



**11th annual
Pythagorean
prize winners
announced**
CAMPUS LIFE PAGE 10

**Last minute
graduation
reminders**
NEWS PAGE 2



**Whalers hit
by Storm to
end season**
SPORTS PAGE 17



The Schoolcraft Connection

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 13

SERVING THE SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY FOR 19 YEARS

April 25, 2006

Birds fall 'Prey' to government cutbacks

■Decreasing permits hurt organization

MICHAEL SIEGRIST
MANAGING EDITOR

Due to governmental cutbacks and under staffing, a reduction in permits may lead to massive hits to the popular "Birds of Prey" show, which visits the campus twice a year. Without support, the Wildlife Recovery Association's program will lose licensing for a number of raptors.

Established in 1974, the WRA is one of the oldest organizations in Michigan caring for injured and orphaned wildlife and specializes in the rehabilitation of birds of prey.

The live animal wildlife education programs have helped teach people about wildlife since 1976 and are increasingly in demand throughout the state and surrounding area.

It is a non-profit organization whose service is made possible by grants, donations and memberships. Unfortunately, it receives no direct state or federal funding, however, the organization operates on special grants from governmental authorities.

There have been increased cutbacks in government agencies, and the offices are looking for ways to reduce their workloads by cutting back on permits and programs.

The WRA operates on grants and permits from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services office in Minnesota.

Joe Rogers and his wife, Barb, a middle school science teacher, own 200 acres of wetland north of Shepherd, and their home is the headquarters of the organization. The

couple and their daughter, Joanna, 15, care for 100 to 300 injured birds every year.

While it has no paid staff, there are the Rogers family and a core group of dedicated volunteers.

They work among the trees, where large cages and flight pens provide a natural environment for recovering birds. The organization is committed to helping injured and orphaned animals get back into the wild where they belong.

One extremely important element in caring for wildlife is public education. Rogers gives hundreds of "Birds of Prey" presentations yearly to schools and special interest groups all over Michigan, including programs recently offered in the Lower Waterman on Oct. 10, 2005 and again on March 20.

The presentation featured many live birds of prey that have been injured in such a way that they, unlike the released raptors, can never again survive in the wild.

Over ten live raptors such as Bald Eagles, Great Horned and Short-eared Owls, Red-tailed Hawks and Northern Harriers are all part of the educational program which reaches 20,000 to 30,000 people every year.

The WRA also sponsors and participates in wildlife research such as nesting and behavior studies. Joe Rogers has spent the past 10 summers contributing to the success of the Michigan Peregrine Falcon reintroduction project.

Other research topics include dietary



Photo by Constance Johnson

Joe Rogers shows off one of his many injured birds at the "Birds of Prey" show. Rogers is in danger of losing his organization due to government cutbacks.

studies, medical care, captive breeding, release studies and wildlife behavior.

"These birds belong to the people, but if folks don't know they exist, they won't work to save them," Rogers told Elizabeth Johnson

for American Profile. "I especially want to reach the kids, because their generation hasn't experienced these birds."

Schoolcraft's 40th commencement ceremony

■Former Detroit mayor to speak

BY HEATHER HYATT
NEWS EDITOR



DENNIS ARCHER

The college has come a long way since its first commencement on May 1, 1966. After 40 years and over 30 guest speakers, many of whom were judges and government officials, the college has invited Dennis Archer, who served as mayor of

Detroit from 1994 to 2001, to speak at this year's graduation ceremony at Compuware Sports Arena on Sat., May 6.

"Each year we ask the staff and others to suggest possible commencement speakers," says Dr. Conway Jeffress, president of the college. "Dennis Archer's name was one recommended, we contacted him and he agreed to speak."

Archer's reaction to his invitation to be SC's commencement speaker was one of surprise and honor. "I was delighted and so pleased to learn that I have the opportunity to be able to deliver remarks to such outstanding students who earned the right to receive their degrees."

Archer has achieved many of his own accomplishments and is involved in numerous organizations and offices that contribute to our community.

Currently, Archer is Chairman of

Dickinson Wright, a Detroit-based law firm that has offices in Michigan and Washington D.C., and is also active in the American Bar Association. He sits on the corporate boards of Johnson Controls, Inc., Compuware Corporation and the Masco Corporation and serves as a trustee for the nonprofit organizations CATCH, Caring Athletes Team for Children's and Henry Fords Hospital, and the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan. CATCH is a charity that raises funds to help improve the quality of life for sick, injured and needy pediatric patients at Children's Hospital of Michigan and Henry Ford Hospital.

"It is important for all of us to learn to give back to those who can least help themselves, namely children," says Archer.

The Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan raises money for various organizations and foundations with the hope of

enhancing the quality of life of the citizens for Southeastern Michigan.

"When helping others, we wind up helping ourselves," says the former Detroit mayor.

Various magazines and publications have named Archer with prestigious titles. He was named one of the "100 Most Powerful Attorneys in the United States" by National Law Journal in 1985; named 'Most Respected Judge in Michigan' by Michigan Lawyers Weekly, April 1990; received an Award of Excellence and was named "Newsmaker of the Year" by Engineering News-Record magazine in 1998; named "Public Official of the Year" by Governing magazine in 2000; named as one of the "100 Most Influential Black Americans" by Ebony magazine; and

See Commencement PAGE 2



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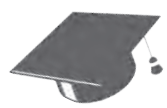
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News 2
Opinions 4
Campus Life..... 8
A & E 14
Sports..... 18
Diversions 22
Photo Story 28



VITAL TIPS FOR GRADUATES

Commencement ceremony reminders

By **HEATHER HYATT**
NEWS EDITOR

The 2006 Schoolcraft Commencement Ceremony is days away and there are important tips that graduating students should be privy to.

First, graduation will be taking place on Saturday, May 6 at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth on Beck Road, North of M-14 and South of Five Mile. The ceremony will start promptly at 4 p.m. Students are asked to arrive by 3 p.m. to allow for preparation time.

It should be noted that there is major construction work happening on Westbound M-14 and alternate routes should be taken to get to the arena. Only one lane

is open from Haggerty Road to Gotfredson Road and traffic will undoubtedly be backed up. In order to be on time, those attending or participating in graduation should choose Five, Six or Seven Mile Roads to Beck Road instead.

It is imperative not to forget caps, gowns, Phi Theta Kappa Honors regalia, and tickets for those attending and anything else needed for the ceremony. These items can still be picked up at the bookstore until Friday, May 4. Bookstore hours are 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dress for graduates participating in commencement should be formal; wearing jeans, t-shirts, sweatshirts or tennis shoes should be avoided.

Dr. Conway Jeffress, college president, reminds students to bring cameras. "Bring your camera and plenty of film. It is a more important day than you may realize at this time."

For further information, or to have specific questions about the ceremony answered, please contact the Registrar's Office at (734) 462-4677.

Newspaper gets awarded first place

Connection staff cleans up at Press Day

MICHAEL SIEGRIST
MANAGING EDITOR

The Connection beat out 15 other community college papers to take top honors at this year's Michigan Community College Press Association Press Day at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City.

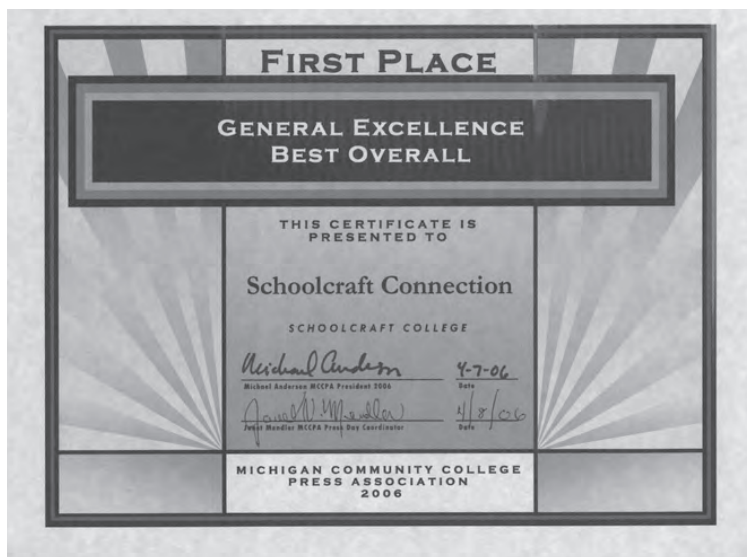
The paper was named "Best Overall Community College Newspaper" in the state at the April 8 event, edging past second-place Delta College and Northwestern Michigan College, which came in third.

Connection staff members also won 14 individual awards—including a first and second place for staff editorial, and first place for sports news, sports news photo and photo essay. There were as many as 43 entries per category.

Along with her first place sports news photo and photo essay, Layout and Photo Editor, Rena Lavery also received third place for sports feature photo and inside page layout, while picking up an honorable mention for best use of photos and graphics.

Campus Life Editor Angela Belcher earned a third place award for her professor profile on Humanities and Art History professor, Dr. James Nissan, titled "Performing professor takes students to foreign lands."

Second and third place awards were picked up by the Connection's



2006 First Place General Excellence Best Overall award presented to the Connection at the Michigan Community College Press Awards

resident comedic artists. Earning second place was Trevor Wnuk for his cartoon titled, "Bipartisan." John Jackson earned a third place award for his cartoon titled, "Supreme Exit," a piece which poked fun at the failed nomination of Harriet Meyers for the United States Supreme Court. Student Activities Brian Stack won a second place award for a student created ad he made for Henry's café.

