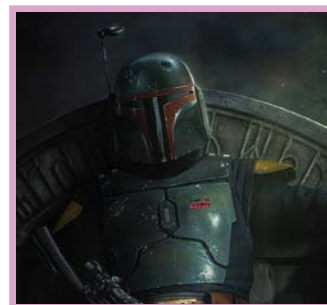




43 years of service
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What it means to be apart of Black Student Union
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Boba Fett returns in all new Disney+ show Book of Boba Fett
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SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

Vol. 34 | Issue 5 | February 21, 2022 | Follow us on our socials!   

A Pretty Sweet Victory

Culinary Arts alumna Erin Sonntag wins Disney+ "Foodtastic" competition

VAE O'NEIL
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

Culinary Arts alumna Erin Sonntag might have seen herself working in a restaurant, or maybe starting her own business, but she never envisioned herself competing on TV.

Sonntag attended Schoolcraft from 2003 to 2005 where she majored in Culinary Arts, at the young age of 17. After graduation she served as advisor to the culinary program for a time, before starting her own cake-and-pastry business that lasted for nine years. From 2012 onwards she has helped hold the reins of a different cake business, Bella e Dolce, which has one location in Walled Lake serving downtown Detroit, Plymouth, West Bloomfield, Clarkston, and the tri-county metro area and another in Northern Michigan located in downtown Cheboygan.

"The name is technically Italian," Sonntag said, "It means 'pretty and sweet'."

It was at this point in her career,



Photo courtesy of Derek Cookson Photography

(Left to right) Lindsey Pritchard, Maryse Swanson, and Erin Sonntag celebrate their win on Foodtastic.

a little over a year ago, where she found herself in a position to show what she's got on camera (Or rather 30 cameras), competing in the Disney+ culinary competition show, "Foodtastic."

Sonntag's call to action came in the form of a friend. The truth is she wasn't the first person to be contacted by the Foodtastic casting department. They first found the Instagram page of Maryse Swanson, Sonntag's longtime friend who also runs her own business, and asked her if she could build a team of three talented foodsters from the local

area. Thinking of her friends, she said yes. Altogether, the team was made up of Swanson herself, Erin Sonntag and Lindsey Pritchard. Though in any other era, being on a show like this would've been impossible, "The greatest blessing of the pandemic was time," Sonntag said; if there hadn't been a great hiatus of weddings, and cake orders, she wouldn't have had the time to fly

out to Los Angeles for filming. And filming a show is an experience unto itself.

At first, it was a bit intimidating for her to be on set. When most people think of a movie or television set, the image of a handful of cameras and a single microphone might pop into mind - this was not the case for Foodtastic.

There were cameras everywhere. the production team would gently remind them to smile a bit.

As for how the contest is structured, "Foodtastic" is a food-based art competition where teams of three are given approximately 24 hours in total to build a sculpture out of food materials. The sculptures have to tell or complete a story that they're prompted with, related to stories housed under the Disney umbrella. The sculptures have to be planned out beforehand, all the math done in advance, not only to make sure everything works on the first try, but also to know how many materials and resources they'd need

see **"A Pretty Sweet Victory"**
Page 3 >

NEWS

Farewell, Belinda

Registration office Belinda Eleson
retires after 43 years



Photo by Paisley Stevens

Schoolcraft Registration Associate, Brenda Eleson (top row in the center wearing black) poses with members of the Registration Office Staff at her recent retirement celebration on Jan. 28, 2022. Eleson retired after 43 years of service to the college.

MATTHEW KERN
MANAGING EDITOR

It is said that all good things must come to an end, and for Belinda Eleson that end came on Jan. 31, 2022 when Eleson retired after 43 years.

After being a valuable member of the Schoolcraft community for over four decades, her contributions to the college are remembered fondly by all who know her. On Jan. 28, the college community thanked her for her service at the college with a retirement celebration.

“Legend is defined as a famous or important person who is known for doing something extremely

well. For almost half a century, Belinda Eleson has been an important person doing something extremely well while working at Schoolcraft College: She helps students achieve their dreams,” said Director of Registration, Joe Czapiewski at the celebration honoring Eleson’s legacy, where she was awarded the ‘Spirit of Schoolcraft Bell Tower Award for Lifetime Achievement.’ The Bell Tower award was designed and created by Schoolcraft welding professor, Coley McLean, for the specific purpose of honoring Eleson’s time at the college.

The attendance for this event was nothing short of star-studded. In addition to nearly 50 faculty

and staff members, in attendance were current Schoolcraft president, Dr. Glenn Cerny, and former presidents, Dr. Conway Jeffress and Dr. Richard McDowell.

“[Belinda] truly cares about giving good customer service and taking care of her students, and for that reason she truly exceeded all expectations,” states Cerny. “Her professionalism, fearlessness, authenticity and self-deprecating humor has made it a pleasure to work with her for years. The Spirit of Schoolcraft College Bell Tower Award for Lifetime Achievement is a testament to Belinda, and the Registration department.”

Belinda began working at Schoolcraft in 1978, originally working in Purchasing. Her longest held position at the college was operating the switchboard. Belinda’s voice was the “pleasant, first voice that people heard when they called the college,” comments former Schoolcraft President, Dr. Richard McDowell. For 27 years, Belinda’s was the voice that welcomed new students to Schoolcraft, helping them find their way as they pursue higher education. After the switchboard position closed, she eventually settled in Registration, where she has worked for the past 8 years.

During her tenure here, Eleson has befriended students and staff alike. “I think it was Belinda’s knowledge of the college that first drew me to her many years ago. She seemed to have all of the answers and if she didn’t know the answer she knew who did,” remembers Kim Riemke from the media services. “Because of her kindness and fun-loving attitude we grew closer, and she even got me to sub on the SC Baseball team years ago!”

One such student who has been touched by Belinda’s legacy is registration student employee

Madison Ling. Eleson helped Ling feel welcome and taught her all the tricks of the trade.

“Belinda, we love you and we will carry you in our hearts even after we graduate,” said Ling. You are truly the spirit of Schoolcraft and the life of the party in Registration. Above all else, you’re a permanent member of our family and that will never change.”

Ling began her time at Registration feeling out of place. She was used to ‘one-sided’ communication or writing. Actively engaging with customers, discerning what form of assistance they need and deciding the best way to explain and demonstrate it were all new interactions for her.

“I remember when I would be running late and flying up the steps to Grote at 6:30 a.m.,” said Eleson, “The bells never failed to startle me every time. Even as new buildings were added to the campus, or the bell tower’s decorations [changed], it still remained the same from the start of my career to the end of it.” When Eleson asked for a model of the bell tower to be made by McLean, Czapiewski knew exactly how to make presenting it to her special. And thus, the Spirit of Schoolcraft Bell Tower Award for Lifetime Achievement was created. “This award means a lot to me because it’s how I’ll always remember Schoolcraft,” Eleson beams.

That’s not where her thoughts on the campus end, however. In a statement released to the staff at Schoolcraft, she let her coworkers know how much her time with them meant to her:

“Words cannot express how overwhelmed I am for the wonderful sendoff hosted by Joe Czapiewski and the Registration/

see “**Farewell Belinda**” Page 3 >

“A PRETTY SWEET VICTORY”

cont'd from page 1

important, especially for the bigger pieces, such as a large stove-sculpture that Sonntag's team made, which was towering at ten feet in height.

Despite this planning, of course there were other challenges along the way.

The biggest in Sonntag's opinion being that there never seemed to be enough time, and the unavoidable structural setbacks. For example, she discovered that she had to learn to anticipate how different food materials changed over time, such as how when lining a surface with american cheese slices, the slices will slowly shrink as they dry out. She learned this lesson the hard way, and had to react accordingly.

