcraft's 1966 class, recalls the college opening a temporary plywood food counter that served sandwiches and other similar food items during that period. "We named it the Ptomaine Tower. Ptomaine is Latin for food poisoning," said Tope.

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

The culinary program known today's roots began in the fall of 1966 with only 29 students.

In Schoolcraft's first year of operation, there were three sports teams; men's swimming, cross country and men's basketball. By the end of the 1969, men's soccer, golf and tennis had been added to the athletics program. There were no established female sports in the 60s.

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) is one of the oldest clubs on campus, and Schoolcraft began the Omicron Iota Chapter in 1966.

In 1967, Randy Carr and Dan Macier set up WSYK, a radio station run on student donated records. After a while, the call letters were changed to WSCC and then WKMX because WSCC was a station used in Kentucky, eventually the radio station became the Amateur Radio Club, which ran until around 1983. Another club was a Schoolcraft Sports Car Club, which was established 1968 to promote safe auto sports and for sports car enthusiasts in the college area.

The largest bell for the bell tower was installed on Nov. 19, 1965 after several delays. Today, the bell tower consists of five bells from nineteenth century schoolhouses in Clarenceville, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth and Northville.



(left to right)
The first Phi Theta Kappa Omicron Iota Chapter members: Robert Sallan, Nancy Rochette, Wilson, and Robert Sallan.

ings

ounded by farmland,
y

Due to limited college-sponsored sports and clubs, prime doings included having a blast with friends, dancing, racing cars and more.

Doug Parnin, who grew up in Livonia near Plymouth and Stark Roads, said he and his friends cruised down Plymouth Road between Big Boy and Daly's for fun. "We would drag race from the light at Hubbard, but somehow never went over the speed limit," said Parnin. "Many times for lunch we would drive, or sometimes walk, down Seven Mile to Northville Road and eat at Bohl's Restaurant. Great little hamburgers—always had mine with mustard and pickles."

INCREASED ENROLLMENT

President Lydon B. Johnson pushed a Civil Rights Act through Congress in 1964 that prohibited discrimination in public places. This, as well as change in public opinion about gender roles, encouraged more and more women and minorities to enroll in college in the 60s.

Kirby and her friend, Rachel Rion, started a day-care for fellow women attending college with children, which allowed women to attend school and not have to worry about their children while doing so. The building was located across from the college on Haggerty Road.

Now, a Children's Center is located by the south parking lot and helps members of the community in similar situations today.

Kirby, now 77 years old, said, "I never dreamt that I could get an opportunity like that."

The forefathers of Schoolcraft College had a plan to turn the campus surrounded by farms and fields into an environment that could sustain growth for years to come. Due to extra land purchased for expansion, an evolving location and the increasing desire to get a college degree, the 60s laid a foundation that would serve college students for years to come.



r was made up of officers Alan Tope, Geraldine Shults
co Barra.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARGUERITE KIRBY

Marguerite Kirby, left, and Claire (McDonald) Mara, right, were part of the second graduating class, who received their diplomas in April 1967.

DID YOU KNOW?

- For Schoolcraft to form, the Community College Districting Act of 1955 had to be amended to make it legal for two or more school districts to form a community college.

- Seven possible sites were considered before Schoolcraft's current site was bought and buildings were constructed.

- In the year 1964, gas cost about 30 cents a gallon. Also, the minimum wage raised from \$1.00 an hour to \$1.15 in September.

- Many male students enrolled in college to avoid the draft.

- All the names of the roads on campus are named after Native American tribes and chiefs associated with Michigan. This is because Henry Rowe Schoolcraft studied and promoted the use of their names whenever possible.



(left to right front) Jeff Houtaline (24), Cal Luibrand (44), Scott McIntyre (12), Bob Geist (52) and Jack Hooper (42)

(left to right back) Manager Hans Melroth, Head Coach Marvin Gans, Dave Noris (10), Gerald Kisabeth (14), Bob Eckonen (22), John Breckenridge (20), Dick Birzak (4), Greg Rice (32), Roger Grover (34), Keith Watson (50), Manager Rick Smith and Assistant Coach Wilson Munn (not pictured) made up the 1964 to 1965 mens basketball team at Schoolcraft.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE SCHOOLCRAFT ARCHIVES

(left to right front) Tim DeWitt, Brian Young, Robert See, Rick Riedel, Chris Hippler, Doug Anglin, Ray DeShano

(left to right back) John Bliss, Ned Gracin, Mike LaPere, Bob Goetsch, John Apicelli, Basim Abdelnour, Bob Carter, Tom Gietl, Dennis Brazzil, Mark Landis, Gary Smereck, Lynn Dodds, Steve Widner, George Haddad, John McDermott and Coach Marvin Gans made up the 1969 to 1970 mens soccer team at Schoolcraft.



In the 1960s, Schoolcraft's campus was much emptier. There were only four buildings compared to the 12 that exist at the main campus today.

Come one, come all

School Daze winter carnival helps students connect with Schoolcraft

BY KELLY RESPONDEK
STAFF WRITER

On Jan. 27 and 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center will transform into a campus hot spot where students can get familiarized with campus clubs and services, sample some delectable treats and participate in games to win prizes.

This year's festivities have some local vendor favorites returning. They include Biggby Coffee, Noodles and Company, Dave and Busters and a few local area banks.

Representatives from campus clubs and departments like the Bookstore, Learning Assistance Center and Fitness Center will also have booths. These booths will give students an opportunity to speak to representatives about activities and resources available for them outside of the classroom.

"I hope to see a lot of students come out just like last time and have a lot of fun," said Phi Theta Kappa president, McKenzie Hayes. "I really think School Daze is great because it encourages student cooperation, gets students involved and allows them to see all the amazing, cool, fun things there is to do."

According to Elizabeth Machniak, an Administrative Assistant for the Student Activities Office, students go to School Daze to find out about clubs and organizations on campus, discovering what Student Activities has to offer and getting involved, and finding out what local business have to offer.

When reflecting on her favorite part of the fall 2014 semester School Daze, freshman Bailey Goldberg said that her favorite parts were, "Talking to new people, the good music being played, and seeing everyone come together as a school and have some fun."

Students can expect friendly competition like Oreo eating contests, rock paper scissors and bubble blowing competitions. Various games like these will be held the entire event with prizes, such as gift cards or samples from local restaurants.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to purchase 50-cent hot dogs, Kona Ice snow cones, sip on a free cup of hot chocolate and grab a bag of popcorn.

School Daze gives students a chance to explore clubs and organizations on campus, allowing them to become new members and become aware of upcoming events.

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



FILE PHOTO

The Environmental Awareness Group is one of the many clubs that will be featured at the Winter School Daze.

Secrets of the Quill

My professor says that my papers are too wordy. What does that mean and how can I fix it? I'm really confused because this is just how I write!
-Way Too Wordy

Dear Way Too Wordy,

When your professor says your paper is wordy, she means it is not concise. Concise writing makes clear statements and uses strong words. Your goal should be to write as concisely as possible. Wordy papers are boring to read, repeat the same information, contain clichés and state the obvious. Say what you mean and be clear. Investigate each word to make sure that it has earned its place in your writing! Concise writing takes time and practice, but it is a skill that anyone can learn. There are several steps you can take to improve your writing.

First, ask yourself why your writing is excessively wordy. Are you trying to meet a page length requirement? Are you starting your papers the night before they are due? Asking these questions will help you root out the problem. Remember that most of the work of writing takes place during editing, so it is essential to plan enough time for that step. Now, take one of your old papers and look for the following.