Along with the first place sports news article titled, "College closes coach's contract,"—referring to the non-renewal of former men's soccer coach Dominick Scicluna's contract—Managing Editor Michael Siegrist earned second place for "Scholar athlete leads the way," a

personality profile on women's basketball's co-captain Charlese Greer.

The paper received second place for overall page layout, while earning the first place for "The best way not to handle a situation,"—a staff editorial, which criticized Public Safety's handling of an intoxicated student on campus—and second place staff editorial for "Who is to blame?," referring to men's basketball players losing post-season play for the second year in a row.

The Connection staff, of about 12-15, eight of which are returning members from last year, were overwhelmed at the amount of recognition received.

"Commencement" continued from PAGE 1

was named one the "25 Most Dynamic Mayors in America" by Newsweek.

Archer believes that having a good education is a great asset when it comes to achieving goals. "The competition they (graduates) will face is not limited to the shores of America but rather the competition today is global and an education is an absolute key to success."

His own education includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Western Michigan University and a Juris Doctor from Detroit College of Law.

In the past he has taught learning disabled students in Detroit Public Schools and practiced law as a trial lawyer and partner for many Detroit firms. In 1985, he was appointed an Associate Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court and was elected to an eight-year term in 1986.

Archer says of this year's graduates, "I expect great things from the graduating class as they begin to embark on their future."



Photo by Rena Lavery

SCHOOLCRAFT SPORTS NETWORK BROADCASTS LIVE IN CANADA

Director of Media Services, Sam Gooden, stands next to the satellite dish brought over from Rogers Cable Network in Canada. Schoolcraft Sports Network broadcasted live video feeds to Canada of the Plymouth Whalers vs Guelph Storm Semi-Final games from Compuware Arena.

CAMPUS CRIME REPORT

Vandalism

On March 22 at 6:05 p.m. a student reported to Public Safety that her car had been keyed by another female student. The scratch ran approximately two feet long on the left rear panel of the car and continued on to the left side of the rear hatch. The suspect stated that she did not key the car and if the car was scratched, it was an accident, though the damage done to the car did not appear to be accidental. The victim stated that she planned on filing a criminal complaint with the Livonia Police later that night.

A college shuttle bus was discovered to have a broken entry door window panel on March 21. Facilities Management was called to clean up the glass and to take the bus to storage. Repair costs are unknown.

**In case of emergency,
contact PUBLIC SAFETY at (734) 462-4424.**

Malicious destruction of property

On March 21 at 8 a.m. Public Safety was informed of a car having received damage to the upper portion of the right side doors of a car parked in the South Lot Row R. No suspects were located and there is no estimate of the cost of the damage.

During a patrol, a Public Safety Officer discovered a sticker stuck to the top of a trash can outside the South 200 hallway entrance to the Forum Building as well as blue spray paint on the top of a trash can outside the South 300 hallway entrance. Blue paint was also found on the cement wall adjacent to the trash can outside the 300 hallway. Pictures were taken of the sticker and paint.

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Women's Resource Center

Divorce Support Group

A divorce support group is open to anyone contemplating, in the process of or having difficulty adjusting to divorce. The support group is free of charge and meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, between 7-9 p.m. in the WRC.

Money Matters in Divorce

A certified divorce financial planner from the Center for Financial Planning will be available on the first Monday of each month, from 5-7 p.m., through May 1. Anyone worried about their financial concerns relative to divorce may sign in beginning at 4:30 p.m. on the appropriate day. Clients will be seen on a first come, first served basis.

Ask an Attorney

An attorney from the firm of Woll and Woll will be available on the third Monday of each month from 5-7 p.m., through May 15. Anyone interested in asking about divorce and family law may sign in beginning at 4:30 p.m. on the appropriate day. Clients will be seen on a

CAMPUS CLIFFNOTES

first come, first served basis. For further information about any WRC events, call (734) 462-4443, or visit the WRC in the McDowell Center, Room 225.

Pageturners July Book Selection

“Love and Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas and the Start of a New Nation” by David A. Price.

GEOG 241 Geography Field Trip – Latin America

Travel and earn college credit! This professionally guided field study combines classroom instruction with a one week tour of this Latin American country. Students will have the opportunity to visit such attractions as San Jose, the capital of Costa Rica, Braulio Carrillo National park and nearby banana plantations, as well as many other sites. For more information and applications, please contact Diane O’Connell at 734-462-4400 ext. 5238 or

email at doconnell@schoolcraft.edu.

Graduation

Graduation will be held on Saturday, May 6, at the Compuware Sports Arena located on 14900 Beck Road in Plymouth. The ceremony will commence at 4 p.m. Dennis Archer is the guest speaker. If there are any questions, please call the registrar’s office at (734) 462-4430.

Month of the Young Child

April is the month of the Young Child and the Schoolcraft College Student Chapter of Metro-Detroit Association for the Education of Young Children. Check out the display case outside of MC 125 for more MOYC information.

March of Dimes Walk

The March of Dimes walk will be taking place in Hines

Park on Saturday, April 29. Contact Holly Driver at hollydriver97@yahoo.com for more information.

Real Life Farm

The Real Life Farm early childhood program is on Saturday, April 29, in Canton Township. Volunteer to assist children and families with games. Contact Diane Flynn-Hahn at dfhahn@schoolcraft.edu to volunteer.

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FROM THE
EDITOR’S GARAGE

The heat is on

Effects of Global Warming are inevitable



JOHN PARSELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Sceditor@schoolcraft.edu

Scorching temperatures, excessive flooding, natural disasters and an increase in disease. Yeah, global warming is real. In fact, according to a recent article in the Detroit News, many scientists are unsure if this catastrophic deadlock can be avoided at all. John Walsh, director of the Center for Global Change and Arctic System Research at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, told the News, “We certainly aren’t going to stop that 18-wheeler that’s rolling down the hill. In the short term, I’m not sure that anyone can stop it.” According to experts, there really isn’t much individuals can do. The best we can look forward to is preventing the worst— catastrophic climate change and a rise in sea levels, said 10 leading climate scientists in an interview conducted by the Associated Press. Since addressed by Jimmy Carter during his presidency in the late 70s, the issue of global warming has been swept under a rug, waiting to become a real threat. Almost 30 years later, the republican “big-business” politicians that run this country fail to see the issue clearly. We are destroying our planet. People don’t throw trash on the floors in their homes. They don’t run machines that emit carbon monoxide in their living rooms and throw garbage in their swimming pools. Inhabitants of this planet have taken their easy and trouble-free lives for granted for decades and now it’s too late to change. It would be more susinct without it. In a July 1999 NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll, only 11% took the position that “concern about global climate change is unwarranted.” Less than six years later, in a May 2005 study done by the German Marshall Fund, 79% said global warming represented either an “extremely important” or an “important” threat to the US in the next ten years. Scientists, such as Walsh, say that the effects of global warming thus far are permanent. Despite these truths, many Americans are boarding a “heal-the-world” bandwagon. A recent poll conducted by the firm Ayres, McHenry & Associates, which predominantly polls for Republican candidates, shows that 70% think the effects of global warming can be reduced. Take that you pessimistic scientists. But while the Earth has been somewhat denatured by global warming, there is still a chance to prevent future disaster. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, simple things such as using the microwave, insulating attics, hot water heaters and pipes and lowering the temperatures on refrigerators and freezers can make a big difference. However, it’s going to take more than one person to do it. “It’s a train that’s going downhill; that is something that people don’t understand,” said Gerald Meehl, a senior scientist at the national Center for Atmospheric Research. “For anything to happen, it’s going to have to take the public really being concerned about this problem.” It’s time that we all get off of this metaphoric train and start pushing it back up the hill. We can beat up on our Mother Earth now, but in the long-run, we’re going to have to answer to her.

LAST ISSUE OF THE SEMESTER...
SEE YOU IN THE FALL

SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

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SHERRY SPRINGER

Advertising Adviser
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The Schoolcraft Connection is the award-winning, student-run newspaper published semi-monthly as an educational experience by the students of Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48152-2696. The editorial offices of The Schoolcraft Connection are located in the Student Activities Office on the lower level of the Waterman Campus Center, 734- 462-4422. The Schoolcraft Connection is a member of the Michigan Community College Press Association, the Colombia Scholastic Press Association, College Media Advisers, the Student Press Law Center, Community College Journalism Association and the Society of Professional Journalists. Editorial Policy: Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board. Signed columns solely reflect the opinion of the writer. The Schoolcraft Connection abstains from criticism of, or discrimination against any person on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, age, marital status, handicap, national origin, or sexual orientation. The Schoolcraft Connection is a student forum and is self-monitored. We reject censorship and support a free student press. Material in The Schoolcraft Connection may not be reproduced in any form without prior written consent. The Schoolcraft Connection corrects all errors of fact. If you have discovered an error, please contact the Editor in Chief, 734- 462-4422, or sceditor@schoolcraft.edu.

IN OUR OPINION

Schoolcraft College has faced a challenging year. While somewhat difficult, the Connection has managed to report on several stories both on and off campus. However, with all of the exciting events that happened on campus this year, students are bound to have missed something. Therefore, we have compiled a list of some of our best (and worst) moments of the year.