In order to rate a team's work and declare a winner, there were a few deciding factors at play that judges would weigh: storytelling, attention to detail, accurate character portrayal, and a willingness to step outside one's area of expertise.

The storytelling part, as mentioned before, measured how well a particular piece responded to, or completed a story that the team was prompted with; the attention to detail was similar to the difference between a smiley face and a portrait. The



accurate character portrayal portion was very important, as these were Disney characters they were working with, "...let's say you were given a character, say, Chip; you'd have to make sure whatever you make looks exactly like Chip..." said Sonntag. If a creation looked off, or even a little different from what they appear as in Disney media, that contestant would be out of luck. Lastly, was a team's willingness to step outside their area of expertise.

All three of the people in Sonntag's team specialized in baked goods and pastries, so in order to be properly

competitive they had to branch out and use unfamiliar materials; jicama a radish-adjacent tuber, was one such material that was the main building block of their rendition of Chip, as the plant wouldn't oxidize over time.

Though after not too long filming for the show had ended, Sonntag, Swanson and Pritchard flew back to Michigan as "Foodtastic" Champions.

Sonntag's plans for the future include fewer screens, and many more cakes. She is currently in the process of moving from her 280sq.ft. space into a 2000sq.ft. area, which she plans on filling with more equipment and

Team Wierdoughs comprised of Lindsey Pritchard, Maryse Swanson, and Erin Sonntag took on a big foodscape design to create a true Be-Our-Guest experience for Belle's best friend. They decided to make a plethora of amuse-bouches for her. The design consisted of imperfect food Hors D'oeuvres, baguette table and stools, for the stove they used corn husk, cake, rice cereal treats, croissants, nori, cheese and a lasagna stove. To make Chip and his teacup friends, they carved jicama, squash, and eggplant, two kinds of gum, and black licorice. The 10 foot stove's black old rustic technique was made with seaweed which gave the stove a natural texture of metal bronze. The judges felt the team took the story and brought it to life. This is from season 1, episode 4.

Photo courtesy of Disney+

more bodies to help her make lovely treats for lovely people.

Looking back through her 20 year career, she is grateful for the education and mentorship she has received, both within and beyond Schoolcraft, from people like Chef Chris Misiak; Tino Amaya, a longtime friend and business confidante; and Kim Sperl, original owner of Bella e Dolce. Have to admit, that is pretty sweet.

Foodtastic can be watched on Disney+, where Sonntag and her team appear in episodes four and 11.

“FAREWELL BELINDA”

cont'd from page 2

Answer Center Staff,” she writes. “I am humbled and so grateful to have had the opportunity to be a Schoolcraft employee for 43 years! It has been a privilege to have made so many lifelong friends that I will maintain long after retirement. It's been quite a journey! Thank you for the many memories.”

Many have Eleson to thank for her life-altering support and attitude that has shaped Schoolcraft over the decades. Few who know her will forget about her contributions and her legacy at the campus is now in perpetuity with the Spirit of Schoolcraft Bell Tower Award for Lifetime Achievement award.



Belinda Eleson is all smiles as she holds up the Spirit of Schoolcraft Award she received for her 43 years of service during her retirement celebration on Jan. 28, 2022.

CAMPUS LIFE



Photo of Desean
(President of BSU)
by Matt Karbownik

HISTORY VICTORY

Black Student Union (BSU) celebrates history and culture

BEN BOLSTRUM
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In the digital age, more voices are beginning to be heard. Students want to feel seen, safe and accounted for as community members. The Black Student Union (BSU) at Schoolcraft College is one such bastion of care that has been hard at work providing a safe, fun and educational environment for anyone interested in learning about and celebrating black culture.

“The goal has just been education and doing a better job in the community,” said BSU president DeSean Knight. “Opportunities for our

organization as well as everyone outside of our organization. That’s the goal, it started as people who just look like me to be

able to exist and have a good time and then it turned into us wanting to be a part of history.”

Knight sees this as a great responsibility. He and BSU as a whole uphold these tenets by forming a tight-knit community. They play basketball Wednesday and Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. as well as 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM, and plan on opening a discord for the gamers in their group. When they aren’t practicing on the court, they’re working on creating a Discord space for the gamers in their organization to play their favorite games together.

Past club events include movie

“The goal has just been education and doing a better job in the community.” “Opportunities for our organization as well as everyone outside of our organization. That’s the goal, it started as people who just look like me to be able to exist and have a good time and then it turned into us wanting to be a part of history.”

Desean Knight - Black Student Union President

nights, guest speakers and galas, but this organization is much more than a collection of events. It’s a caring community.

“There’s things in the greater community that our organization is facing,” Knight said. “So what I really want is to tell people that this is not for the faint of heart, not to stray anyone away or try to put anyone off the path, but to let people know, it’s not easy to hear these things. It’s not easy to participate in these conversations, nor should it be. Because of this, Knight has created what He calls an “umbrella of comfortability” and believes doing any less would be a disservice to those dedicating themselves to this cause.

As an elected official, Knight views his job as not only doing what he believes is best for the organization to move forward, but also a way to guide BSU into the next phase of what he believes it needs to be. On top of this, he also hears out what other members, faculty, and everyone around him have to say in order to make this community the best version of itself. Knight feels that it can be hard to manage in a system lacking respect. This is why he treats his members with empathy and understanding.

Luckily, Knight isn’t alone

when it comes to love for his culture.

“Honestly, I have never really had black friends that weren’t my family. I didn’t realize it until I met other black people... It’s a culture shock,” said incoming BSU member Laurenz Caldwell.

BSU also wants to be seen and heard on an individual level, not just a diversity checkmark.

“It also comes down to a white-on-white struggle and struggle left and right... Protesting comes down to not wanting to be like your counterpart... When someone comes to Plymouth from Detroit for a protest with the intention of participating in a riot, in a place you don’t live, that’s just as bad,” said BSU member Cody Yarborough.

BSU is far from done with their work. The future holds several events celebrating, educating and honoring black culture. Anyone willing to be a part of this community is welcomed to join in on these events and will be accepted into the club with open arms. The organization has many members eager to continue celebrating their history. Past, present and future.

For more information on BSU, contact the Student Activities Office, by phone (734-462-4422).

Not Business as Usual

Business Club looking for new members with business mindset

ALEX HAWTHORNE
STAFF WRITER

The crutch of any well-functioning society is built upon the foundation of business. From simple bartering to global trade, so long as there have been people, there has been business. In any industry, whether it relates to a good, a service, or capital, there will always be a business behind it. A general knowledge of how businesses operate can provide many opportunities for aspiring entrepreneurs, and Schoolcraft's own Business Club provides the perfect opportunity for such exploration.

The mission of the Business Club is to train, educate, and mold all of its members into successful professionals. "Our club organization is dedicated to creating a culture of caring," said Catreese Qualls, Chairwoman of Business Club. "We believe that successes are born from great ideas, hard work, dedication, perseverance, grit and enough emotional intelligence to balance it all." The training offered by the club emphasizes communication, using social media, resume writing and learning to use different software applications. Though, there are many perks and benefits beyond just the work involved in the club.

"By being a member you get first hand experiences in networking events with current successful business leaders, access to unique internship opportunities, and a chance to connect with other students who share the same interest as you," said Herrera-Perez, President of Business Club.

With nearly 20 percent of



Photo by Ummar Chaudhery

Members of the Schoolcraft Business Club pose for a photo with the president of Michigan State University before the Detroit Economic Club Luncheon.

the students at Schoolcraft College majoring in Business Administration, taking advantage of these opportunities could be especially helpful, as it can also be translated to the classroom. The club works extensively with the business faculty at Schoolcraft, facilitating a more hands-on approach to one's business studies.