Passive voice is a sentence construction that reverses the positions of the subject and object. While grammatically correct, it is often overused in humanities papers. Passive voice is when the subject receives the action, rather than performing it. An example of a passive construction is: "The man was struck by the car." The car is doing the action, but it comes at the end where we would expect to find the object. The man is

receiving the action, being struck. For active voice, we can say, "The car struck the man." The second sentence is two words shorter. Using active voice can lead to more concise writing.

Next, look for repetition, which makes a paper boring to read. Repetition is stating the same information more than once. Here is an example of repetition within a sentence: "The dog is always barking all the time at the runners running in the park." There are two clear instances of repetition. First we have "always" and "all the time." Since these both mean the same thing, we can omit one. Next, we have "runners" and "running." Since the people are runners, it is implied that they will be running. Therefore, we can omit the second instance of the word and have a more concise sentence: "The dog is always barking at the runners in the park." All of this work can be done during editing, so do not worry about getting it right the first time.

Now, look for meaningless phrases, which are fillers that do not contribute meaning to your paper. Some examples include "concerning the matter of" and "in light of the fact that." Scrutinize these phrases and decide what you are trying to say. Try to sum up the phrase in one word. "Concerning the matter of" can be condensed to "concerning" and "in light of the fact that" can become "because." Paring down meaningless phrases in this way will drastically reduce the wordiness of your writing.

Finally, remember that writing is a process. Getting words down on paper is only one step. You must give yourself enough time to research, write and edit thoroughly. If you are still struggling, Writing Fellows in the Learning Assistance Center offer peer review and tutoring at no cost.

-Ann Emanuelson



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A CATHARSIS PRODUCTIONS PRESENTATION

THE HOOK-UP

WHEN IT'S HOT AND WHEN IT'S NOT

| WHERE'S THE HOOK-UP? | WHEN'S THE HOOK-UP? |
|--|--|
| <p>Schoolcraft College VisTaTech Center DiPonio Room (VT 500 C & D)</p> | <p>Wednesday February 28, 2015 1 PM</p> |

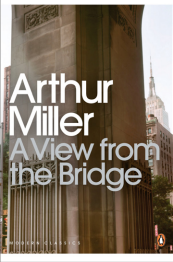
An entertaining presentation that involves the audience in a discussion about the difference between a healthy hookup, regretted sex, and sexual assault.

Pageturners

Book Club Schedule

Winter 2015

JANUARY

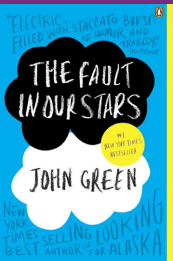


A View from the Bridge
by Arthur Miller

Set in the 1950s on the gritty Brooklyn waterfront, *A View from the Bridge* follows the cataclysmic downfall of Eddie Carbone, who spends his days as a hardworking longshoreman and his nights at home with his wife, Beatrice, and orphan niece, Catherine. But the routine of his life is interrupted when Beatrice's cousins, illegal immigrants from Italy, arrive in New York. As one of them embarks on a romance with Catherine, Eddie's envy and delusion plays out with devastating consequences.

| | | | | |
|------|------------|------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| MON | January 26 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. | L 105 | Book Discussion |
| TUE | January 27 | 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. | L 105 | Book Discussion |
| THUR | January 29 | 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. | F 530 | Movie: <i>A View from the Bridge</i> |

FEBRUARY

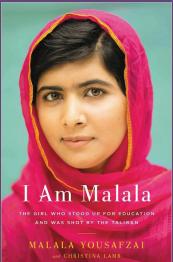


The Fault in Our Stars
by John Green

Despite the tumor-shrinking medical miracle that has bought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten. Insightful, bold, irreverent, and raw, *The Fault in Our Stars* is award-winning author John Green's most ambitious and heartbreaking work yet, brilliantly exploring the funny, thrilling, and tragic business of being alive and in love.

| | | | | |
|------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| THUR | February 12 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. | W 210 A-B | Movie: <i>The Fault in Our Stars</i> |
| MON | February 16 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. | L 105 | Book Discussion |
| TUE | February 17 | 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. | L 105 | Book Discussion |
| THUR | February 19 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. | R 645 | Book Discussion |

MARCH



I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban
by Malala Yousafzai with Christina Lamb

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday October 9, 2012, she almost paid the ultimate price. When she was shot in the head at point blank range while riding the bus home from school, few expected her to survive. Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in Northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she has become a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest ever winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

| | | | | |
|------|----------|------------------|-------|-----------------|
| THUR | March 26 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. | R 645 | Book Discussion |
| MON | March 30 | 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. | L 105 | Book Discussion |
| TUE | March 31 | 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. | L 105 | Book Discussion |



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



Pageturners is the book club of Schoolcraft College. It is open to all students, faculty, staff, administrators and community friends. Discussion sessions are facilitated by Schoolcraft students. Pageturners is supported by a grant from the Schoolcraft College Foundation.

FIT CLUB 2014!

Come ready to *work out* on September 22nd!
Club meets on Mondays & Thursdays | 2:30- 3:30 pm



Held at the Schoolcraft Fitness Center located in the Physical Education Building

- Improve fitness levels with a guided *full-body workout 2 times a week!*
- Set personal goals and learn new workout progressions!
- *Meet new friends and have fun while getting fit!*
- Exclusive group for credit students!



For more information, call the Student Activities office at 734.462.4422 or the Fitness Center at 734.462.4348

Schoolcraft



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Act of boldness

Controversy makes for great publicity

Seth Rogen and James Franco play the part of helping the CIA in a mission to take out the North Korean president in the, "The Interview."



IMAGE FROM TREEHOUSE THEATRE NYC.COM

BY ELIZABETH CHAPA

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Rating: 5 out of 10

Duration: 112 Minutes

Rated: R



"The Interview," starring James Franco and Seth Rogen, has developed controversy across the country due to a scandal behind the release of the movie. It all began when Sony Entertainment was hacked the morning of Nov. 24. The initial hacking started with an image of a stylized skull flashed on all the employees' computer screens at once, along with a message warning that, "This is just the beginning."

The hackers referred to themselves as "Guardians of Peace." These evil

masterminds obtained about 100 terabytes of stolen data from Sony servers, which put the whole corporation at an electronic halt, including phones, emails and computers.

On Nov. 27, five Sony films were released onto online file sharing websites, four of which have not been released to theaters yet, including "Annie," "Mr. Turner," "Still Alice" and "To Write Love On Her Arms." All are now to be illegally downloaded to viewers at home. It was not until the following day that Sony reportedly suspected that North Korea could possibly be responsible for the attack as a form of revenge for the "The Interview."

A lot of personal information and business matter about past employ-

ees, current employees and company executives was obtained by the hackers and was leaked to media. North Korea denied involvement.

According to Dateline on Dec. 16, an email was sent to reporters by cyber-terrorists threatening to attack movie theaters that show "The Interview," which made it the first time the film was mentioned and involved with the hack.

This is what led Sony to tell theater owners they could hold off on showing "The Interview" if they were worried about the threat.

However, according to USA Today, the decision came after five major theater chains including AMC Entertainment and Regal Entertainment announced they would not screen

the film. The decision was then made to not show the film at all, nor go on with the scheduled release for Christmas day.

Press screenings were cancelled, along with TV advertising for the movie, but that did not stop the release. On Dec. 23, Sony announced the release would go on as scheduled for any theaters that wished to show it.

A LOOK AT THE MOVIE

"The Interview" was directed and produced by Evan Goldberg, Rogen who stars in the film, was also a director for the film.

SEE "THE INTERVIEW"
ON PAGE 22

There and back again

The last leg of "The Hobbit" journey comes to an end

BY KELLY RESPONDEK
STAFF WRITER

Rating: 9 out of 10 stars

Duration: 144 minutes

Rated: PG-13



"The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies," released into theaters on Dec. 17, is the thrilling conclusion to "The Hobbit" film trilogy, based off of the famed novel "The Hobbit," written by J. R. R. Tolkien. Stars, such as Martin Freeman as Bilbo Baggins, Ian McKellen as Gandalf the Grey and Richard Armitage as Thorin Oakenshield, all reprise their roles.