CHEERS:

The new library opened, giving students the opportunity to study and research in a more modern and comfortable environment.

JEERS:

The project fell almost two months behind, opening in November rather than September as originally scheduled. The delay inconvenienced students, as well as clubs such as The Student Activities Board, Phi Theta Kappa and The Connection, just to name a few.

CHEERS:

The Women’s Basketball team had a historical record of (27-3), their best ever, despite losing to Mott Community College at Regionals. Also, Charlese Greer made First Team All American, adding to the team’s numerous lists of achievements.

JEERS:

The team was not allowed to play in the State tournament because of a technicality involving the eligibility of other community colleges.

CHEERS:

Men’s Basketball center James Davis made First Team All American. Furthermore, it was announced that assistant coach Michael Brown, will be returning as head coach next year, bringing new direction to the team.

JEERS:

In head coach Carlos Briggs’ last season, the team was placed on probation...again, and unable to compete in postseason play. This was due to the untimely filing of paperwork after Briggs was ejected from games earlier in the season. The players were hurt the most by this decision, as they were unable to showcase their talents in the playoffs.

CHEERS:

The Women’s soccer team took 3rd place in the National Championship in Arizona.

JEERS:

Despite having an unbelievable season, the Men’s soccer team ran into some major problems. It was announced that head coach Dominic Scicluna would not be returning next year, as he didn’t fit the mission of the school. Also the National Junior College Athletic Association announced that a number of allegations had been made against the team by fellow

members in the region, which in turn led to a department-run self-audit.

JEERS:

The Men’s soccer team was forced to forfeit seven games after their season. This was due to the enrollment status of three players, who started later in the season and were therefore deemed to be ineligible.

CHEERS:

The vacant position of head coach for the men’s soccer team was filled by Larson of Livonia. Larson, who has spent a significant amount of time coaching the men’s varsity soccer and basketball teams at Clarenceville High School, will bring a new vision to the team.

According to Athletic Director Sid Fox, “We are very excited to start working with him.”

CHEERS:

Enrollment hit an all time high this year.

JEERS:

Tuition went up too.

CHEERS:

The college’s Board of Trustees approved of a project to install 40 new light poles on campus in order to provide safety. The \$80,320 project will eventually replace lamps that were installed when the college was first established in 1961, and according to Bob Wielechowski, executive director of facilities management, “the guys won’t have to get up on ladders to change parts of the lights.”

JEERS:

The Student Lounge as well as the Student Activities office still has not been remodeled at all. The 10 year old billiard tables and Insane Asylum-esque walls create an uncomfortable environment for anyone who stops in.

JEERS:

Livonia officials announced they will discontinue Smart Bus routes, replacing them with an inner-city transportation system. This will likely kill the diversity in the Schoolcraft Community.

CHEERS:

The Schoolcraft Connection beat out 15 other community college papers to take top honors at this year’s Michigan Community College Press Association Press Day at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City.

The paper was named “Best Overall Community College Newspaper” in the state at the April 8 event, edging past second-place Delta College and Northwestern Michigan College, which came in third.

Connection staff members also won 14 individual awards— including a first and second place for staff editorial, and first place for sports news, sports news photo and photo essay. There were as many as 43 entries per category.

CHECK OUT YOUR HOROSCOPE
ON PAGE 23

ONE HAND CLAPPING

Deaf ears dismiss cries of the dying
Crimes against humanity know no borders



MICHAEL SIEGRIST
MANAGING EDITOR

MallenSiegrist@hotmail.com

Glancing at the cover of The New York Times April 5 issue I was immediately intrigued and quite confused. Reading the headline of a front page article titled “Hussein charged with genocide in 50,000 deaths,” I immediately had questions which needed to be answered.

I never knew Saddam Hussein had connections in Darfur, Sudan. How long had he been involved in the systematic killing of the African population there?

As I read further, I slowly realized the article had nothing to do with the current genocide—labeled by former Secretary of State Colin Powell and President George W. Bush in September,

2004— occurring again in Africa, but rather the Iraqi Anfal campaign of 1988.

You can imagine my embarrassment, however, hopefully understand my mistake.

Almost a decade after the genocide occurred in Rwanda, spawning the successful film Hotel Rwanda, an almost identical event began, and has been occurring ever since. Unfortunately, the international community has proven unwilling and ineffective, showing the lesson remains unlearned.

According to reports by the World Food Program, the United Nations and the Coalition for International Justice, 3.5 million people are now hungry, 2.5 million have been displaced due to violence, and 400,000 people have died in Darfur thus far.

With Arabic Janjaweed militias continuously patrolling streets and claiming the lives of innocent civilians, the Sudanese government continues its coy games, failing to enforce order in the region and obstructing peacekeeping missions at every turn.

After the dust settled in Rwanda in 1994, the international community was forced to bear witness to the results of the ethnic cleansing which occurred at the hands of the Hutu majority. The United Nations and the United States government had avoided using the term genocide, as it was believed— due to post-holocaust precedent— that using the term would automatically force intervention.

After World War II and the unmasking of Adolf Hitler’s Final Solution, the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment on the Crime of Genocide declared in 1948, all UN States should take action to prevent and punish genocide at all times. It was this statement which led to State Department officials being instructed not to utter the “g-word” since, publicly acknowledging genocide might commit the U.S. to get involved in the Rwandan crisis.

“We should have learned from Rwanda that to stop genocide, Washington must first say the word,” claimed Salih Bocker of African Action, an advocacy group.

However, these beliefs proved false, as it has been almost two years since the ethnic cleansing was labeled genocide and little has been done. The peace-keeping mission lies in the hands of the under funded and understaffed African Union. With a mandate of 7,936 military personnel, the forces have had little to no effect.

Members of the UN need to reaffirm their commitment of “never again,” making sure that genocide, the worst crime against humanity, is never allowed regardless of politics and economics.

Unfortunately, British Prime Minister Tony Blair’s promise, “If Rwanda happens again we would not walk away as the outside has done many times before,” proved to be lip service. Fortunately for those dying in Darfur, if the international community responds in kind with the charges brought to Hussein, the situation will be resolved by 2024.

CONTACT US:

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

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

Via Email: sceditor@schoolcraft.edu

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FROM ANGELA'S ANGLE

Goodbye to my time at Schoolcraft
Moving on to the rest of my life



ANGELA BELCHER
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Abelcher27@yahoo.com

Ibegan my days at Schoolcraft during the fall of 2002. At the time, I wasn’t very enthusiastic about coming to this school.

I was upset that many of my friends had decided to leave town for four year universities and I wished I could have joined them.

I have done a lot of growing up at this school since that time. I have attended classes, dropped classes, made mistakes, learned from them, gained heaps of information, become more of a well-rounded individual. Now that I am about to graduate and receive my associate degree, finally leaving this institute which I have spent endless hours at, I realize SC was the right place for me.

It was a good place for me to stay close to home, mature a little and get an education which I can honestly say that I benefited greatly from. I am living proof that SC’s motto, “an education that works,” is accurate.

I will miss some things around here; the convenience of the location, certain teachers who have inspired me and even though I’m shocked to say it, long hours at the newspaper office.

I am excited to move on and very curious to see what the rest of my life has to offer me. I hope it will bring another school which I can be happy to attend, job and internship opportunities and ultimately, success.

Next fall, I plan to move on to Specs Howard Broadcasting School in Southfield to pursue my dreams of becoming an investigative reporter on the news. I am very excited for this opportunity and hope that this eight month program will give me an advantage over other aspiring reporters.

After that, I plan on attending a four-year University, yet to be named, and obtain a degree in journalism. Hopefully this will all amount to enough experience to make it in the competitive world of reporting.

Today marks the end of my experience as an editor at an award-winning newspaper. It was a great opportunity that I am very thankful for. I am thankful to the people who helped put me in this position, those who inspired and supported me, those who have read my articles and even those who have confronted and yelled at me about the things I have published.

May 6 marks an ending to an important period in my life. My Associate Degree in Liberal Arts is an accomplishment that I am proud of and happy to have finally achieved. Even if it took me longer than I expected, it was certainly worth every long day at school, sticking it out through difficult teachers and every night I stayed up too late to study.

I wish the rest of the students here, my classmates, the best of luck and encouragement to keep with it through the hard times. It’s been a pleasure being able to reach all of you in my columns. Good-bye and good luck.

The Schoolcraft
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OCELOT OPINIONS



Ed Gallagher
Age: 20
Year: 2nd
Major: Human Biology

"Yes, international class would give a perspective of other countries that I may not have been able to see."



Ginger Binder
Age: 20
Year: 3rd
Major: Computer Science

"I am definitely interested in a international class if offered, because it would greatly influence my career financially and promotionally. It also would open many doors."



Rami Tahhan
Age: 21
Year: 2nd
Major: Dentistry

"Yes, because it is a great opportunity for everyone interested in learning about different cultures."