"We've partnered with some of the best leaders across our campus and throughout the industry, in order to offer all Schoolcraft students the opportunity to gain the real world skills needed to successfully transition into the workforce," said Qualls. While the club is focused on business, students pursuing all majors are

"By being a member you get first hand experiences in networking events with current successful business leaders, access to unique internship opportunities, and a chance to connect with other students who share the same interest as you,"

Herrera-Perez
- Business Club President

encouraged to attend meetings.

The group has partnered with many organizations to connect students with college tours, networking events and on campus assistance at Walsh College, The Detroit Economic Club and Schoolcraft's Career Services department.

"We offer an opportunity to gain access to the best networking, internship opportunities, transfer workshops, and a first-hand series of lively, informative virtual workshops free of charge to all

registered Ocelots... Our ultimate goal is to help you polish and perfect the soft skills you'll need to compete and succeed in Business or the Workforce," said Qualls.

The club promotes many paid internships, related to careers in IT, business administration, accounting, human resources and more, allowing members to explore new career paths. Perez explains that these opportunities place members front and center to set them up for success through networking, career readiness workshops and internship opportunities. Networking in today's world can be tricky, with many events being held digitally. Lack of physicality can sometimes make meaningful connections hard to form. However, the Business Club is right on campus, so members will be ready for what lies ahead in their future career. Expanding to a multitude of areas whether in entrepreneurship, freelancing, investment and beyond, the Business Club allows students to gain valuable knowledge while surrounded by like-minded students.

For those interested in joining the Business Club, meetings are held from 1 to 3 p.m. every first and third Tuesday of the month, in conference room C, in Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech building.

For more information about becoming a member, email sc.business@apps.schoolcraft.edu to get in touch with the club. You can also find more information on the group's Facebook and Instagram pages (@schoolcraftbusiness), or contact the Student Activities Office, by phone (734-462-4422).

CAMPUS & CLUB EVENTS

(All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted)

Advising with University of Michigan Dearborn

Feb. 23, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Advising office, in the McDowell Center, room 105

Are you planning to transfer to University of Michigan Dearborn? You can meet with one of their academic advisers right here at Schoolcraft and learn more about their process, requirements and program offerings. Advisers will be able to meet with students individually to discuss specific information about programs and transfer options.

University Visit – Indiana Wesleyan University

Feb. 23

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Biomedical Technology Center

Representatives from Wesleyan University will be available to meet with Schoolcraft students to answer general questions about transfer options.

Career Essentials Series: Job Interviews

Feb. 23

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Live on Zoom -

Meeting ID: 287 24 1120

Job Interview Essentials features a certified career development facilitator who will help job seekers to prepare for that all-important job interview – what to

do, what not to do, and how to take some of the anxiety out of the interviewing process.

Open House Lifting Black Voices

Feb. 23

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

VisTaTech Center, Room 440

Black Student Union officers, members, and allies will connect for an opportunity to network and expand upon this year's Black History Month Theme: Black Health and Wellness and the inequalities that African Americans continue to face.

Winter 2022 Virtual Transfer Visits at Schoolcraft College

Feb. 23, March 3

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Virtual Zoom

Join Wayne State University's Admissions counselor (Smriti Panda) for drop-in Zoom meeting or a scheduled virtual appointment.

For quick questions or general information about transferring to Wayne State University. Please feel free to email Smriti Panda at spanda@wayne.edu to schedule a virtual appointment.

Black History Month Black Excellence Gala

Feb. 23

6 p.m.

VisTaTech Center, Waterman Wing, Wilson Room

The evening will be a celebration of Black Excellence that lifts the voices of past and present African Americans that highlight the very definition of perseverance, fortitude and the grit that it takes to reside in skin filled with melanin.

Advising with Wayne State University

Feb. 24, March 3, March 10, March 17

12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Advising office, in the McDowell Center, room 105

Are you planning to transfer to Wayne State University? You can meet with one of their academic advisers right here at Schoolcraft and learn more about their process, requirements and program offerings.

Advisers will be able to meet with students individually to discuss specific information about programs and transfer options. If you have any questions call 734-462-4429.

Hockey Open Skates (Thursdays through April 21. No skate March 3)

1:30 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

Modano Ice Arena (6210 N. Wildwood St. Westland, MI 48185)

Men & Women welcome, must be a current Schoolcraft student, must complete a liability form on-site. Contact: Patrick Yelsik, 734-462-7696, pyelsik@schoolcraft.edu

Diamond Jubilee Culinary Extravaganza

Feb. 24

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

VisTaTech Center

This event will showcase the skills of the distinguished and award-winning students and faculty of Schoolcraft College's Culinary Arts and Brewing and Distillation Technology programs. Proceeds from this fabulous strolling dinner will enhance scholarships and grants for the benefit of students and programs through the Schoolcraft College Foundation (SCF).

For more information, contact Carole Booms, at 734-462-4455.

Fitness Center After Hours

Feb. 24

8-11 p.m.

Fitness Center, PE Building

Come out and enjoy refreshments, open fitness floor, volleyball, dodgeball, basketball and wallyball. \$5 for guests. FREE for Members and students.

The Bystander Imperative

Feb. 25

4-5:30 p.m.

Live on Zoom: Meeting ID: 892 2440 9271 Passcode: 392253

Join the Schoolcraft STARS program as they present the Bystander Imperative. Learn about personal, professional and

organizational equity dimensions. Identify personal roadblocks to being active bystanders when witnessing micro aggressions. This event will be presented by Nick Daily (He/They). Daily is a black queer person whose values are LuvServedDaily. LuvServedDaily is the consistent pursuit of happiness for self and others.

Career Essentials Series: Resumes

March 8
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Novi Public Library. 45255
West 10 mile Rd, Novi, MI

A certified professional resume writer will show participants how to build a targeted resume that strategically "sells" skills, education and/or experience to employers. Discover what employers are looking for in a resume & cover letter! All events are free and open to the public.

Wednesday Noon Concert Series: Randy Napoleon Quartet

March 9
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Kehrl Auditorium

Born in Brooklyn and raised in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Randy Napoleon began his journey in jazz immediately after finishing his studies at the University of Michigan. He joined the Michigan State University music faculty in fall 2014. Today, Napoleon is one of the most sought-after guitarists in New York, where he is known as a forward-thinking musician with a passion for the jazz guitar tradition. Randy will be joined by Rick Roe, piano, Paul Keller, bass

and David Alvarez, drums.

Exploring U.S. Government Document Resources

March 10
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Join with Blackboard Collaborate

For more information, contact Wayne Pricer at 734-462-5317.

Resume Essentials

March 10
1 – 2:30 p.m.
McDowell Student Center,
Room 100

A certified professional resume writer will show participants how to build a targeted resume that strategically "sells" skills, education and/or experience to employers. Discover what employers are looking for in a resume & cover letter!

Cultural Coffee Connection

March 14
3 – 5:30 p.m.
Bradner Library Room 110

Students, faculty, staff and community members are invited to attend for coffee, tea and snacks and enjoy an educational presentation at the beginning of each event and informal conversation with peers from various cultures around the world. For every event you attend, you will be entered into a drawing for prizes at the end of the semester.

Career Essentials Series: Networking

March 15
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
McDowell Student Center,
Room 100

Learn how to overcome nerves and build professional connections to advance your career!

Wednesday Noon Concert Series: Schoolcraft Music Faculty

March 16
noon to 1:15 p.m.
Kerhl Auditorium
Admission is Free

Dr. Gerardo Ascheri: A former faculty member at the Michigan State University Community Music School, he has also served as president for the Lansing Matinee Musicale, Capital Area Music Teachers Association and Michigan Music Teachers Association.