The film, along with the previous two movies in the Hobbit franchise, is directed by Oscar winner Peter Jackson, who is famous for films such as "The Lord of the Rings Trilogy," "The Lovely Bones" and the 2005 version of "King Kong."

The last movie, "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug," ended with Thorin's company reaching the Lonely Mountain and attempting to reclaim their lost city of Erebor from Smaug, the dragon, voiced by Benedict Cumberbatch. The dwarves only succeed in angering the dragon,

who then declares a demand for vengeance on the nearby city of Laketown.

While the reality of a fire-breathing dragon with a vendetta is terrifying, Thorin, the dwarves, Bilbo and the people of Laketown are quick to realize that he is not their biggest threat. With an immeasurable amount of gold in the treasure hold of the Lonely Mountain, creatures and beings all over Middle Earth try to stake a claim to the fortune, culminating in what is to become known as the Battle of the Five Armies.

The cast of the film is no less superb than in the first two movies in the series. Freeman does a fantastic job of bringing the wary, yet adventurous Bilbo from the pages of the beloved book to the big screen. McKellen delivers a performance true to his character of Gandalf, while Armitage conveys a darker, tainted Thorin. Other cast members include Orlando Bloom as Legolas, Lee Pace as Thranduil, Aidan Turner as Kili and Luke Evans as Bard the Bowman, all of whom give their best to provide the right energy for the movie.

Because the decision was made to stretch one book into three movies, some discrepancies in the plot are to be expected. Although the major storyline remains the same, subplots were added to the films to help fill in screen time. These additional story arcs make for a heightened understanding of the characters, their intentions and what events help to bring about the situations in the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, so lovers of the book need not despair.

While this may be the last of Tolkien's works to make it to theaters, the message of bravery, loyalty and friendship will endure long after. The tale of the hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, will inspire and resonate with viewers, reminding them "it is the small things, every day deeds of ordinary folk that keeps the darkness at bay," as said in the first film by Gandalf.

"The Hobbit: the Battle of the Five Armies" is sure to delight any Tolkien fan, while causing those newer to the world of Middle Earth to want to complete the experience by watching the "Lord of the Rings" movies immediately after.

Martin Freeman plays Bilbo Baggins in the trilogy of "The Hobbit." The last of the three movies "The Battle of the Five Armies" was released Dec. 17, which put an end to the journey.

IMAGE FROM FACT.CO.UK

Falling short again

“Assassin’s Creed Unity” leaves gamers disappointed

BY AUSTIN VICARS
STAFF WRITER



System: PS4, Xbox One, PC
ESRB Rated: M for Mature. May contain intense violence, blood and gore, sexual content and/or strong language.
Genre: Action
Publisher: Ubisoft

Historical action-adventure video game “Assassin’s Creed Unity” was released on Nov. 11, 2014 for Xbox One, Microsoft Windows and PlayStation 4. The game is the seventh major installment in the “Assassin’s Creed” series, and the successor to 2013’s “Assassin’s Creed IV: Black Flag” with ties to 2014’s “Assassin’s Creed Rogue.”

Being the first “Assassin’s Creed” game exclusive to next generation systems, fans had high expectations for “Assassin’s Creed Unity.” The series was once made with innovation and ambition, but the series’ past few entries have left something to be desired.

“Assassin’s Creed Unity” unfortunately seems to be a continuation of disappointments from Ubisoft’s heralded series. The game’s setting returns back to Europe, during

the French Revolution and follows Arno Dorian in his efforts to expose the true powers behind the Revolution. All the violence associated with the French Revolution in the game puts it in a great location for gamers to run around and attack enemies. The location is possibly one of “Assassin Creed’s” best locations and is shown off through stunning graphics on the PlayStation 4.

The game also features new levels of customization; from different assassin’s robes to the biggest variety of weapons, including swords, axes, spears, polearms, pistols and incendiary devices, the series has seen to date.

“Assassin’s Creed” allows players to mold their own style to main character and Assassin, Arno.

Arno is a character with plenty of personality and is a big improvement over more recent “Assassin’s Creed” protagonists in the series. While Arno is a great character, it is a shame that Ubisoft fails to develop him as a character throughout the game.

Players do not have to take on the streets of Paris alone though, as a new online co-op mode allows players to navigate missions with a friend. Having a friend to roam the streets of France with adds a

new dynamic of teamwork to the game.

There is also a new stealth element added to the game, which puts an increased emphasis on taking enemies out silently rather than taking them head on. This improved stealth system is what “Assassin’s Creed” fans have been wanting for a long time, and it works effectively.

Despite a strong, leading protagonist, new stealth system, co-op mode and improved customization, “Assassin’s Creed Unity” still managed to fall short. “Unity” is like a wooden roller coaster. It’s a great ride, but it is a rocky and shaky in the process.

While the game is impressive visually, the game does not always run at the smooth 30 FPS the game advertises for. Often, players see a visible drop in frame rate making the game feel clunky and robotic.

The bugs do not stop there either, as Arno can from time to time get stuck on objects he is climbing, leaving players no other choice but to restart the game.

While online co-op was a welcomed addition, it should be noted that player verse player multiplayer has been removed, and it is unclear as to why.

However, the biggest problem with “Unity” is the lack of storyline. The game sets up nicely, creating what appears to be a dramatic story right from the start. While “Unity” builds the groundwork of a great story, it never capitalizes on its potential.

Arno and his love interest, Elise, seem to have a strong dynamic to their characters at the start of the game as well, but in the end, any potentially exciting storyline between the two falls flat and dull. The

entire game builds up strong until about halfway through, when the story fails to take direction.

Instead of feeling an attachment or resentment towards characters, players often find themselves wondering, “Why should I care?” While the story never becomes confusing, its lack of development leaves players killing faceless enemies.

Previous fans of the series will have fun playing this game, but will notice it’s hard to dismiss flaws. “Unity” is truly the wooden roller coaster. Fans wait seemingly forever to ride it, and while the ride is exhilarating, it is no smooth ride. Although the ride is fun, it is impossible not to notice all the bruises the rider is left with afterwards.



IMAGE FROM THEGAMERFANATICS.COM

Players of “Assassin’s Creed Unity” are now allowed to roam through France during the French Revolution on co-op, which is a new feature for this game.

Profoundly inspirational

Pages are brought to life by recent movie release

BY ALEXANDRA CIZEK
STAFF WRITER

Rating: 8 out of 10 stars

Duration: 137 Minutes

Rated: PG-13



Produced and directed by Academy Award winner Angelina Jolie, “Unbroken” is based on the 2010 non-fiction book “Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption” written by Laura Hillenbrand. This epic drama follows the life of Louis Zamperini, an Olympian and war hero during World War II. Zamperini and his comrades experience a string of unfortunate events shortly after their admission into the armed forces during the 1940s.

Throughout the film, there are flashbacks from Zamperini’s past that give the audience explanations as to why he does or thinks they way he does. Each flashback powers his future and survival.

Shortly after being sent out in a B-24 bomber to combat, the plane crashes and hastily descends into the vast ocean below the soldiers. The only survivors were Zamperini and two of his fellow crewmen, pilot Phil, played by Domhnall Gleeson, and Mac, played by Finn Wittrock.

Stranded on rafts, the men spent 47 days at sea, barely surviving with the little supplies they had along with the limited mental sanity they had left, until they were finally found by the enemy, the Japanese navy. At this point, the men were saved from the ocean, but only to become prisoners of war in camps.