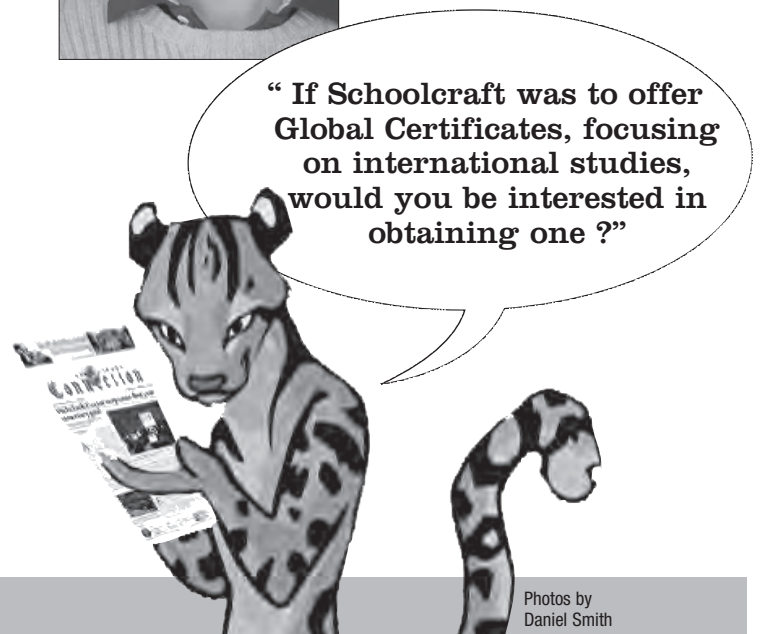
Melisha Allen
Age: 19
Year: 1st
Major: Nursing

"Yes, because I like to travel around the world, and it would be a great experience for me to learn."



Moussa Faraj
Age: 19
Year: 1st
Major: Broadcast Communication

"Yes, I would be interested because overseas jobs these days need more translators, if I learn more about major trade countries I could communicate better with the media"



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Photos by
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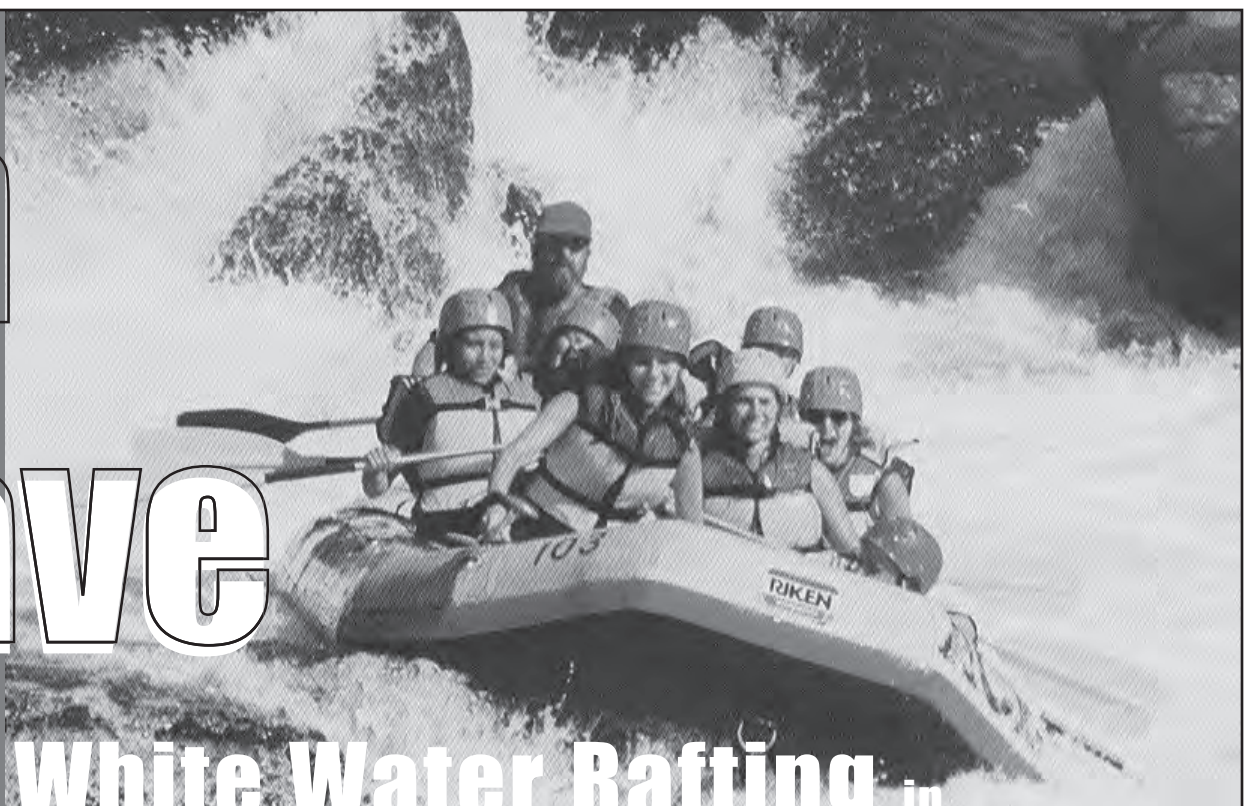
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Students participate in civil engagement

■ Benevolent contributions benefit the community

BY ANGELA BELCHER
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Civil engagement is the volunteering of time and effort in an attempt to make the community a better place. The students of Schoolcraft have accomplished this in numerous ways this year, giving many people with little hope something to be thankful for.

In the beginning of the school year when Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans and surrounding areas, the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, staff of The Schoolcraft Connection and college athletes sold "One for One" Mardi Gras beads to help victims, selling one strand of beads for a one dollar donation. By doing so, they raised

\$3,200. Five hundred dollars was donated to purchase school supplies for families who were relocated and residing in Detroit. The other \$2,700 went to PTK's national fund to support community college students who are affected by the hurricanes, and has now reached over \$53,000.

Throughout the entire year, students contributed their Saturday mornings to work at St. Leo's Soup Kitchen in Detroit. This act of civil engagement was arranged by members of the Student Activities Board, Students Against Hunger and PTK. The student groups and others attended the soup kitchen nine times this year. At Halloween, Christmas and Easter time, they hold special parties for children of

the soup kitchen, and bring gifts along with their time, spreading holiday cheer.

"It's very touching because they always come in with big smiles on their face and are very grateful, despite what they may be going through," says Kelly Hope, Vice President of Hallmarks of PTK.

The holiday season was a charitable one, as students also donated food baskets to families in need. Students dropped off canned goods and non-perishable items at the Student Activities Office, and the week before Thanksgiving, families received Thanksgiving turkeys, Christmas ham and a month's worth of food. This brightened the holiday season for many who feared they would not be able to feed their family.

One project which brought together various groups at SC was "Empty Bowl" project on Oct. 26, which was hosted by Students Against Hunger in Henry's Food Court. Ceramics classes donated hand-crafted bowls, while culinary art students donated homemade hearty soup and bread. The result of this collaboration was \$1,800 donated to St. Leo's and the Cross Roads soup kitchens in Detroit.

The nursing program, Scholars Honors students and PTK joined efforts with the Southeastern Michigan American Red Cross Society to collect Comfort Kits filled with shampoo, wash cloths, toothpaste and other toiletries. They also collected twin-sized blankets in their original wrappers during Blanket Days, collecting a total of 606 blankets. The comfort



Student Activities Tech Todd Stowell and PTK President Nicole Nader drop off collected blankets from Blanket Days to the Red Cross.

kits and blankets were donated to the Red Cross to aide victims of disasters in Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties.

PTK raised awareness and funds for various types of cancer this year. They helped raise Breast Cancer consciousness by setting up tables in the VisTaTech Center and offering information for women regarding breast cancer and early detection. By selling pink rubber bracelets to raise money for cancer awareness and research, they contributed \$400 to the American Cancer Society.

"Every single dollar really makes a difference in the fight against cancer," says Elizabeth Hasse, recording secretary of PTK. "I'm glad to have been a part of it."

PTK also participated in Relay for Life; this overnight event kept students jogging, running or walking on a track to raise money for awareness and research. Each team kept one person on the track at all times, and SC students successfully raised \$1,200 to use in the fight against cancer.

While this article could not be long enough to possibly cover all of the great contributions made by students this year, many student groups and individuals on campus deserve credit and praise for making it their responsibility to make the world a better place and touching the lives of others through community service projects.



PTK President Nicole Nader with the assistance of Connection Editor in Chief John Parsell sell Mardi Gras beads to School Daze DJ Joe Monge in effort to raise funds for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

The 'history' of a great professor

■ Robert Briggs teaches in unconventional ways

PROFESSOR PROFILE

BY JOHN PARSELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

From American Contemporary History to Ancient World, Professor Robert Briggs knows his stuff. A 39 year veteran of the college, he has taught every history class offered at Schoolcraft, as well as philosophy, his forte in college.

"My college major was philosophy," says Briggs. "But as it happened one summer, I was laid up in bed for a week with nothing around to read except a book about the French Revolution."

He then started working his way systematically, back and forth from 1789, from France to the rest of Europe and eventually, the rest of the world.

"I thought hmmm, this is great stuff, this history," says Briggs. "I already knew quite a bit about the central episode of U.S. history—the Civil War, and with my limited imagination, and at my age, it never occurred to me to do anything with it but teach it."

Briggs was born and grew up in Vermont, and still has two sisters and a brother living there. He also has a sister and a brother who live in Washington State. In 1966, he graduated from Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, and in 1967, earned a Master of Arts in Teaching from the Johns Hopkins University.