Dr. Soonghee Ha: an active performer as both a soloist and a collaborative accompanist. She also teaches from her piano studio in Northville.

Dr. Frederick Moss: An accomplished clarinetist, Dr. Moss has performed on numerous solo and chamber music recitals. In addition, he has appeared on master classes with famous artists such as Richard Stoltzman and David Shifrin.

Dr. Riccardo Selva: Currently, he serves as the director of jazz studies at Schoolcraft College where he conducts the jazz ensemble and instructs the jazz combo program.

University Visit – Grand

Valley State University

March 21
12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Forum Building

Representatives from Grand Valley State University will be available to meet with Schoolcraft students to answer general questions about transfer options.

Middle School Science Day

March 19
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
VisTaTech Center

This event is for middle school students interested in science. Interactive Demos and Hands-on Activities will be occurring throughout the event. Register Early. Space is limited. Registration opens Feb. 4 by calling 734-462-4422. \$8 per student. (Adults Free). Lunch will be provided.



Do you have an upcoming event you would like listed in our Campus & Club Events?

Please email
sceditor@schoolcraft.edu
or call 734-462-4422

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ARMANDO SAUCEDO
MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Ratings: 7/10

Ah, Boba Fett; a character that has been in the "Star Wars" franchise since the holiday special that aired in 1978. He would go on to speak four lines in the six and a half minutes that he was on the silver screen. Still, the green-armored bounty hunter gained massive popularity, with his helmet being a recognizable staple of the franchise. In later media, viewers saw a young Boba Fett, before he donned the iconic outfit and subsequently got eaten by a pit in the ground, thought to be dead for good... however as season two of "The Mandalorian" showed, Fett lives on.

"The Book of Boba Fett" (TBoBF) tells the story of his journey, stepping out of the slimy Sarlacc pit, into the hot, sandy dunes of Tatooine, and of the tales mentioned in "The Mandalorian." This show sheds a new light on the titular character of Boba Fett by making him a bit more than a contract killer.

The CGI is breathtaking, thanks to Industrial Light & Magic (ILM). They always push the boundaries of visual effects, whether computer generated or

"BOBA FETT? WHERE?"

The Book of Boba Fett is a fun mess



Photo courtesy of impawards.com

Temuera Morrison as Boba Fett in
"The Book of Boba Fett".

practical, and they did not hold back here. The performances are great, Temuera Morrison portrays a very distinct version of Fett that we haven't seen before. Ming-Na Wen gives us a great performance as the master-assassin, Fennec Shand, a fantastic addition to the cast with a bright future in the lore.

Unfortunately, this show also would have benefited from better pacing. The episodes themselves are paced well, but the pacing through the arc of the series could have allowed the story a better flow, which would have led to a better payoff in the end.

from, it might have grounded the characters more to TBoBF as well.

In general, the characters that the show introduces – both as cameos or new additions to the Star Wars universe – were very enjoyable, occasionally more enjoyable than the titular character. That's easy enough to pull off when the green cowboy isn't in two of the episodes. It makes sense in the context of this show, but viewers had spent the previous four episodes exploring Boba's new found characterization, only to interrupt this arc with a large gap of a completely different story – then all of a sudden it's the season finale.

This show is enjoyable, despite all of the little problems. At the end of the day, "Star Wars" is a good story that has the opportunity to be silly and over the top, while also taking the time to have some serious story beats. It is good that this show's ensemble of characters are in the galaxy, as it gives them the freedom to interact with the many other toys in the box that is "Star Wars". This show left some of the audience indifferent to the idea of having another season but hey, who doesn't want more "Star Wars"?

It would be safe to say the majority of fans initially thought this was going to be a show all about Boba Fett, but instead it has subverted our expectations, by adding in cameos from new characters, which didn't end up paying off. If it didn't have "Boba Fett" in the title, then this tactic may have made more sense. If they had related these characters to Fett in the show, rather than assuming the audience has seen the other series they originate

Space background photo courtesy of
wallpapercave.com



REGROUP, RECONNECT



JOIN A **CLUB** OR **ORGANIZATION** TODAY BY SCANNING THE QR CODE



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



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LIVONIA

Ferris State University offers Bachelor's Degree completion programs in Criminal Justice and Early Childhood Education on campus at Schoolcraft College. Interested in learning how your credits transfer? Contact our Outreach Coordinator to learn more!



Catherine Belkowski
CatherineBelkowski@ferris.edu
(586) 445-7150
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FERRIS.EDU/LIVONIA

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Not Just a River in a Movie

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"Death on the Nile" breathes fresh air into this timeless classic

MATTHEW KERN • MANAGING EDITOR

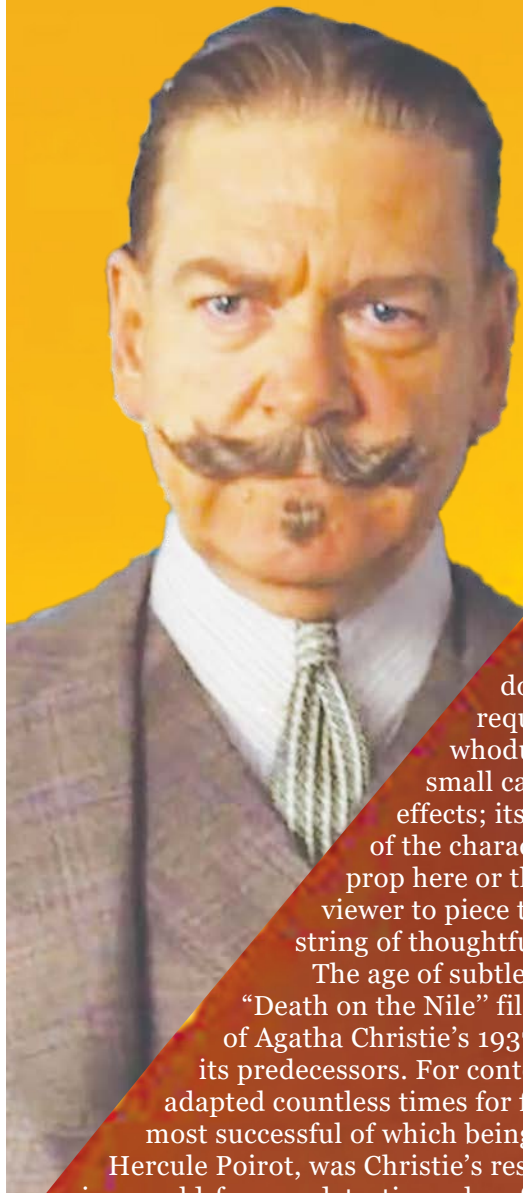


Photo courtesy of dmtalkies

Kenneth Branagh
as Hercule Poirot
in "Death on the
Nile".

Ratings:

6/10

Subtlety has long been the friend

of the whodunnit. In the old days, murder mysteries rose to fame as a genre which could be cheaply produced for a high profit, if done well. The formula does not require much. Traditionally, the whodunnit requires only a single set, a small cast, and relatively little action or effects; its plot reveals itself in the dialogue of the characters, or perhaps a conspicuous prop here or there. In the old days, it was on the viewer to piece together the mystery through a string of thoughtfully placed visual or auditory cues.

The age of subtlety, however, has passed. The new "Death on the Nile" film, the latest cinematic iteration of Agatha Christie's 1937 novel, stands in stark contrast to its predecessors. For context, this is a story which has been adapted countless times for film, television, and theater, the most successful of which being the 1978 film. Its protagonist, Hercule Poirot, was Christie's response to Sherlock Holmes. Poirot is a world-famous detective, who often finds himself in adventures while following the trail of his cases. Viewers of the new film might remember Poirot from 2017's iteration of *Murder on the Orient Express*, or its various other adaptations. Just as there is no single Sherlock, or Hamlet, in today's mythos, Poirot is a character whose portrayal very much belongs to time. In the same vein, "Death on the Nile" is a story that seems to be made to be retold.