This is where Zamperini met Fitzgerald, played by Garrett Hedlund, a fellow officer and began to use each other to help each other survive their ungodly circumstances. Though every man suffered brutal torture and unbearable pains, Zamperini was singled out the most

by the Japanese.

Once it was known that he was an Olympic athlete, the Japanese worked to show Zamperini that he was nothing special and never would be. Nevertheless, no matter how hard they hit, whipped or worked Zamperini, he wouldn’t break—he couldn’t; his endurance and strength grew from the love he held for his dear family back home and an inspirational piece of advice from his brother when he was younger, “If you can take it, you can make it.” With that running through his head, he could beat anything.

This film definitely pulls on the heartstrings of viewers. Jack O’Connell’s earnest portrayal of American war hero Louis Zamperini is both intense and heartbreaking.

Over all, Unbroken is a staggering and stirring film based on true events that share the history of this nation, one man’s will to get back up every time he was beaten down and redemption that inspires all who take the time to listen to this story. Jolie does a tremendous job sustaining his story, and the story of all the involved men. This film is a must-see for action lovers and war buffs. One is sure to enjoy this inspirational story.



IMAGE FROM BREITBART.COM

Based on a true story, directed and produced by Angelina Jolie, “Unbroken” holds the title of an inspirational film about a once Olympian who joins the forces and is held as a prisoner of war in Japan during WWII.

A good bet?

Original movie “The Gambler” is remade

BY CAITLIN LEROUX
ONLINE EDITOR

Rating: 6 out of 10 stars

Duration: 111 Minutes

Rated: R



IMAGE FROM COLLIDER.COM

The remake of the 1974 drama, originally written by James Toback, features Mark Wahlberg as Jim Bennett who lives the life of a high risk gambler.

him. Bennett is recurrently destructive to himself, which during the film becomes somewhat tiresome, as it is never fully understood as to why Bennett is the way he is.

The film is enjoyable and even serves to keep interest throughout, but it doesn’t do much to portray Bennett as a character to root for. It is a grimy and gloomy depiction of the sinking of someone who lived a life of privilege and was given many opportunities, despite his addiction and refusal to acknowledge it.

This remake, albeit enjoyable, is not worthy of the comparison to the original and will likely create cynicism from fans of the 1974 film. “The Gambler” does have interesting parts when focusing on the dangers awaiting Bennett and his continual suicidal inclination. These elements, along with the portrayal of the slimy, loan sharks, make it worth the watch.

In “The Gambler,” released Dec. 25, literature professor Jim Bennett, portrayed by Mark Wahlberg, is leading a destructive, double life as a gambler. Bennett’s severe self-loathing and gambling addiction comes to a head when he racks up a debt of more than \$200,000 to Korean mobsters of an underground gambling ring. They give him only seven days to pay up or face murder.

Bennett, who comes from an affluent background, asks his mother, portrayed by Jessica Lange, to help him pay off his large debt. She agrees at the promise of Bennett’s assertion that he will quit gambling. Bennett instead negates his promise and ends up gambling again while borrowing more money from loan sharks Neville Baraka, acted by Michael K. Williams. Eventually, when truly stuck Bennett seeks out Frank, a loan shark played by a chilling, yet somewhat comic John Goodman, who encourages Bennett to admit his problem.

The rest of the film follows Bennett’s continued downward spiral, with only his prodigal writing student Amy, portrayed by Brie Larson, believing in

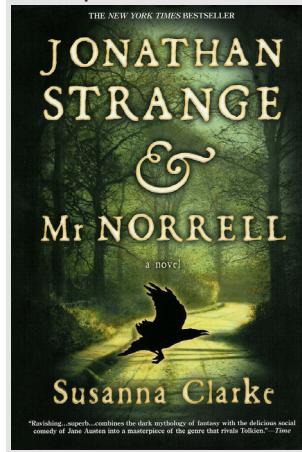
Recommended reads

Books that are a literary must for the New Year

BY SARAH SISK
STAFF WRITER

1. "Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell"

By Susanna Clarke
Fiction, published 2004



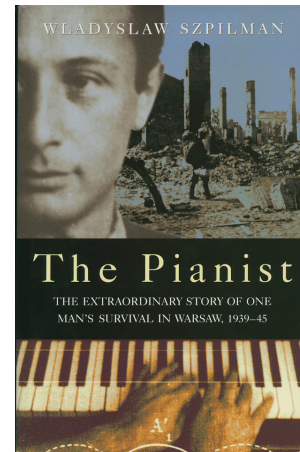
England is at the turn of the 19th century and magic has all but left the country, but the last two remaining practical magicians, the dignified, bookish Norrell and the lively, impatient Strange. The two partner together to revive England's magical glory and use it to combat the armies of Napoleon. Meanwhile, a greater, older power awakens as faeries return to work mischief

and the ancient prophecy of the Raven King comes closer to fulfillment.

Clarke's fantasy novel combines the dark appeal of classical English fairy tales with charmingly, flawed characters and a beguilingly amusing story, all integrated with real English history and written in a surprisingly upbeat, faux-history fashion.

2. The Pianist

By Wladyslaw Szpilman
Nonfiction, published 1999

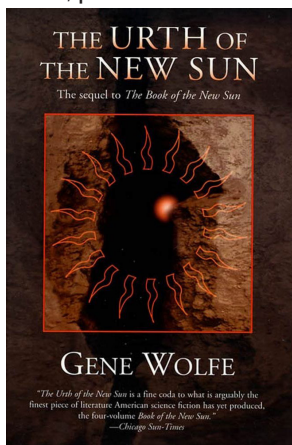


The persecution of the Poles by the Nazi regime has been the subject of many influential books and movies, but Szpilman's true tale of survival within the Warsaw Ghetto is a necessary read. In a chillingly calm and eloquent manner, he confides his aching loss of home and family with maddening, detailed memories of a people condemned to a fate worse than death. With his view-

point as a scholar and musician, his morbid account of the injustices to his people is saturated with a deeper perspective on the sophisticated culture of his people and deftly illustrates how the trials of war, starvation and wanton murder tore away at their identity and humanity. Szpilman's memoir is a marvel of bravery and human endurance, which is a bittersweet gift to our generation.

3. "The Book of the New Sun, Parts I & II"

By Gene Wolfe
Fiction, published 1980



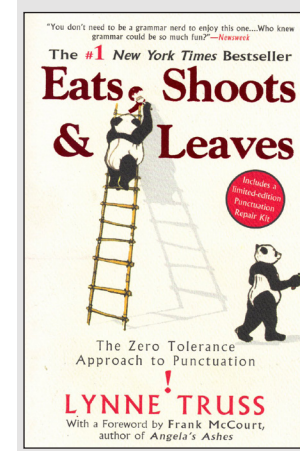
Darkly beautiful and wildly imaginative in both concept and execution, this four-volume epic out-rivals other science fiction and fantasy novels in terms of originality and artistry.

This is the tale of young Severian, the torturer, who is forced to leave his guild when he shows mercy to a prisoner. In this hero's journey through a weird and magical

retro-futuristic Urth, an intricate tale of war intrigues and destiny evolves, which sweeps Severian into marvelous adventure. Vivid, yet dreamlike, Wolfe's saga boasts fearful wonders and strange, complex characters that come to life in the mind's eye.

4. "Eats, Shoots & Leaves"

By Lynne Truss
Nonfiction, published 2006



For those who are enrolled in English classes and are tired of losing points on grammar and clarity, consider Truss's "zero tolerance approach to punctuation," and prepare to laugh out loud at a grammar stickler's ramblings. Commas, apostrophes, semicolons and even the mythical interrobang (non-common punctuation in which a question mark and an exclamation point are combined) are

introduced as respectable and useful friends, with a mixture of amusing history, including feuds and politics brought on by poor punctuation and properly hilarious examples of usage. Persistent trouble-words such as the irksome their vs. they're, are also dealt with. It is a handy guide, brimming with British humor, and it's written with both British and American punctuation in mind.