"I taught for half a year in Baltimore, Maryland, and then came to Schoolcraft," says Briggs. He admits that, "I can't say that I

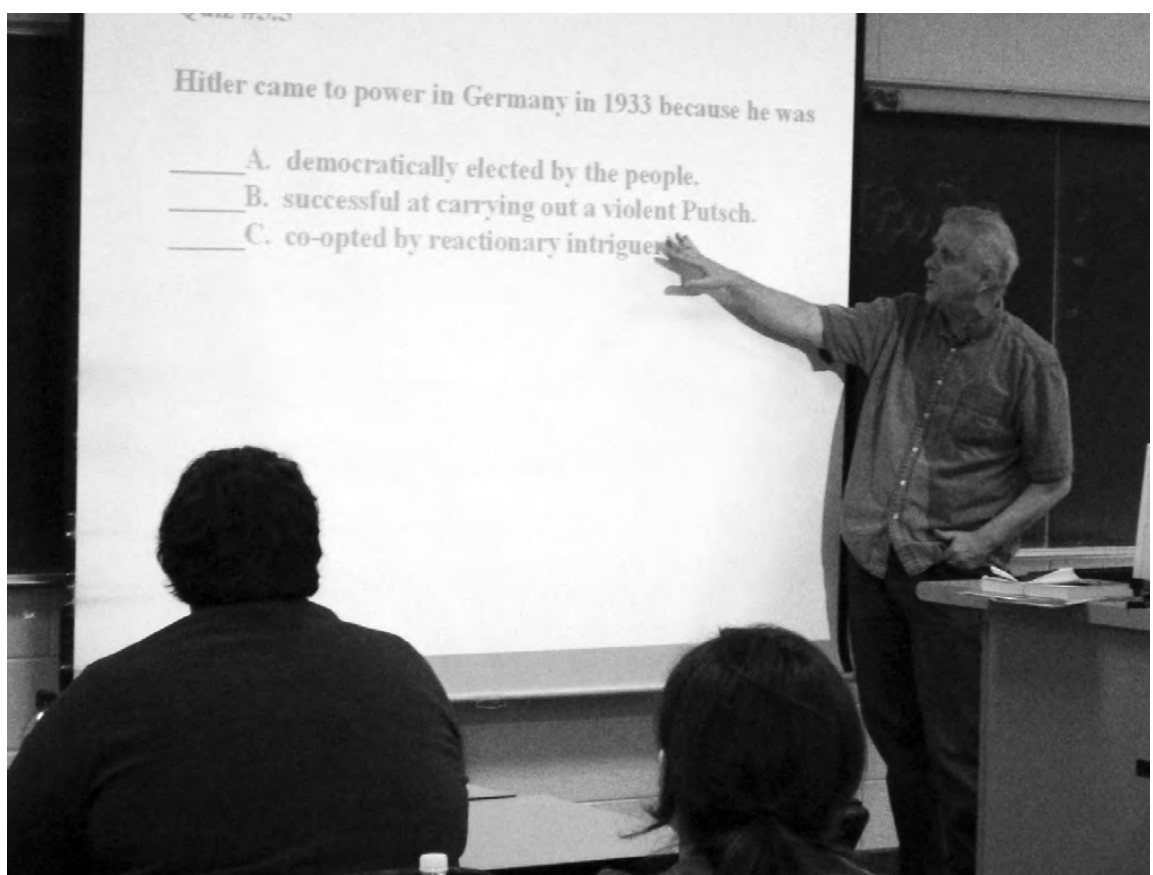


Photo by Constance Johnson

Professor Robert Briggs uses lecture to educate students on the topics of history.

See Briggs PAGE 11



Photo by Constance Johnson

Laura Stanton settles into her position as premier AmeriCorps* VISTA in the CTC Office in the McDowell Center.

Laura Stanton named premier AmeriCorps* VISTA

■ Service learning opportunities offer scholarships

By ANGELA BELCHER
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Laura Stanton was recently named the premier AmeriCorps*VISTA. Americorps is a volunteer organization which is similar to the PeaceCorps, only a domestic version. They assist with Habitat for Humanity, disaster relief, homeland security, youth enhancement and Senior Corps.

The main focus is to benefit low-income families and high-risk youth by recruiting college students to get involved in mentoring and tutoring in reading, writing, math and self-esteem building.

Stanton is not new to the campus— she has been a part-time student for five years and has taken an

See Stanton PAGE 11

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Students who would like to expand their leadership skills and become actively involved in the college community should join SAB. Meetings are held every Friday at 12:30 p.m. in the Student Activities Office, located in the Lower Waterman Wing of the VisTaTech Center. All students are invited to join. To find out more information, contact the SAB by calling (734) 462- 4422 or e-mailing ScraftSAB2005@yahoo.com.

Video Production Club

Students interested in working in media should take advantage of the hands-on opportunities that are available through the Video Production Club, where gaining real world experience is a major feature of the group. Members will be trained to work with editing, sound, computer graphics, camera work and production. Interested students should attend meetings, which are held every Thursday at 5 p.m. in the Media Center of the Bradner Library. Call (734) 462-4422 for more details.

Honors Society-Phi Theta Kappa Omicron Iota Chapter

St. Leo's Soup Kitchen

Help PTK and the SAB feed the less fortunate at St. Leo's Church in Detroit. All volunteers should meet on

Sat. May 27, at 8 a.m. in the Lower Waterman Wing of the VisTaTech Center.

Christian Challenge Club

Attend a Bible study and eat free pizza with your fellow students. Christian Challenge meets every Thursday at noon in the Livonia campus' Henry's Food Court.

The Schoolcraft Connection

The Schoolcraft Connection is looking for writers, editors and photographers to work on next years staff. All those interested should fill out an application in the SAO, or contact Editor in Chief, John Parsell at (734) 462- 4422. Students will be paid for their contributions.

Otaku Anime Club

Attend a social gathering where you can watch anime (some which are not yet released in the U.S.) on a projector screen. Admission is free and membership is not needed. The anime club will meet April 29, from 5 to 10 p.m. in the Lower Waterman student lounge.

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Winners of Pythagorean Prize Announced



Photo by Rena Laverty

The 11th annual Pythagorean Prize were awarded to Scott Cox (left) and Daniel Lambert (right) for being the top two math students at Schoolcraft.

■Top math students to be awarded at annual reception

By KATIE RUDOLPH
STAFF WRITER

The awardees of the 11th annual Pythagorean Prize, an award for the college's top two math students will be rightfully recognized today for all their hard work and perseverance so far in their college careers.

This year's first prize winner is third-year student Daniel Lambert. Second prize was awarded to Scott Cox, who is also in his third year at the college. They will receive their prizes at the annual reception for the Pythagorean Prize.

The reception will be held today from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. in room 200 of the McDowell Center. Everyone is invited to attend this event, and there will be food and drinks available.

Simply qualifying for the Pythagorean Prize is no easy feat. To be eligible, a student must be completing or have completed at least three math courses at SC, with at least one class at Math 150 or above; have an overall GPA of at least 3.25; and have a GPA in math courses of at least 3.5. In addition,

candidates are evaluated based on involvement in activities at the college, especially math-related activities; as well as a typed statement that is required along with the application.

As winner of second prize, Cox will enjoy a \$500 check from the Schoolcraft Foundation, the engraving and ordering of an individual plaque as well as a permanent plaque for display in the LA building and a winner certificate; presented by Denise Sigworth, Dean of Instruction.

Lambert, however, will receive a \$1,000 check, the engraving and ordering of an individual plaque as well as a permanent plaque for display in the LA building and a winner certificate; presented by SC President Dr. Conway Jeffress.

Math instructor Larry Williams says that the job of choosing only two winners was quite difficult this year for the Pythagorean Prize Committee. "This was a particularly challenging year, we had a lot of candidates who were really close."

Randy Schwartz, also a math instructor, was very impressed with the winners' good

performance and interest in math. "Their grades in math courses and on exams have been awesome, but even more, both Dan and Scott have a real interest in math and in how it gets applied to different fields." Schwartz was particularly impressed with Lambert's inherent curiosity about math. "Dan, in particular, has found shortcut ways to do things, and in his work and wonderings he has asked me very challenging mathematical questions outside of class. It's wonderful to have students like that."

Lambert says he plans on using the money from his award to help pay for school in the fall. He plans on transferring to the University of Michigan-Dearborn, where he will major in Electrical Engineering and possibly minor in Engineering Mathematics.

Cox also plans on using the money for college. "There is no question; the money will go towards the continuation of my education." He too is finishing his third year, and plans on majoring in Mechanical Engineering with another possible major in Mathematics.

Lambert is very grateful for having won the Pythagorean Prize. "It's a great payoff, I never thought I would see a benefit to all of my hard work until after I graduated," says Lambert. "I have always been good at math, but only recently started to put my all into my schoolwork. It's nice to receive recognition for something math-related."

For Cox, the biggest reward of the prize was not monetary. "Winning this award has been the highlight of my educational experience thus far. The cash award is great and will help pay for my education; however the validation of all my hard work is the most rewarding part of the prize."

For extra money during school, 21 year old Lambert tutors math, physics and engineering at the Learning Assistance Center. During the summer, however, he does construction work full time. He someday hopes to own a business and to find success in the field of Electrical Engineering. He also does extensive work in computer programming, both for school and for his own benefit. In the little free time he has, he enjoys spending time with his friends, playing the guitar and snowboarding.