Today's telling of the story is grand. It almost feels like a fever dream, dressed in Roaring Twenties hedonism. Historical prudence is thrown to the wind to reveal the dangers lurking behind lust and sin. In contrast to its predecessors, Director Kenneth Branagh - who also plays Poirot - has

elevated the characters in Christie's classic to be larger than life. Poirot is no longer jovial and even-tempered, but a reserved savant, a nigh superhuman with tragic backstory. Where the piece has not traditionally been one which involves very much movement or many effects, this film elaborately ties in both.

Every dollar of its production value ends up on screen. Digital effects, dramatic camera movements, and intricately choreographed action scenes beg the viewer to keep watching. The cinematography is decadent, fitting for the film's themes, centered around 1920's extravagance.

One might say its production is too enthralling, in proportion to its cast. With all-stars such as Gal Gadot and Letitia Wright, as well as accomplished Shakesperian-actor Kenneth Branagh, and a surprise appearance from Russell Brand; performance is hardly a question from this cast. If anything, the film leaves its audience wanting more of its cast, rather than more from them. This is professional acting, in the most lighthearted sense.

Such, however, is a consequence of age. "Death on the Nile" is the story of a time when nuance was expected to reveal, rather than present itself. Being so, its newest iteration is of a different flavor than those previous, as both a highlight and a downside. But it is good to see tradition preserved. In an age of boundless repackaged material, "Death on the Nile" feels more like a refresh than a reboot.

In the annals of Christie's legacy lies the evolution of her stories, from 1937 to 2022, told again and again for the new generation. Some stories are like that, and this is a welcome addition to the fold.

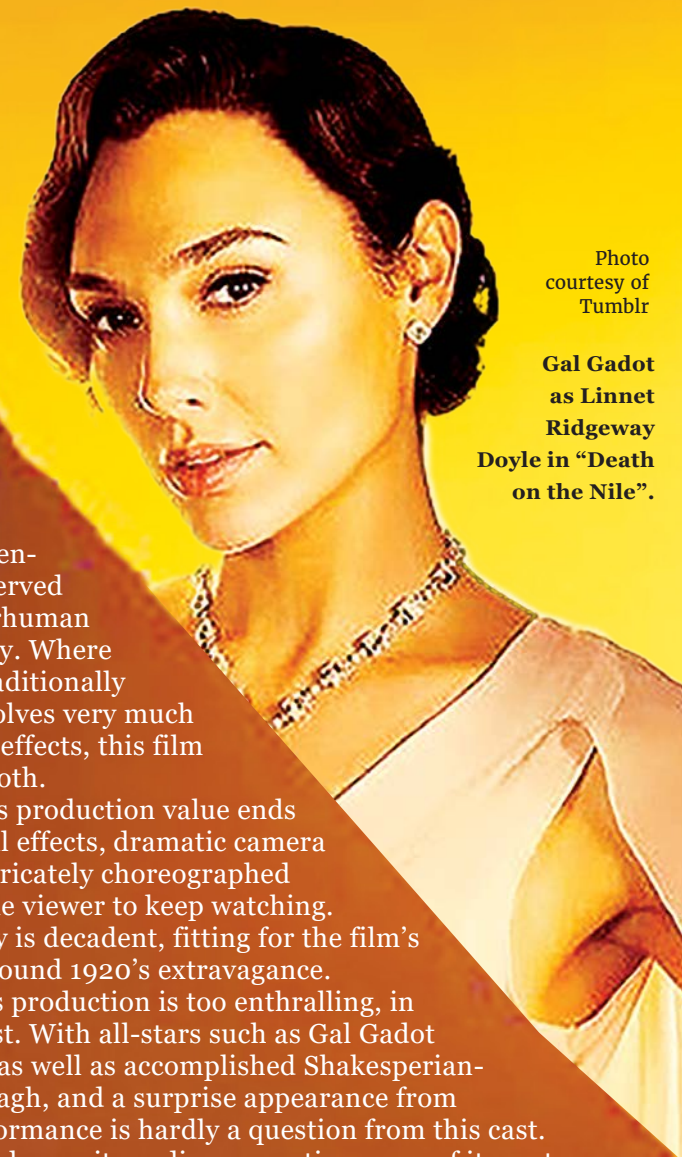


Photo
courtesy of
Tumblr

Gal Gadot
as Linnet
Ridgeway
Doyle in "Death
on the Nile".

THE CELOT ART HALL



Photo illustration by Haley Price

This painting was created by Haley Price, whose passion in art is to use her own experiences within her art as a healing mechanism, or to express what she has learned or felt during a situation. Mental health is a major part of her pieces, with which she generates the idea of surpassing negative feelings while also bringing awareness to the topic.

Price's favorite aspect of her artwork is the coloring as she enjoys the theme she created and how it draws the eye by using stronger colors in specific areas while leaving the background dull. This specific art piece depicts how it feels to dissociate, which is a feeling of detachment from your own body, a dreamlike state that feels like you're looking at yourself from an outside perspective, almost like you're watching a stranger

rather than yourself; this is the feeling that the eyes on the hands represent. The black/purple spots are there to represent blacking out, as when episodes get bad vision can diminish, or you see spots. Additionally, the reason why the person is in front of a table eating is because Price herself suffers the worst of her attacks when she's eating or driving.

This art piece is meant for anyone who can relate to her experiences, and the message she'd like to send is that people aren't alone in how they feel; when feeling a certain way it's often hard to remember that you aren't the only person struggling, and the way you're feeling isn't stupid; overall you shouldn't feel ashamed of your emotions.