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Winter premieres

Shows that are new and returning

With a new year, new shows are debuting. Here are a few noteworthy shows to consider watching this year.

BY ELIZABETH CHAPA
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR



"Eye Candy"
MTV
Jan. 12 at 10 p.m.

Watch as the tech wiz, Lindy Sampson, attempts to discover a man through online dating in the thrilling series "Eye Candy" starring Victoria Justice. The only catch with Lindy finding a guy is that she really is after a serial killer. Women going on dates have been disappearing and then have been discovered dead. There is a man on the dating scene in New York who is responsible for being the one to take these women out. Lindy feels as if going on dates with online stalkers is the only way to catch the murderer. This love and suspense filled show is sure to have any viewer on the edge of their seat.



"Friends to Lovers?"
Bravo
Jan. 12 at 10 p.m.

The newest social experiment of the heart will be premiered as a new reality series "Friends to Lovers?" Watch to discover what is to come of a cast of five couples as the result of them dating their long-time best friend. Going from friends to a couple could stir up some drama, as these couples risk their friendship for love. The experiment exposes the troubles that happen simply by dating and showing true colors of being committed to each other. Will the cast realize that it was better off to have remained friends or was taking the risk worth it? The questions that viewers might have will only be answered in the show.



"Workaholics"
Comedy Central
Jan. 14 at 9 p.m.

The comedy of the three working friends returns this year for season five. Starring Blake Anderson, Adam DeVine and Anders Holm, the sitcom show "Workaholics" follows the roommates living in Rancho Cucamonga, California as they all work for the same telemarketing company "Tel-AmeriCorp."

The teasing trailer for the new season shows the boys back in action, with machine guns, explosives, fights and strippers all taking place in a desert. It appears the three friends are ditching their dazed state of mind and trading it for a badass style.



"Suits"
USA Network
Jan. 29 at 10 p.m.

The legal drama follows college dropout, Mike Ross, who luckily ends up landing a job with one of the most successful lawyers in New York City, Harvey Specter. "Suits" returns to the small screen for the second half of season four, starring Gabriel Macht and Patrick Adams. The mid season finale ended in an eventful discovery, as one of the cast members finds out that Mike never graduated from Harvard as he had been saying. Feeling betrayed by the two others who knew about Mike's secret, viewers will find out how the unveiling of the secret will play out within the law firm.



"Man Seeking Woman"
FX
Jan. 14 at 10:30 p.m.

This new comedy stars Jay Baruchel as Josh Greenberg, a recently dumped, naïve romantic who is on a desperate search for love. "Man Seeking Woman" is based on Simon Rich's book "The Last Girlfriend On Earth" and brings an original, comical view of the sweet and absurd looks of dating through a young bachelor living the single life. After being in a long-term relationship, Josh enters the oh-so scary dating scene in hopes of finding someone who will make the troubles of dating worth it. Watch as Josh painfully encounters and deals with one-night stands, break-ups and blind dates on his journey to finding true love.

Bastille "Bites Down"

British rock band releases third mixtape in their collaboration series

BY CAITLIN LEROUX
ONLINE EDITOR



Just when the infectious "Eh-eh-o eh-o" from their hit single "Pompeii" seemed to be fading from everyone's heads, Britain-based rock band Bastille released their new collaboration-heavy mixtape amply titled "VS. (Other People's Heartache, Pt. III)," Dec. 8.

With new catchy beats and artists with varying styles, ranging from rock band Haim to singer-songwriter MNEK to rapper Angel Haze, Bastille's newest release offers a mixture of genres and opens them up to an even broader audience than they received with their hit singles "Pompeii" and "Things We Lost in the Fire."

The band's track "Weapon," a collaboration with Angel Haze, F*U*G*Z and Braque, seems to be the biggest leap from the norm, providing the band with their first hip-hop heavy track. Even so, "Weapon" still has a commonality with Bastille's past work in terms of meaningful lyrics. "Your voice is a weapon, and we'll do with it what we can," rings through the track, alluding to the power of one's own voice. The song is also accompanied by a resounding background chorus and opens with sweeping strings, something that is becoming characteristic of Bastille's work.

The most popular song on the album is a collaboration with California-based trio, Haim, called "Bite Down." Haim's music falls into much of the same indie-rock genre as Bastille, making this an easy fan favorite, especially being complemented by a wispy sing-along chorus and funky beats.

The only song on the mixtape that Bastille does not collaborate with an-



IMAGE FROM PITCHFORK.COM

other artist is "The Driver." This track is a departure from the band's usual pop-leaning ways and falls into more somber territory with an alternative feel. This transition for the band provides a good track, but not to the level of Bastille's usual hits and will most likely not be accepted by casual fans of the band.

Overall, the album provides more of the same indie-based rock found on the band's debut album "Bad Blood," which was released in September of 2013, except with a few twists.

The album's best songs are ones that sound similar to the previous work Bastille has put out, proving that they are most comfortable in the niche they have found. This, however, does not seem to have been the aim of the album, which sought to differentiate itself from the studio album by including such a multitude of artists.

Bastille has put forth a good effort, with many enjoyable songs, but none are necessarily groundbreaking. Bastille does best when they stick to their own sound. Trying to differ too much from their pop-influenced norm just does not work.

A sucker for Charli XCX

Hit single "Boom Clap" represents fastastic album

BY AMANDA KOCHANOWSKI
STAFF WRITER



British singer Charli XCX released her third album, "Sucker," on Dec. 15 under Asylum Records UK. Although her first two albums, "14" and "True Romance," went unnoticed in the United States, listeners will definitely know her from being featured on and writing Iggy Azalea's "Fancy." The artist is also credited on Icona Pop's 2012 hit "I Love It."

Do not judge Charli XCX by "Boom Clap." While it is a great single, the pop tune does not live up to the rest of "Sucker." The album has a unique sound, with more techno and rock instrumentals than most cheesy pop songs. The low vocal range of Charli XCX's voice also makes this album stand out from most.

Title track "Sucker" shows that Charli XCX is much more than she seems. The vocals classify as the darker, indie side of pop, with the singer yelling profanities at an ex-lover, but the song still has a strong beat and club feel.

"Break the Rules," the second single released from the album, has a bit of a techno-rock feel. The song is an upbeat anthem for rebels and has interesting instrumentals in between verses. The lyrics reflect this anthem with phrases such as, "never stop it's how we ride, comin' up until we die."

While Charli XCX has a unique

sound, it might remind some listeners of a similar dark, pop artist, Lorde. Both young women stray from the norm, and the end results are songs that listeners can not get enough of.

This on the rise pop sensation does not currently have any dates set for shows and/or a tour in the U.S. this year yet. Charli XCX, however, will be touring alongside of the eye-catching and remarkable Katy Perry on her Prismatic European Tour at the beginning of this year in February and March. For more information and to stay updated with Charli XCX go to <http://www.charlixcmusic.com/>.



IMAGE FROM NYLON.COM

Pop sensation, Charli XCX, is taking the world by storm, as she recently released her third album and is now touring with Katy Perry on her Prismatic World Tour in Europe.

Not too shabby

Rozwell Kid impresses concert goers at Michigan stop

BY AUSTIN VICARS
STAFF WRITER

Times are good for Rozwell Kid, as the band just debuted their new album "Too Shabby" in November and have been on tour supporting The World Is A Beautiful Place & I Am No Longer Afraid To Die, The Hotelier and Posture & The Grizzly this past fall. The band is now gearing up for its next leg of its tour with You Blew It! and Tiny Moving Parts for early 2015.