Cox is not a typical college student. He

is 33 years old, and has been married to his high school sweetheart for thirteen years. He also owned his own concrete corporation for eight years. After the company hit a plateau, he decided to close his business and pursue a degree. His current job is as a supervisor for a landscape contractor, but after he earns his degree he hopes to work as a mechanical engineer in an automotive or aerospace firm. He enjoys golfing, hunting and sports in general.

It is difficult to imagine that Lambert once was considering not going to college. "I didn't see college really paying off. My interests strayed away from math and school for a while during high school, and it was kind of difficult once I entered college to regain my math aptitude," says Lambert. The hardest part, he says, about getting this far was taking two five-credit math classes at once last semester, along with three other classes. "It requires a lot of discipline and good time-management skills."

Cox agrees with Lambert about the large amount of schoolwork. "Trying to find a balance between work, school and being a good husband is challenging. The work involved, especially in the math sequence, has translated to many sacrifices concerning work, family and leisure time."

Schwartz considers both students to be successful at school and elsewhere. "It's a little unusual for 'evening students' to take top honors in this contest. Dan and Scott, like many evening students, have had to juggle their schoolwork alongside paying jobs and, in Scott's case, supporting a family. It says a lot about these fellows that they've been able to do so exceptionally well in school as well as in their outside lives."

Williams hopes that both students will continue to pursue education in math. "We give them this money with the hope and expectation that they use it for math-related courses in the future," says Williams.

Even though only two of the ten qualified applicants were chosen as winners, the other eight students who qualified for the prize will also receive recognition at the reception. "There are not a whole lot of people who even qualify," says Williams. "We feel that if a student qualifies, then they really should be recognized also."

Kelly has high 'Hope' for life

■Vice President of Hallmarks strives to make a difference

OFFICER PROFILE

By ANGELA BELCHER
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

An active student around campus this year, Kelly Hope has been taking prerequisites to become a nurse, working hard as a member of the Scholars Honors Program and serving as the Vice President of Hallmarks for the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society.

Two years ago, Kelly was looking for community service projects to become involved in and found PTK the perfect fit. This year, she held the position of Vice President of Hallmarks.

"Kelly is a very compassionate person," says Nicole Nader, President of PTK. "She really works hard and contributes a lot to our group."

"I think we have accomplished a lot this year," says Hope. "I hope that we have helped

the school and the greater community with our efforts."

She has been a part of the Scholars Honors Program for one year, and only has two more classes until completion of the program. The program targets students who are highly motivated and dedicated and requires them to take on a harder workload.

"I have really enjoyed being a part of it," says Hope. "It has forced me to stretch myself a bit."

Something that she is really passionate about is conservation. "I am committed to help making this world a better place to live in and conserving the limited resources that we have," she says. "I want to spread that message to others."

The person whom she most admires is U2 front man, Bono, because he uses his fame to make a difference in the world.

"I am inspired by all that he does for people in need," says Hope. On a smaller level, she would like to accomplish the same.

She grew up in St. Clair Shores, MI and lived there until she went off to college.

In September of 2004, she married her husband, Randy—a consultant/trainer for



Photo by Andy Brown

PTK Vice President of Hallmarks Kelly Hope works the PTK orientation back in February.

See Hope PAGE 11

“Briggs” continued from PAGE 8

ever wanted to be a ‘professor,’ exactly— we didn’t use that title until quite recently, but I did know I wanted to teach history.”

Teaching by way of mostly lecture and discussion, Briggs likes to use visual aids such as slides and especially, maps.

“I encourage students to make comments and ask questions,” he says. “I also spend a lot of time outside of class scaring up visual materials for slides, reading and researching and trying to figure what to put in, what to leave out and what order to put things in.”

Briggs hardly uses a textbook, giving the class a more unconventional method of learning. “Professor Briggs has a unique way of explaining things,” says first year student Amanda Searls. “His lectures and classes in general are so much fun.”

Briggs says he tries not to get too wrapped up in military conflict, or what he calls “History-Channel Syndrome,” and that he avoids spending too much time on academically fashionable questions of gender and race, among others.

“I try to get students to appreciate the material conditions of life in the past,” says Briggs. “What would it have looked like, sounded like, smelled like. The history of words, terms and concepts fascinates me.”

Married for 33 years to his wife Char— which was a student of his, Briggs has one son, who is a local realtor. He enjoys traveling, camping and especially winter sports.

“Char comes from a family of professional ice skaters,” says Briggs. “My son is a snowboarder, and I like to ski.” Aside from his winter recreations, he is likely to be immersing himself in some subject or another.

“Hope” continued from PAGE 10

a software company. They look forward to their upcoming three year anniversary.

Hope has already achieved a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Wayne State University, and is very proud of completing her first degree.

“I took several years off in the middle of getting it and eventually made my way back to school to finish,” says Hope. “It really does make a difference in my life having accomplished that.”

She is taking classes at Schoolcraft to fulfill pre-nursing requirements, so that she can begin nursing school in the fall. After completing her nursing degree, she plans to continue with graduate school for nursing anesthesia.

Currently, she works as a research assistant in the Cognitive Neuroscience of Aging Lab at Wayne State.

In her spare time, she enjoys traveling with her husband, and visiting her nieces and nephews. She takes time out to relax by participating in activities such as reading, running, playing volleyball and doing pilates.

Hope is fluent in French and prides herself on being a “really good cook.” She can play instruments such as the flute, piccolo and a little piano. She also enjoys collecting baseball hats of any kind.

Her guilty pleasure is the television show, “Monster Garage,” and favorite movies are “Waking Ned Devine” and “House of Flying Daggers.” She enjoys listening to U2, which in her eyes, is the best band.

In ten years, Hope would like to be enjoying her career as an anesthetist after completing her Ph.D. and possibly teach nursing students. She hopes to have a couple of children by then and would like to spend a lot of time traveling to exotic locations with the family.

“I’d also like to be living somewhere other than Michigan,” says Hope, “possibly Seattle or North Carolina.”

“Sometimes I try and teach myself a foreign language,” he says. “For awhile I studied aviation, and last year— for some reason which escapes me— I did a lot of reading about particle physics, especially [of course] its history.

Briggs says that he likes to challenge his students mentally and that the results are mixed, but always a work in progress.

“At what point in history did it become possible for people to think about ‘God’ or ‘revolution’ or ‘the media?’” says Briggs. “I like to get students thinking about questions like that.”

“Stanton” continued from PAGE 9

active roll in the college community. Starting out working with the CHIPS program through the Women’s Resource Center, she later became a tutor at the Radcliff Learning Assistance Center in a variety of subjects and assisted with office duties such as classroom presentations and testing.

With her new position, she is now responsible for recruiting students, instructors and staff to get involved in service learning and volunteerism. Stanton meets with current

and potential community partners in an effort to increase and maintain service learning projects, then matches partners with volunteers.

“The things I like most about this new position are the collaboration with students and faculty,” says Stanton. “I love going out to meet potential partners and assessing their needs.”

Currently, she is also the new site supervisor for the Michigan Service Scholars; a group of students who devote 300 hours of community service in one year and receive a \$1,000 educational award. Scholarships available for students begin this fall and can be used at any accredited college. Students may choose their own projects or organizations to work with, or they can be paired to programs with Stanton’s help. Depending on the project, some service learners can be paid employees while receiving service hours; many work study students qualify.

Stanton also intends to work with the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society and the Scholars Honors students in their community service and service learning projects.

Her most recent project includes partnering with the Wayne/Westland Family Resource Center for the Red Wagon Literacy out-reach program. Students are asked to donate new or gently used books, ages

pre-school through middle school with an emphasis on readers age 3-9. A red wagon has been placed in the McDowell center, while red boxes and barrels can be found throughout the other buildings.

After these books are collected, volunteers will pull these wagons through Nor-Wayne’s low income area and hand them out to children, along with bottled water, toothpaste and brushes. Volunteers are also needed for this aspect of the project.

“This is a great opportunity for students, staff and faculty to make a positive impact on a child’s life,” says Stanton.

Next year, she hopes to continue in this position and help build a larger, stronger Service Learning Department. However, with the minimal allowance offered by AmeriCorps, it is uncertain if that will be possible.

Stanton is looking forward to benefiting the community with her new position and is prepared to take on any challenges that may come her way. Stanton says, “I have always enjoyed working with people and helping others, so this is a great opportunity.”

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MUSIC REVIEW

Dissecting a chemical romance



"Life on the Murder Scene" turns out to be the typical double helix

BY ANDY BROWN
STAFF WRITER

The boys from My Chemical Romance have composed an intense live CD and DVD package titled, "Life on the Murder Scene." This compilation of rare performances, online shows, TV appearances and memorable music videos is delivered meaty and raw. With lead singer, Gerard Way, screaming "Open up those f-ing mosh pits right now! Come on open it up!!" the live CD commences and injects an accelerant across the airwaves.