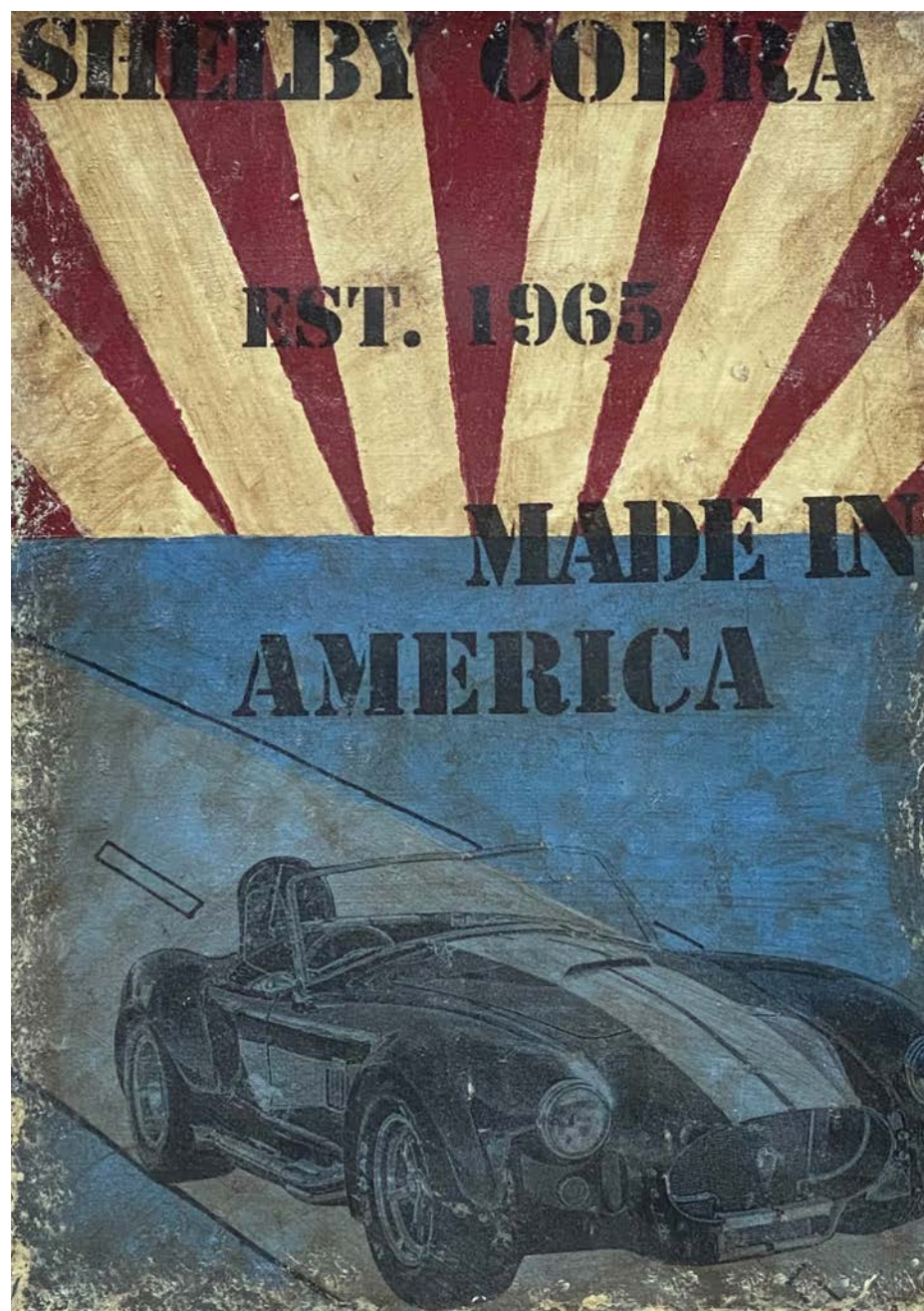


Photo illustration by Summer Sultana

This painting is the work of Summer Sultana, and is a poster of a vintage car. Sultana is passionate about the process of art being made, both of her art and that of others. The intended audience for this piece is very special, as this poster was

made as a gift for her father, as it depicts his favorite car. Sultana's favorite aspect of this piece is the old and distressed look she was able to make, as it turned out to be the perfect finishing touch.

OPINIONS



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IN OUR OPINION

A review of St. Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day has always been one of the more controversial holidays out of the bunch. From the romantics, hopeless or otherwise, with their songs about romance and love stories to the pessimists who see it as nothing more than a corporate grift to sell chocolates and love letters. Everyone has their own opinion about Cupid and his quiver of arrows. I say give it a chance. Love can be romantic, it can be platonic, it can be whatever you want. After all, how can love be silly when it's all we have?

What is love, if not baby don't hurt me? To be Jewish on Christmas, or Protestant on Paddy's, is to be me on February Fourteenth. If love is all we have, then I am lucky to have friends, but I am lost for the spirit of this holiday. When heartbreak makes you bitter, celebration makes you stoic. But it does not serve to bemoan one's own romantic ills in the face of another's happiness. To those celebrating this week, salud. Love is a gift, and you have earned its merriment. Take this time to be present with your precious ones, and celebrate them. They are a miracle.

According to National Public Radio (NPR), the ancient Romans are believed to have created the modern day meaning of Valentine's Day, but while we perceive Valentine's Day as a peaceful and enjoyable holiday, this hasn't always been the case.

In fact, there is a much darker side to the holiday's origins. On Feb. 14 within the 3rd century AD, Roman emperor, Emperor Claudius II, executed two men named Valentine, and their deaths would lead to what is now known as St. Valentine's Day and the men would be honored by the Catholic Church.

St. Valentine's day is a very good excuse for having a great time with your loved ones, whether or not it's just friends that share the same lack of people who love you. Just kidding... However I don't want to be the jerk here, but you could be doing this on any day of the week, why just now? Being kind and showing people you love them could only make the world a better place.

'Tis the day once more; the day where lovers enjoy and celebrate each other in more than a few ways, and single romantics are left to have a particularly boring, if not painful time. Outside the sphere of capitalism, where there are chocolates, other sweets, flowers and balloons all shaped like hearts and stacked on shelves, the day is much the same as any other; same routine, same people, same things to do. Though with this day comes a reminder to think of and savor those that warm our hearts the most - and that, I think, is a sentiment that should be held on through every day of the year.

Background photo courtesy of Annie Spratt

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



Vae O'Neil
Arts and Entertainment Editor
oneilkm.16@gmail.com

Consider the enthusiasm a person receives for adornment - decorating their room, home, car or other such thing; often they are lauded, clapped on the back for putting effort into imprinting themselves and their aesthetic into a space they occupy. The same encouragement is given to more explicitly creative endeavors, like writing and drawing and music-making; here is where (most of the time) artists create some new thing, authentic and of themselves. Such joy is to be found around these and other outward creations, hallmarks of individuality, yet culturally we bar people from

The Art of Identity

Artistry is heavily valued in our creations rather than our identities themselves

applying that same creative expression to their identities, the very fount where all those celebrated creations sprouted from in the first place.

This, I'd say, is a load of hooley.

Our culture contains the spectrum of selfhood and identity into strict confines, made up of expectations based upon a given individual's appearance. A few things these expectations influence are the law, fashion and behavior. Behavioral norms are some of the most easily noticeable impacts made by expectations; for instance, people of a particular gender, ethnicity or other social identifier might be expected to be more aggressive, studious or emotionally-flat compared to their peers of differing demographics - those who have relatively antonymic adjectives tacked on

to their own stereotypes. How this most often presents itself in culture is something like the masculine/feminine dichotomy of appearance and behavior norms; someone who is expected to be masculine - to wear masculine clothes, and have a masculine job and interests - would be mentally and physically endangered because of society's often-violent reactions to someone's breaking of the norm. Besides bullying and beatings, opposition to expression outside the norm has found its way into legislation as recently as 2011, where people of one gender were barred from dressing in the expected style of another. As per this example, I find it rather silly to be angered by a human being who chooses to wear clothes, especially clothes that they like wearing.

Fashion is only one example of

how identity is constrained; the list goes on to more trivial things, like the subtle ways in which we speak our words and move our bodies - but the point remains the same: these constraints are harmful and unnecessary for the sake of comfort against the new and different. Humans are intelligent, yes, but we are still beings of nature. We do not speak in binary languages; no one individual fits exclusively into a few solitary checkboxes. We are rivers dammed, dyed and overfished, yearning evermore to flow freely. I believe that if our culture were to evolve to where these walls of ours would crumble, where ourselves and our posterity could be formed free of expectation of how we should be, that it may very well set our minds' eye free to bloom upon our very bodies and actions.

Though this is but a dream. There will always be those who cannot bring themselves to celebrate their otherness, and there will always be those who cannot suppress it. So though it is but a dream, it is a dream worth aiming for.



Alex Hawthorne
Alexander.Hawthorne@apps.schoolcraft.edu

It's Black History month, a time in which society should reflect upon the impact that black individuals have had upon the world. Yet, throughout this entire month, many Americans pretend that the only part of black history there is to look back upon

Looking Towards the Future

is a culture of white imperialism, supremacy, history erasure and government interference. All of these aspects that seem to demonstrate just how little black history matters when the opposition is the focus. You'll never hear of Mansa Musa, Dr. Anyanna Howard, Thomas Stowell, Marsha Johnson, Folorunso Alakija or Garrett Morgan because instead of shining light on those

who have made history through other avenues it would be more beneficial to talk about the same abolitionists and protesters. I'm tired of looking back on the past if the only one that will be acknowledged has been either lost or sidestepped.