Rozwell Kid is an up and coming rock band from West Virginia. Influenced by bands such as "Weezer" and "Green Day," Rozwell Kid produces an exciting alternative rock sound. Both live and on record, Rozwell Kid sounds exceptional and skilled, using loud drums and a thick wall of distorted guitars and bass.

Despite their larger than life sound, Rozwell Kid manages to incorporate beautiful melodies in their songs. Their booming sonic attack with a knack for melody is what gives Rozwell Kid such a particular and favorable sound.

As to how they achieved this unique sound, Rozwell Kid collectively said, "Justin Francis ('Too Shabby' engineer) was crucial in capturing our live energy, as well as the thick tones and big drums

we were aiming to achieve. It wouldn't be the same record without him."

"Too Shabby" sounds like the child of Weezer's "Blue Album" and Green Day's "Dookie," because of the similar energy the album gives off.

Rozwell Kid recently made a stop in Grand Rapids at the Intersection this past November and wowed concertgoers. Their live energy and stage presence won the crowd over fairly quickly. It is often difficult for an opening band to win the crowd over the way Rozwell Kid did.

Fan, Mitchell Sumner, said, "They brought the right amount of energy."

Rozwell Kid is a band with a very bright future. In a time when rock seems to be becoming more and more obsolete, it is bands like Rozwell Kid that give a dying rock scene hope. It will be interesting to see how Rozwell Kid evolves as a band.

Rozwell Kid will keep working hard with their plan of, "Tour, write, record, repeat!"

Look for Rozwell Kid's next Michigan stop on Feb. 15 at Mac's Bar in Lansing. This is an all ages' show with tickets \$12 in advance and \$14 day of show. Doors open at 7 p.m.



IMAGE FROM ROZWELLKID.BANDCAMP.COM

Band members include, Jordan Hudkins as vocals/guitar, Adam Meisterhans on guitar, Devin Donnelly as bass/vocals and Sean Halock on drums. This West Virginia native band is promoting their latest album "Too Shabby," as they play shows around the U.S.

the buzz

BY SAVANNAH PLATUKAS
STAFF WRITER

Activity Skating at Campus Martius Park
Monday, Jan. 12 to Monday, Mar. 2 (Rink hours in description below)
Campus Martius Park in Detroit

Forget your winter blues and head to Downtown Detroit for some ice-skating with friends. The rink is open Monday and Tuesday 11 a.m. until 10 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday 11 a.m. until 9 p.m., Friday 11 a.m. until midnight, Saturday 10 a.m. until 11 p.m. and Sunday noon until 8 p.m. Adult admission is \$8, children under 12 is \$7 or a monthly pass is \$30.

Food Ann Arbor Restaurant Week
Sunday, Jan. 18 to Friday, Jan. 23
Ann Arbor

Experience all the amazing cuisine Downtown Ann Arbor has to offer during their annual restaurant week. Enjoy lunch for \$15 or a three-course dinner for \$28 at any of the 25 participating restaurants. Visit <http://annarborrestaurantweek.com/participating-restaurants/> for a list of the restaurants, and be sure to make reservations ahead of time, so one does not miss out.

Attraction Motown Winter Blast
Friday, Feb. 6 and Saturday, Feb. 7 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 8 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Campus Martius Park in Detroit

The event will have over 50 entertainers, free ice-skating, a 200-foot snow slide, ice sculpture garden, marshmallow roasting and more. Don't fret about the cold either; there are heated tents. Admission for the event is \$2 as a donation to Matrix Human Services for those in need, therefore, they will also be accepting children's books or three canned food items, if one chooses to opt out of the \$2. Parking for the event is \$10.

Music Ann Arbor Folk Festival
Friday, Jan. 30 and Saturday, Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m.
Hill Auditorium – University of Michigan

This event is perfect for those who enjoy trying new activities Support The Ark Coffee House in Ann Arbor at their annual Folk Festival. The show features artists such as Brandi Carlile, Amos Lee and Ani DiFranco. For a full list of performers and ticket information visit http://theark.org/ann_arbor_folk_festival.html. Tickets start at \$37.50.

Attraction Fire & Ice Festival
Friday, Jan. 23 from 6 to 9 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 24 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday, Jan 25 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
East Third St and Walton St, Rochester

Join Oakland County in this annual family-friendly winter festival. There will be a tubing hill, dog sledding and an ice skating rink. Along with getting to enjoy these winter activities, there will be ice sculptures and an event stage accompanied by shopping and trolley rides. There will be food and beverages available to try at the Tastefest & Beer Tent. Admission is free along with parking and shuttle service to downtown Rochester being free of charge.

Music Aziz Ansari Concert
Sunday, Jan. 25 at 7 p.m.
Masonic Temple Theatre in Detroit

Aziz Ansari is a comedian and actor, most notably known for his role on the Emmy nominated show "Parks and Recreation," and he was also the host of the 2010 MTV Movie Awards. This is his third comedic tour, which is titled "Aziz Ansari Live!" Tickets are \$49 and can be purchased at <http://www.ticketmaster.com/Aziz-Ansari-tickets/artist/1005201>.

-ADVICE COLUMN-

ASK LIZ



Elizabeth Chapa

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
elizabeth.chapa@apps.schoolcraft.edu

Q: I recently had to move back into my parents after living on my own for about a year. How do I deal with being under their roof again?

A: It can be difficult dealing with the fact that you were once free and did not have any "rules," to follow. So when coming back to your parents' house, they might try to regulate your day-to-day living, and that can become frustrating.

One of the first things you should establish with your parents is where you stand on doing certain activities. You should know where your parents stand on having company over. Whether there is a curfew and if you're expected to pay rent or do chores.

It is THEIR house; therefore, you must respect the fact that you are living there. As someone who has lived on their own, this simple task should be understandable. One would not want someone coming into their place only to disrespect their living situation.

With your parents setting ground rules for you, it does not mean you cannot tell them what you are expecting from them as well. If respect is what you

expect from your parents, whether it may be that you want your space to do as you please and/or freedom of being an adult, let them know, and make it clear that respect from them is a key concern. It is a two way street, so make sure everything expected from both sides is expressed in a civil conversation.

In addition, you will need to know the right way to communicate with your parents. You must deal with arguments like an adult; you are no longer a child, and if you choose to expect the respect from your parents, the same should go towards them from you. Communication will be a key factor for how to deal with living with your parents again. You do not have to be best friends and tell them everything, but comply with them in the process of trying to discuss problems or situations.

At times, living at home will make you feel bothered, simply because you are no longer living independently, so acknowledge the reason as to why you moved back, whether it was financial instability or simply because your lease was up and you are now looking for a new place. You must set an estimated date that you would like to be out by or set a certain amount of money you want to have saved before moving back out.

Evaluate where you and your parents stood before you moved out and where you stand with them now in order to make the best of the living arrangement that you are in.

Living back at home may be difficult and inconvenient at first, but look at things in a positive manner. One should be thankful to have parents that allow such support to fall back on, not everyone is fortunate to have a house or parents to rely on when in need. Attempt to make communication with your parents an easy sail until you reach the deadline you set yourself to move out.

"The Interview"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Starring the duo in their third movie together, Franco plays TV host Dave Skylark alongside of Rogen, who plays producer Aaron Rapaport. Their show titled "Skylark Tonight" is known for covering tabloid style entertainment and features many big name artists. The office in which they work in is similar to what is seen on "TMZ."

Dave goes to Aaron with the wild idea to interview the leader of North Korea, Kim Jong Un, on his show after the New York Times published an article about the president, in which he said his favorite shows were "The Big Bang Theory" and "Skylark Tonight."