The live tracks shove fast, thick cords down listeners' throats inducing a writhing infection that spreads from the bloodstream into the lungs. Coughing up far from polished lyrics become a common side effect. MCR's distinct high-speed aggressive sound hits harder in these live recordings. Building vocals violently detonate, guitars slice open new veins and drums heave through rough peaks. However, the cost of this rampant emotion are disfigured tracks characterized by off key screaming and smudged clarity. Each song is a power pill in itself, however, "Desert Song" a previously unreleased track, is downright gentle in comparison. An acoustic lullaby by nature, it is a subtle scream for salvation with a depressing undercurrent. "Did we all fall down?.../Spend the rest of your days /Rocking out just for the dead/Well tonight will it ever come?/All fall down/Well after all..."

Overall, the live CD provides the raw edge buffed out by production, songs strained by clenched teeth and an ecstatic energy that could be eaten with a spoon.

Chapter by chapter, a diary recorded in DVD peels back the flesh and exposes the youthful inexperience driving the Jersey five. From early beginnings, surprising influences, the origin of the band name, slowly the perception of My Chemical Romance transforms into an anti-rock and roll theme. Drugs, girls and groupies are frowned upon; respect and not selling out are golden rules that govern the direction of the band. They have a point



'Thank you for Smoking' provides satirical brazenness

Newcomer Reitman knows how to make a first impression

BY TRAVIS GRAND
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Being the son of acclaimed filmmaker, Ivan Reitman ("Animal House," "Ghostbusters"), it is probably safe to assume that Jason Reitman spent most of his adolescent days hanging out on movie sets, taking notes. With his debut film titled "Thank You for Smoking," a new comedy that satirizes the big business of tobacco, it seems as though Reitman is following in his father's footsteps.

Written and directed by Reitman, the movie stars Aaron Eckhart as Nick Naylor, a chief spokesman for Big Tobacco whose day job consists of advocating cigarette usage to any and every demographic, including elementary students and cancer patients. As one might already assume, Naylor has very little friends; in fact, with the exception of firearms lobbyist Bobby Jay Bliss (David Koechner, "Anchorman") and alcohol lobbyist Polly Bailey (Maria Bello), the two members that complete the dynamic threesome called the "MOD Squad," Naylor is detested by the entire general public.

Officially known as "Merchants of

Death," the MOD Squad assembles together at a local diner once a week, where they sit, have a bite to eat and quibble over whose product kills more people: alcohol, guns or cigarettes.

For Naylor, the tobacco business is exceptionally lucrative, and he takes pleasure in his lavish life-style that is comprised of luxuries like expensive suits, private jets and a posh bachelor pad. However, lately business has been on the decline, and it is up to Naylor to make cigarettes cool again.

From there, he is flown out to Hollywood to meet with big wig movie executive Jeff Megall, played by Rob Lowe ("West Wing"). Naylor and Megall share the same egocentric attitude—they are both more than willing to use and defile other people in order to better their situation. As a result, they immediately mesh. Together, the two evildoers ruminate over possible ways to get cigarettes back in motion pictures, and finally, they turn out a blockbuster premise that deals with "cigarettes in space," while suggesting big-name stars such as Brad Pitt and Catherine Zeta-Jones for the leads.

In the midst of doing all of this, Naylor becomes intimately involved with Heather

Holloway, played by Katie Holmes ("Batman Begins"), a seductive news reporter who is doing a feature on the front man and voice for Big Tobacco. Utilizing all of her "assets," Holloway builds a close relationship with Naylor, conning him in to revealing information that he thinks is off the record, and then going behind his back by publishing it all in her article.

In an attempt to free himself from the defamation brought on by Holloway, Naylor must take his cigarette defense to a congressional hearing and honor his product against anti-smoking lobbyist and senator of Vermont, Ortolan Finistierre, played by William H. Macy.

"Thank You for Smoking" is a well written film that is both smart and fresh. There is a certain offbeat quality to the dialogue that has the ability to make the viewer question, "did he just say that?" For instance, in one particular scene, Naylor is having a conversation with his son, Joey (Cameron Bright, "Godsend"). Joey is working on an essay for school, and he asks his father, "why is the American government the best government?" Naylor then replies, "because of our endless appeals system."

Probably the one aspect that makes this film work is its ruthlessness. It is crude, offensive and politically incorrect, but it does not try to hide any of that. The honesty is what gives the movie its flavor; every character is content with their own moral turpitude, and they are all out to serve themselves, which, in an odd way, boasts a likable quality in each one.


Aside from the writing, the film brings together an impressive ensemble, including cameos from Sam Elliot, who plays a retired Marlboro man that is dying of cancer (even in his cameos he is typecast as a cowboy); and Robert Duvall, the "Godfather" of the tobacco business.

At its very best, "Thank You for Smoking" is an excellent satire, and the main objective that it accomplishes is simple: cigarettes are ridiculous.



(From left to right) Alcohol lobbyist Polly Bailey (Bello), firearms lobbyist Bobby Jay Bliss (Koechner), and tobacco lobbyist Naylor (Eckhart) come together as the "M.O.D Squad."

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“My Chemical Romance” continued from PAGE 14

to their music; they sing to save lives, using metaphors to tell a story.

In its entirety, “Life on the Murder Scene” shows how a handful of talented guys were utterly unprepared for success, hung on for their lives and are still trying to figure out where they are going to land. The DVD lacks the wrenching hook, the unique unknown revelations that connect with angst ridden fans. The combo does not breathe new life into this monster, rather it keeps the blood flowing.

They become the awkward superheroes they drew in their comic books, and transform into little kids when they play kickball before their set. Perfect for the obsessive fan, however, this transfusion will be rejected by most blood types.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



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Stephen McCauley will read from and discuss his new book, "Alternatives to Sex" before the show.

The Michigan Theater is located at 603 East Liberty Street in Ann Arbor. For more information, please call the Michigan Union Ticket Office at (734) 763-TKTS, or visit www.michtheater.org.

MUSIC



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McLean's Late goal eliminates Whalers, 4-3, in West Semi-Finals



Mike McLean's goal with 3:02 remaining in regulation snapped a 3-3 tie and the Guelph Storm defeated the Plymouth Whalers, 4-3, in an Ontario Hockey League playoff game played Saturday night April 14 before 2,804 at the Guelph Sports and Entertainment Centre.

Guelph wins the best-of-seven Western Conference Semi-Final series, four-games-to-two, and advances to the Western Conference Finals against the London Knights, who eliminated Owen Sound in six games Saturday night with a 5-2 victory over the Attack.

Kelsey Wilson (6th of the playoffs), Rafael Rotter (4) and Ryan Callahan (7) also scored for Guelph. Tom Sestito (5), Jared Boll (2) and John Armstrong replied for Plymouth.

The game featured no more than a one-goal differential the entire game. Sestito gave Plymouth a 1-0 lead at 1:34 of the first period when linemates Gino Pisellini and Andrew Fournier worked well beneath the Guelph goal line and Fournier found Sestito out in front of the Guelph goal, who made no mistake in guiding the puck past Guelph goaltender Ryan MacDonald. Guelph tied the game at 1-1 at 3:40 of the period when Wilson scored from the left wing past Plymouth goaltender Justin Peters.

Plymouth took the lead at 2-1 at 4:07 of the second period when

Boll skated hard left wing into the Guelph zone and scored from the severe angle – left wing goal line – on a shot that caromed off MacDonald. Rotter tied the game on a Guelph power play at 15:05 of the period when he scored in tight by Peters.

Guelph took their first lead of the game at 5:15 of the third period when Callahan took Matt D'Agostini's pass from the right dot in the Plymouth scored deflected puck past Peters. But Armstrong came right back for Plymouth to tie the game at 3-3 twenty seconds later when he one-timed Boll's pass from behind the Guelph net from the right hash mark by MacDonald.

The Whalers appeared to take a 4-3 lead at 6:19 of the third period when Evan Brophey carried the puck over the Guelph line and passed to James Neal on the right wing. Plymouth put the puck in the net on a scramble in front of the Guelph goal, but referees Pat Smola and Ryan Carroll waved the goal off and sent Neal off on a penalty for goaltender interference.

That set the stage for McLean's game-winner, just two seconds after the Whalers had killed off a two-man Guelph power play, when he scored from the left hash mark.

Plymouth pulled goaltender Peters with 1:08 remaining and called a time-out with 4.9 seconds left and a faceoff in the Guelph zone. Boll had the last shot on MacDonald, who made the save.

Press release courtesy of the Plymouth Whalers



Photos by Rena Laverty

Whalers Jared Boll (7) attempts to put the puck past the Guelph goaltender in Game Five of the Western Conference Semi Final series.

NEAL'S HAT TRICK POWERS PLYMOUTH TO 5-2 PLAYOFF VICTORY OVER GUELPH



Whalers James Neal (19) is all smiles after he scores one of his three goals in game five.

James Neal had a hat trick and Andrew Fournier and Evan Brophey scored single goals as the Plymouth Whalers built a 5-0 lead after two periods of play and defeated the Guelph Storm, 5-2, in an Ontario Hockey league playoff game played on Friday April 14th before 2,804 at the Computware Sports Arena.

Guelph leads the best-of-seven series three-games-to-two, with Plymouth winning the last two games in the series.

For the second straight game, a Whaler forward scored a hat trick – and in each case, it was their first OHL playoff hat trick. Dan Collins did the trick Wednesday night in Plymouth's come-from-behind 4-3 victory in overtime for the Whalers' first victory of the series.