Instead I have a better idea.

Rather than conform to the cultural narrative of black oppression, why not shift it to

black freedom?

The further society goes into the future, the more freedom there is for black Americans. Rather than being thankful to just have rights because the correct white people were in office to listen to our complaints or to expedite their version of peace. Alternatively, look toward the future and fight for it now. As important as it is to acknowledge our past, for the good and the bad, history is useless when it's not put to action to help better the future.

So for this month, focus on the ways to make the world better

see "**Looking Towards the Future**" Page 14 >

Ocelot Opinions

What does your ideal spring break look like?

For a further breakdown on Ocelot Opinions, check out our YouTube Channel.



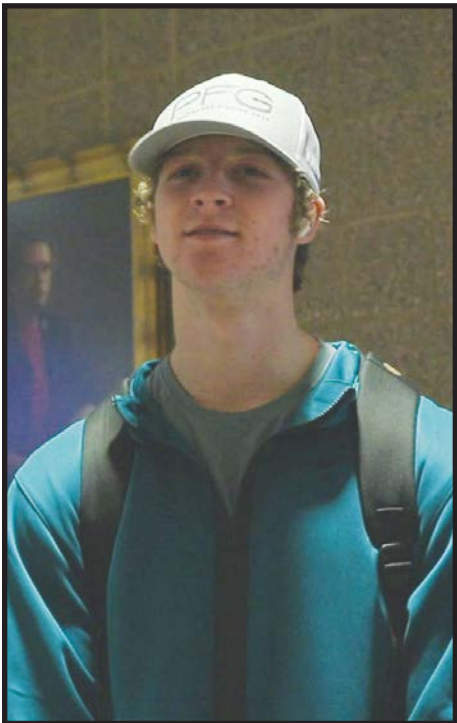
Photos by Armando Saucedo



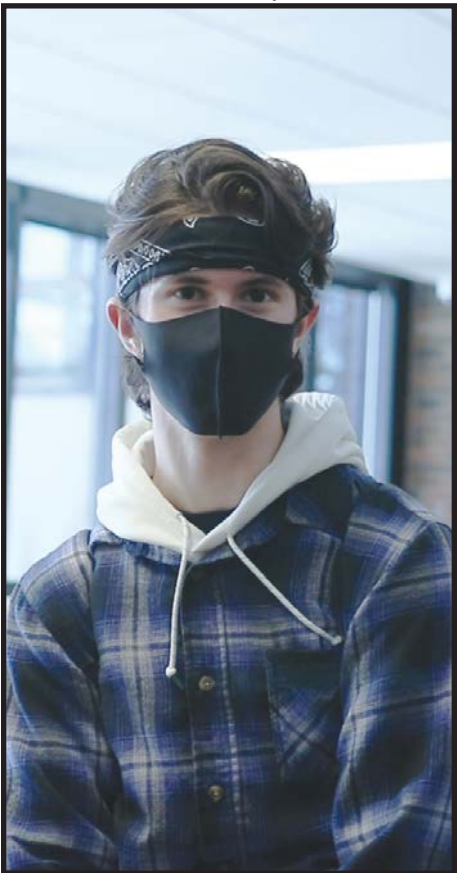
"I think something both refreshing and relaxing and yet also thinking about how I can make a positive impact on this place – bringing reconciliation – because there's so much brokenness in the world. Fighting against that brokenness would be really important, I think." - Chelsea



"My ideal spring break looks like water, blue water and sunglasses and my legs propped up on a beach towel or something of some sort. Reading some type of book and journaling just by myself and hearing the water." - Madison



"Maybe a nice vacation... probably a vacation with friends. That'd be my ideal spring break... Somewhere warm, maybe... Florida or something like that, for sure." - Evan



"I'd say my ideal spring break would be going on a mission trip and serving Jesus." - Luke

"LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE" cont'd from page 13

for black people whether that be through equal voting rights, wealth equality, equitable resources, diverse health care, incarceration, rehabilitation, an end to all forms of racism and more. This month shouldn't be about acknowledging

the chains that hold you, but breaking the new ones that bind you. We have looked at the past long enough so let's look to the future, after all, history is useless when it's not being made outside of a book.



Photo courtesy of vecteezy

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SPORTS

OCELOTS RECAPS FOR JAN. 24 THROUGH FEB. 21

Women's Basketball



Photos by Paisley Stevens

Schoolcraft's Catarina Juarez fires a 3 point shot against Oakland Community College on Feb. 9, 2022.

The Ocelots are sitting on top of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association (MCCAA) Eastern conference. On Feb. 12 after beating Wayne County Community College the Ocelots punched their ticket to the postseason. The team now has an impressive 11-4 record in conference play and 16-6 record overall as of Feb. 21.

The Ocelots rose in the standings quickly after winning games against key divisional opponents. The team remains undefeated in the month of February and is now riding an 8 game win streak. The climb to the top hasn't been easy for the Ocelots but the one thing that seemed to remain constant all season long was consistency.

The Ocelots will look to carry their momentum into the postseason the first week in March with the NJCAA Great Lakes District B Tournament.

**Feb 21
Schoolcraft (65) at St. Clair CC (57)**

The Ocelots extended their winning streak to eight with their win over St. Clair CC. Team was led by Catarina Juarez 16 points, Ruby Garner had 15. Samantha Smith led the team with 11 rebounds.

**Feb 19
Macomb (59) at Schoolcraft (72)**

Sequoia Jackson led the team with 17 points. Justina Szalkowski had 14 points and Samantha Smith had 11. Smith also led the team with 10 rebounds in the win.

**Feb 12
Wayne County Community College (60) at Schoolcraft (63)**

Catarina Jaurez led the team in scoring with 15 points, followed by Sequoia Jackson (12) and Evangelina Parrish (12). Parrish also led the team with 9 rebounds.

**Feb 9
Schoolcraft (75) at Oakland (63)**

Schoolcraft had a convincing 12 point victory over Oakland. Catarina Jaurez led the team in scoring with 16 points.

**Feb. 5
Schoolcraft (77) at Delta (74)**

The Ocelots won a tight match against Delta 77-74. This win gave the team three consecutive games against their opponents. A strong third quarter helped to secure the win for the Ocelots.

**Jan 31
Oakland (44) at Schoolcraft (45)**

The Ocelots won a thriller against Oakland. Catarina Jaurez led the team in scoring with an impressive 21 points.

**Jan. 26
Mott (34) at Schoolcraft (75)**

The Ocelots absolutely dominated Mott, winning by an impressive 41 points. Ruby Garner led the team in scoring with 14 points.

**Jan 24.
St.Clair (83) at Schoolcraft (80)**

The Ocelots fell to St.Clair 83-80. Evangelina Parrish led the team in scoring with 18 points.

Men's Basketball

**Feb. 21
Schoolcraft (58) at St. Clair CC (80)**

The 10 point deficit at the end of the first half was too much to overcome for the Ocelots as the team dropped their seventh straight. Notable mentions for the Ocelots were Keionte Cornelius who had 18 points and Jamoni



Schoolcraft's Shane Scruggs goes up for a lay up against Mott Community College.

Jones who had 10. Shayne Scruggs and Ashton Nance had 6 rebounds apiece.

**Feb. 19
Macomb (108) at Schoolcraft (71)**

Keionte Cornelius led the team in scoring with 28 points and Jamoni Jones had 12. Devin White had 5 rebounds in the loss.