Aaron attempts to get ahold of the leader and leaves a message. He then gets a surprising call to meet with them in China. When he gets there, he is told that he is granted a one-hour interview on the Skylark show.

The interview with the dictator is set to take place in a matter of three weeks, which is announced on the show. They will be traveling to Pyongyang in order to conduct the first globally broadcasted interview with Kim Jong Un.

The duo is soon woken up by a knock on the door by CIA Agent Lacey, played by Lizzy Caplan, who also played Janis Ian in Mean Girls, at their trashed pad after a night of partying. The CIA wants to turn their interview into an assassination mission, and Dave and Aaron agree.

On contrary to their mission going as planned, things take a turn. With the peaking point occurring towards the end of the movie, at the time of airing the interview, it turned into an action packed film. The action is very similar as something that is seen in other movies with Rogen and Franco, like "Pineapple Express." At times, it is accompanied by unrealistic moments, such as a guy biting off one of Aaron's fingers.

Overall, the movie had its humorous moments with the lead characters, but it lacked depth in the storyline. The film was a risky move, as it stirred up much trouble. There has been a lot more talk about what actually happened with the release of "The Interview" and is pushing curious viewers to see what it's all about, yet there is no great movie to stand behind it.

To watch "The Interview," check local listing, as it is being played at selected theaters. It is also available to watch on YouTube, Google Play, Xbox Video, Playstation Store, iTunes, Amazon Instant Video or on seetheinterview.com for \$5.99.

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Oce-lots of points

Ocelots' score season high point total in win over Alpena

BY NICK MISIAK
SPORTS EDITOR

The Alpena Community College Lumberjacks were no match for the Schoolcraft Mens Basketball Ocelots, as they rolled to a 116-89 victory at home on Wednesday, Jan. 7.

The 116 points scored by the Ocelots was their highest point total this season and was the most scored by Schoolcraft in a game since Nov. 10, 2010, when the Ocelots put up 116 points against Marygrove College.

Freshman forward Javon Thomas shot 10-15 from the floor, leading the Ocelots with 22 points, two from a dunk that electrified the Ocelot bench half way through the first half. Freshman guard Ronald Booth added 20 points to the winning effort to go along with five assists and four steals. Despite fighting an illness, freshman guard Tyler Johnson went 5-9 from three-point land, scoring 17 points.

"I was trying to help my team win, work hard every possession, so I can have an opportunity for my team to win the game," said Thomas.

The first half was evenly matched battle between the two teams, but Schoolcraft was unable to pull away from the Lumberjacks due to foul trouble. Alpena went to the free

throw line 38 times throughout the game, making 27 of their free shots.

Schoolcraft led 56-52 at the half.

The Ocelots returned energized in the second half and returned to their normal ways, playing solid defense and systematically running their offensive schemes to set up easy shots down low. They held Alpena to only 37 points in the half.

"Once we get our offense going and kids going, we're good," said Johnson. "We have so many kids that can score that wherever the ball goes, it's going in."

The win improves the Ocelots record to 12-3 on the season and gives them their first conference win of the year.

OCELOTS FALL TO MACOMB

The Ocelots dropped their first conference game of the season on Saturday, Jan. 3, as they dropped their first tilt of the New Year 91-81 to host Macomb Community College.

The loss dropped the fifteenth ranked Ocelots to 11-3 on the season and 0-1 in conference play, while Macomb improves to 7-5 and 1-0 respectively.

Freshman guard Ja'Christian Biles led the Ocelots with 22 points, two rebounds, three assists and five steals.

Freshman Ronald Booth had 16 points, and Anthony Wartley-Fritz had 11 points and eight boards.

The game was tight at the half, with Macomb leading 32-31, but a late surge by the Monarchs in the second half gave them the advantage they needed to pull off the upset victory.

Schoolcraft hopes to continue the momentum at home on Wednesday, Jan. 14, at 7:30 p.m. against Oakland Community College in the annual MCCAA Hunger Games game. The Ocelots then travel to Henry Ford Community College on Saturday, Jan. 17, at 3 p.m. in their annual Pink Zone game.



PHOTOS BY ANDREW RELLINGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ABOVE: Freshman Guard Ronald Booth jumps high for a lay-up against Edison State on Dec. 13.

LEFT: Freshmen De'Shawndre Black (1) and Anthony Wartley-Fritz go up to block an Edison State shot in the Ocelot's 80-72 win over the Chargers.

High five

BY NICK MISIAK
SPORTS EDITOR

The Schoolcraft Womens Basketball team continued its winning ways at home on Wednesday, Jan. 7, earning a 60-49 victory over Alpena Community College. The victory was Schoolcraft's fifth straight, and their seventh in eight games at home this season. The win improved the Ocelots to 11-4 on the season and 2-0 in MCCAA Conference play.

Speed and accurate shooting helped the Ocelots break out to an early 15-4 lead, but a lack of the speed and shot accuracy kept the game close, as Alpena made three consecutive three-pointers from three different players to pull back into the game while Schoolcraft struggled.

Alpena led 27-26 at the half, due in part to Schoolcraft shooting only 30 percent from the floor and committing 11 turnovers. Freshman guard Ashley Bland had 16 of her team high 18 points in the first half and scored nine of the Ocelots first 11 points.

The second half saw re-

Ocelots use second half surge to defeat Lumberjacks and extend winning streak to five

surgence in the Schoolcraft offense, as they sprung to life behind sophomore guard Sara Gammons and freshman guard Elise Tolbert. Gammons continuously set up plays for the Ocelots offensively and shot a season high 14 times, making five for 11 points, while Tolbert proved to be a presence in the paint on both ends of the court, scoring 12 points and snatching 11 rebounds for her fourth double-double of the season.

"I think we picked it up on defense and played more team defense in the second half and the more pressure we put on them; we caused more turnovers, which led to points," said Gammons

Freshman forward Rikki Sherdt was colossal down low, tying her season high with 17 rebounds.

"The second half, we started to click more on offense, and we began to read the plays better. We executed more lay-ups and easy plays like that," said Sherdt.

Sherdt also commented on Gammons' impressive play against the Lumberjacks.

"She's a leader. What do you expect? She's good at directing traffic, and she reads the defense well," said Sherdt

Schoolcraft's next home game is on Wednesday, Jan. 14, against Oakland Community College in the annual MCCAA Hunger Games at 5:30 p.m. The team then travels to Dearborn to take on Henry Ford Community College in the Hawks annual Pink Zone Game on Saturday, Jan. 17, at 1 p.m.

OCELOTS WIN CONFERENCE OPENER

Ashley Bland exploded for 32 points and came one rebound short of a double-double as the Schoolcraft Womens Basketball team opened their conference play with a 78-53 victory over Macomb Community College on Saturday, Jan. 3.

Schoolcraft led 27-25 at the half, but began shooting much better en route to a 51 point second half that led to the 25 point victory.

Elise Tolbert scored 17 points as the only other Ocelot in double figures. Rikki Sherdt led the Ocelots defensively, grabbing 11 rebounds to go along with



PHOTO BY MARGARET SHAW | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER


Freshman guard T'era Nesbitt drives the lane past a Mid-Michigan Laker defender in the Ocelot's 75-64 win on Dec. 3.

six points, three assists and three steals.


Macomb sophomore Sydney Morgan dropped 17 points, and freshman Dayshia Vance added 15 points for the Monarchs,

who dropped to 8-4 overall and 0-1 in the conference. Schoolcraft improved to 10-4 and 1-0 in conference play.