**Feb. 12
Henry Ford (97) at Schoolcraft (62)**

Keionte Cornelius led the team in scoring with 26 points and 5 assists. Aston Nance at 9 rebounds in the loss. Aldophus Cast had 11 points.

see **"Ocelots Recaps"** Page 17 >

"OCELOT RECAPS"

cont'd from page 16

Feb. 9
Schoolcraft (62) at Oakland (97)

The Ocelots fell short 62-97 against Oakland. Aldophus Cast led the team in scoring with an impressive 24 points. Shane Scruggs put up an incredible 16 rebounds in the showing.

Feb. 7
Schoolcraft (70) at Henry Ford (94)

The Ocelots failed to win on the road against Henry Ford by a score of 70 to 94. Keionte Cornelius led the team in scoring with 23 points and Jamoni Jones and Shayne Scruggs both had 12.

Feb. 5
Schoolcraft (64) at Delta (89)

The Ocelots fell to Delta by a score of 64-89. Keionte Cornelius led the team in scoring with 24 points.

Jan 29
Mott (65) at Schoolcraft (55)

The Ocelots fell to Mott 65-55 at home. Shane Scruggs led the team in scoring with 14 points as well as providing 11 rebounds for the Ocelots.

Jan 26
Schoolcraft (80) at Alpena (50)

The Ocelots defeated Alpena by 30 with a score of 80-50. Keionte Cornelius had the best performance of his very impressive season, putting up a massive 50

points to lead the Ocelots to the win.

Jan. 24
St.Clair (98) at Schoolcraft (68)

The Ocelots fell to St. Clair 98-68 in conference play. Keionte Cornelius led the team in scoring with 17 points shooting 6-11 from the field.

The Ocelots are now 3-11 in the Eastern Michigan Community College Athletic Association Conference and 6-18 overall as of Feb. 21. The Ocelots are in 8th place and are not eligible for the postseason. The teams season will come to an end on Feb. 23 at home against Alpena CC.

Mens Bowling

Feb. 11
St. Clair Invitational

The Ocelots placed 2nd in the St. Clair invitational. Josh Ridchardson led all bowlers in the tournament with 643 points through three games.

Feb. 4
Mid Michigan Invitational

The Ocelots placed 2nd at the Mid Michigan invitational on the 4th. Tyler Brown led the Ocelots with 644 points through three games. Jim Knorp had an impressive showing, putting up 624 points through three games as well.

Jan 28
Schoolcraft College Men's Invitational

The Ocelots placed 3rd in the

Schoolcraft invitational. Star bowler Tyler Brown led the team with 603 points through three games. Tre Lamar put up an impressive 587 points through three games as well.

Womens Bowling

Feb 11.
St.Clair Invitational

The Ocelots placed 2nd in the St. Clair invitational. Kaylee Schoffler came in 3rd in the invitational, putting up an impressive 555 points throughout three games.

Feb. 4
Mid Michigan Invitational

The Ocelots placed 2nd in the Mid Michigan Invitational. The Lady Ocelots greatly improved after their 5th place performance in the Schoolcraft invitational.

Jan. 28
Schoolcraft Women's Invitational

The Ocelots placed 5th in the Schoolcraft Women's Invitational. Kaylee Schoffler led all schoolcraft bowlers with 523 points.

For all the up to date information on game schedules, scores and rosters go to www.mccaa.org.



DIVERSIONS

Is Love Still in the Air?

Enjoy this word search, compliments of the
Schoolcraft Connection.

Q T W Y R

R I D H X P V

U K E C X S R E V S

Y N Y N Y Q M I U T V D

X W Y A M U V A E B R K K

Y H S N F E P S J O M N T N K S M W X O S G M W K Z O O X U

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- LOVE
PINK
VALENTINE
CUPID
HEART

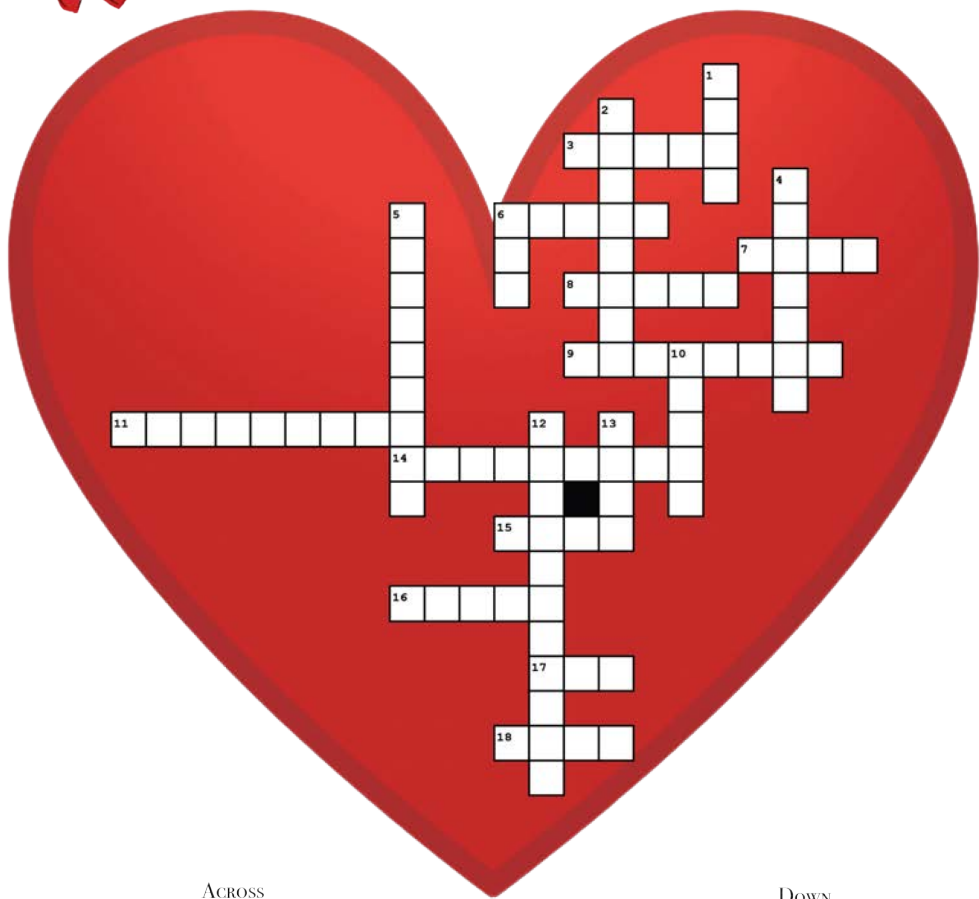
FEBRUARY
KISS
HUG
FLOWERS
CHOCOLATE

SWEETHEART
RED
FRIENDS
CARDS

Photo illustration by Summer Sultana
*For answers to our puzzles,
email sceditor@schoolcraft.edu*

Love is Forever

Enjoy this crossword puzzle, compliments of the Schoolcraft Connection.



Across

- 3. PAPER GIFTS
- 6. ORGAN THAT PUMPS BLOOD
- 7. A PIECE OF WRITING THAT OFTEN HAS METERS, RHYMES, AND STANZAIC STRUCTURE
- 8. SWEET TREAT
- 9. MONTH
- 11. "WILL YOU BE MY _____"
- 14. GODDESS OF LOVE AND BEAUTY
- 15. WHEN TWO PEOPLE GO OUT
- 16. MYTHICAL GOD OF DESIRE, LOVE, AND AFFECTION
- 17. ROSE ARE _____
- 18. _____ IS IN THE AIR

Down

- 1. TO BE SEALED WITH
- 2. RINGS
- 4. A BEAUTIFUL PLANT
- 5. STUFFED ANIMAL THAT'S OFTEN GIVEN ON FEBRUARY 14TH
- 6. AN EMBRACE
- 10. A FLOWER WITH THORNS
- 12. CUPID'S WEAPON
- 13. "BE _____"



Photo illustration by Sasha Spearman

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