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Jump, dunk and score

Freshman Ja'Christian Biles acrobatically contributes to Schoolcraft's basketball program

BY ELAINE GEROU
MANAGING EDITOR

Freshman shooting guard Ja'Christian Biles's dunks wow the crowd and put the opposing teams in shock most games, but he just wants his team to win. Standing at six feet and two inches, Biles shoots 36.2 percent behind the three line and 48.6 percent overall, with an average of 16.1 points a game, usually including a dunk, as of Jan. 6.

"I just get really hype [when I dunk]. I don't know what it is about jumping that high. It's an energy booster. It helps our team out a lot," said Biles.

His high flying and regularly acrobatic dunks have become a staple at Schoolcraft basketball games this season and have contributed to the team's impressive 12-3 start; the best overall record in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association to date.

"Ja'Christian has a very high ceiling as a basketball player. He has remarkable ability. He has improved in every area of the game and we look for him to be one of the top freshmen in the conference," said Head Coach Abe Mashhour. "He is a great talent and a very good person who is willing to become a better student and a better athlete."

Biles' teammates also acknowledge his advanced skill-level and potential.

"He can be a really special

player. He's one of the best, talented players that we have on our team," said freshman teammate, Javon Thomas.

Biles' passion for basketball began when he started playing at pick-up games at the Livonia Recreational Center with his cousins at the age of 13. From there, he had a good high school career at Oak Park High School, contributing to a district championship win. He made All-Conference his junior year and All-State his senior year.

During Biles' high school years, he played two years of travel AAU basketball with the Reach Legends, which is when Schoolcraft assistant coaches Corey McKendry and Michael Allie first coached him.

"We won mostly all our tournaments. We were well known through-out college programs," said Biles.

Although Biles has had a great season thus far, he faced some adversity early in the season, having to miss a game due to a surgical procedure to remove a brain tumor, which gave him bad headaches and blurry vision, but, thankfully, was not cancerous.

"It is kind of different because I do have to be cautious of things now. I didn't really think about it until after the surgery," said Biles. "I can be a little bit passive. I try not to be, but if I have to, then I will, just to make sure I'm okay. I don't



PHOTO BY MARGARET SHAW | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

want any more head injuries or any other reason to not play again."

Coming off the surgery, he could only play two to three minutes a half, but there are now no restrictions to his playing time.

Bile said that although sitting is hard to do, "It helps teammates. They feel your support."

This season, Biles' goals are to make a better name for Schoolcraft and himself, while enjoying his experience. Next year, he wants to focus on developing his leadership skills, as he sees he has more potential than he is able to give right now.

"Coach Abe is a really, really cool coach. I don't think you could get a coach that is any better than that, who puts his team before anything else," said Biles. "Without Coach Abe, I wouldn't be at Schoolcraft, and I really don't think I'd be playing this good honestly if I would have been somewhere else. The support system here is great."

At home, he also has a support system of one older and four younger brothers who love to see him play.

"We have very high expectations for him this year, and that may be unfair to him, but we need him to embrace the level of effort and dedication that is required to be great, so that he will be," said Mashhour. "Like any of our players, our primary concern for us is them having the most positive experience as a Schoolcraft



PHOTO BY SILVIA PARRA DE MCCARTHY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ABOVE: Biles goes for the two-handed slam against Glen Oaks Community College on Nov. 22.

LEFT: Biles explodes off the floor to retrieve a defensive rebound against Glen Oaks.

BELOW: Biles plays aggressive defense in a 80-72 Ocelot win against Edison State on Dec. 13.



PHOTO BY NATHAN GARTNER | PHOTO EDITOR

student-athlete and getting the opportunity to earn a scholarship to a university."

After Biles' sophomore season playing for the Schoolcraft

Ocelots next year, he hopes to continue his basketball career on his journey to becoming an engineer.



PHOTO BY NATHAN GARTNER | PHOTO EDITOR

Biles sports a smile in the huddle with his teammates during a timeout.



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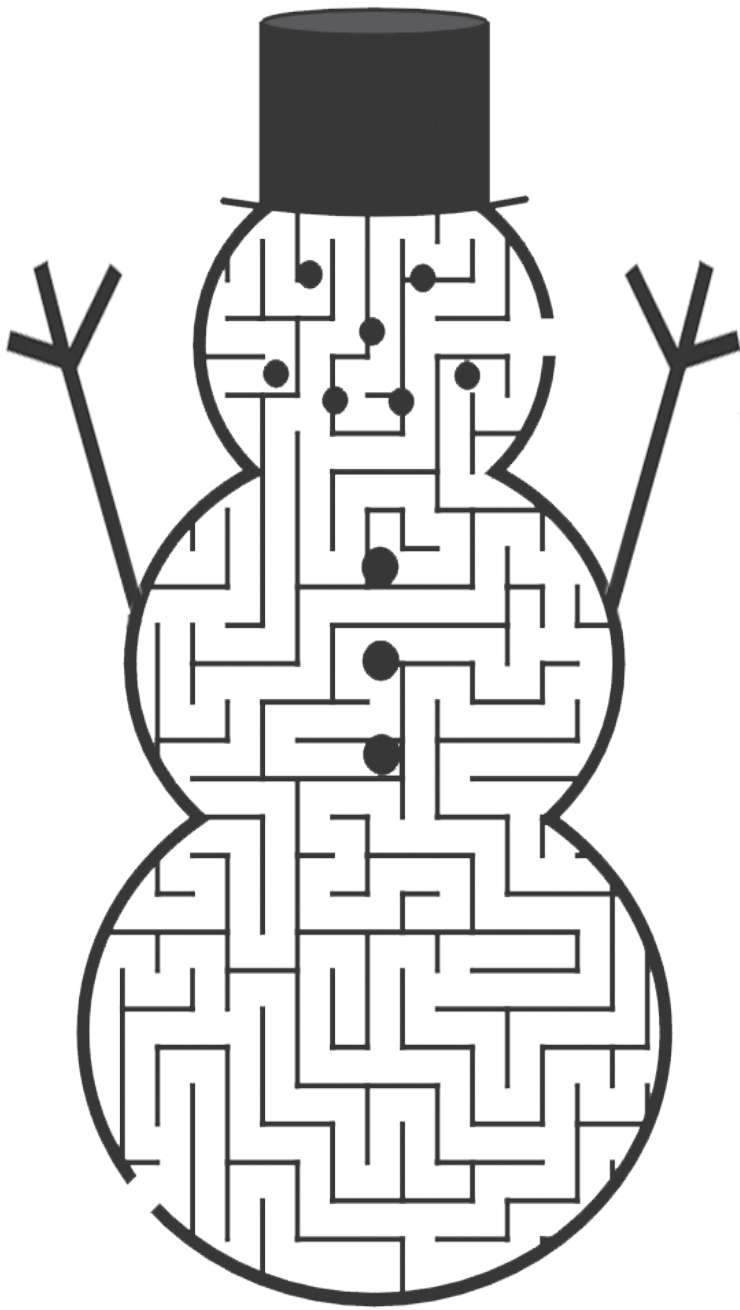
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Winter maze



Winter word search



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- See how many of these words you can find in the puzzle. The words can be forward, backward or diagonal.
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| 2. Snowman | 6. Cold | 10. Slide | 14. Hat |
| 3. Winter | 7. Freezing | 11. Sledding | 15. Earmuffs |
| 4. Weather | 8. Snowflake | 12. Skating | 16. Mittens |

Sudoku

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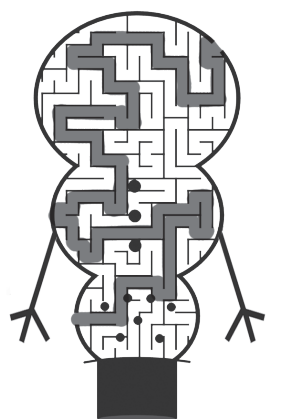
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