Matt D'Agostini (6) and Jason Pitton (4) scored third period goals for Guelph.

Guelph outshot Plymouth, 31-27. Guelph goaltender Ryan MacDonald – who started the game leading the OHL playoffs in goals against average (1.68) and save percentage (.949) – was lifted after forty minutes of play after stopping 14-of-19 Plymouth shots. Plymouth goaltender Justin Peters was steady as the game's third star, stopping 29-of-31 shots.

Plymouth won the battle of special teams, going 3-for-13 on the power play while going 4-for-5 against the Guelph power play.

The Whalers also won the battles in front of the Guelph net, with all goals coming on deflections or rebounds.

Fournier gave Plymouth a 1-0 lead with his fifth goal of the playoffs at 3:37 of the first period when he tipped Wes Cunningham's point shot by MacDonald. Neal's first goal of the game came on another power play at 19:15 of the first period when – stationed at the left wing side of the Guelph net – he tipped Steve Ward's shot from the point by MacDonald.

Neal's second goal of the game came at 1:54 of the second period when Fournier passed the puck in front of the Guelph goal. Storm defenseman Kyle Wharton tried to direct the puck back to MacDonald, but Neal jammed the puck into the goal. Brophey scored at 6:46 when Neal – in the left face-off dot in the Guelph zone – found Collins at the lower rim of the right circle. Collins passed in front to Brophey, who was denied on the first shot by MacDonald, but potted home the rebound for his fourth goal of the playoffs. Neal completed his hat trick (and team-leading ninth of the playoffs) when he tipped Collins' hard shot left the top of the left circle on the left wing side of the Guelph goal at 10:35 of the period.



Whalers John Armstrong (18) maneuvers the puck away from Guelph Storm defenseman Kyle Wharton (6).

Is a Schoolcraft bowling team on the horizon?

■Athletics Department pushes for addition

By **MIKE SIEGRIST**
MANAGING EDITOR

The MCCAAC will be partaking in one of their two annual meetings from June 5-7 at Shanty Creek Resort and Club in Traverse City to discuss the options and directions of the association. On the list will be the possibility of creating an additional option for student athletes.

A proposition to create college bowling teams will be voted on during the meeting. Schoolcraft hosted the September meeting of the directors on campus, at the McDowell Center, where the issue of sanctioning a conference bowling league was raised by Athletics Director Sid Fox.

"It would offer a chance to get more involved with SC," says fourth year engineering student Brian Stack. "It provides a chance to meet new people and experience a chance of a life time."

The proposal is congruent with the association's lists of objectives, by advancing the athletic interests of the Colleges of the Association.

According to the constitution, a sponsored sport in the MCCAAC must have a minimum of four member [schools] participating. Sports declarations must be made by each member at the spring/summer meeting. The sports sanctioned by the MCCAAC for the ensuing year will be determined at such meeting.

The organization is composed of traditional Schoolcraft competitors; Delta College, Grand Rapids Community College, Henry Ford Community College,

Lansing Community College, Macomb Community college, Mott Community College, Wayne County Community College, Oakland Community College and St. Clair County Community College, amongst others.

Fox insists there is interest in the organization to start open up bowling. "When I made the proposal back in September, for the league, there were 10-12 schools which claimed to be interested."

The National Junior College Athletics Association currently offers bowling to 20 competing schools, ranging from New York to Arizona. The season is aligned with other winter sports, with the national tournament culminating March 11, this past year.

An MCCAAC sanctioned bowling conference would allow for student athletes to compete on the regional and national levels, giving them the opportunity to compete for a national title. If the association votes for the proposal teams may be able to begin as early as next season.

In a recent survey conducted by the department, in association with the Schoolcraft Connection, 50 percent of those surveyed claimed they would be willing to participate.

Returning students that may be interested in bowling at Schoolcraft are asked to contact Fox at the Athletics Department by calling (734)464-5324.

"I would love to have the names of 10-15 students interested," says Fox. "It could be a real selling point when we meet this summer."



Photo by Rena Lavery

GETTING IN THE SWING OF THINGS

First year Schoolcraft golf team member, Adam Catallo, practices his swing. The team's season is currently underway.

2005-06 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYER HIGHLIGHTS



#10 LASHANDA THOMAS

LASHANDA THOMAS, a 5-7 guard was the NJCAA Division II Women's Basketball Player of the Week for Feb. 15, 2006. Thomas led the team to a 3-0 record during the week, which included wins over St. Clair County Community College (80-63) and Henry Ford Community College (94-61). On the week she averaged 21.0 pounds, 9.7 rebounds, 7.0 assists, 2.1 steals and 3.0 blocks per game.

Thomas competed for the MCCAAC Eastern Women All-Stars on March 12,

2006, playing five minutes, earning one block and leading the team to an 80-73 win over the Western Women All-Stars. Thomas was nominated to the MCCAAC Eastern Conference All-Freshman Team.

CHARLESE GREER is the Division II Women's Basketball Region Player of the Year. Greer, the 5-9 Sophomore Forward, ended the season ranked 10th in the Nation in scoring, averaging 20 points a game; and Geer's 59.2 shooting percentage was good enough place her 9th in the nation and earn her a spot on the

NJCAA first team All-Americans. Greer made the All-MCCAAC Women's Basketball Team and First Team All-MCCAAC Eastern Conference.

She competed for the MCCAAC



#40 CHARLESE GREER

Eastern Women All-Stars on March 12, 2006, playing 19 minutes, earning 7 rebounds and 13 points and leading the team to an 80-73 win over the Western Women All-Stars.

MARICKA SEAY, the 6-0 center was the NJCAA Division II Women's Basketball Player of the Week for Jan. 25, 2006. During that week Seay lead the third-ranked Ocelots to a 93-65 win over Henry Ford Community College and an 81-77 nail-biter over Kirtland Community College. In the Henry Ford win Seay had 30 points, 22 rebounds two assists and one steal, recording career highs in points and rebounds. She followed that with 20 points, 17 rebounds, three assists, two steals and one block against Kirtland. On the week she averaged 25.0 points, 19.5



Photos by Rena Lavery

#15 MARICKA SEAY

rebounds, 2.5 assists, 1.5 steals and .5 blocks per game.

Seay competed for the MCCAAC Eastern Women All-Stars on March 12, 2006, playing 19 minutes and earning 13 rebounds, seven points and leading the team to an 80-73 win over the Western Women All-Stars. Seay was nominated to the MCCAAC Eastern Conference All-Freshman Team.

Athletics Department conducts student survey

■ Intramural sports, a growing interest

By **MIKE SIEGRIST**
MANAGING EDITOR

According to a study completed by the Journal of College Student Development in 1999 titled, "Prediction of College Dropouts Using EDS Scores," "interactions with peers, including emotional support... can be critical for college success."

Student clubs, organizations and varsity sports are more traditional methods colleges have used to promote interaction amongst students, however, the Athletics Department is considering another alternative.

The department, through the Schoolcraft Connection, conducted a recent survey on intramural sports. Students were asked to answer questions regarding whether they would be willing to participate, what time and day would be convenient, what sports they would like to see offered and whether they feel comfortable playing on a co-ed team.

"It would be nice to isolate one night a

week for students," says Athletics Director Sid Fox.

36 Students turned in the survey at the Student Activities Office to be entered into a drawing held April 14. Two \$25 Schoolcraft gift cards were awarded to Heather Uribe and Jim Burke, a first year education major who plans on transferring to Eastern Michigan University. Burke expressed an interest in flag-football, as he had played on a team in the past.

"If Schoolcraft got something together I would play," says Burke.

The survey, conducted to find interest for the Athletics Department to pursue offering these activities, found that almost 92 percent of those who completed the survey would be interested in participating. The Evening was deemed the most convenient time for the intramurals, with over half those surveyed picking the slot.

Although sports such as dodge ball received the bulk of the votes with 22 and Bowling

coming in at a close second with 18, three-on-three basketball, walleyball, soccer, tennis and floor hockey were also on the list. The results are not to be considered as an indicator of what will be offered.

"The survey was created to see if there was a basic interest in intramurals," says Fox. "We are interested in learning what students want to participate in, as well."

Schoolcraft is following the lead of other community colleges in the area. Glen Oaks Community College of Centreville, MI offers intramural sport competition in table tennis, pool, basketball, volleyball and any other activity that has significant student interest. Wayne County Community College offers similar sports, adding baseball, bowling, soccer and softball. St. Claire County Community College offers the opportunity for intramural sports throughout the fall and winter semesters based upon student request and interest.

Participation is a factor in deciding whether to provide intramurals or not.

"We will try to do men's and women's (leagues)," Athletic Director of Delta

College, Chuck Lord, said. "If we do not have enough interest, we will allow women to play on men's teams." However, Monroe County Community College, who has offered intramural sports in the past, has done so through their student government. The school has offered both basketball and volleyball in the past and found involvement to vary from each semester.

"I have found that we have had better success in offering one night tournaments for the students," says MCCC Events/Fitness Coordinator Thomas Ryder. "If they have to commit to 6-8 weeks, they just don't seem to want to do it."

Fox hopes the survey will make students aware of the department's interest in intramurals and give an idea of how many want to get involved.

"I want to see students be able to get the most use out of the campus," says Fox. "I have said from the beginning that student haven't had enough access to the facilities and this is something that should be changed."

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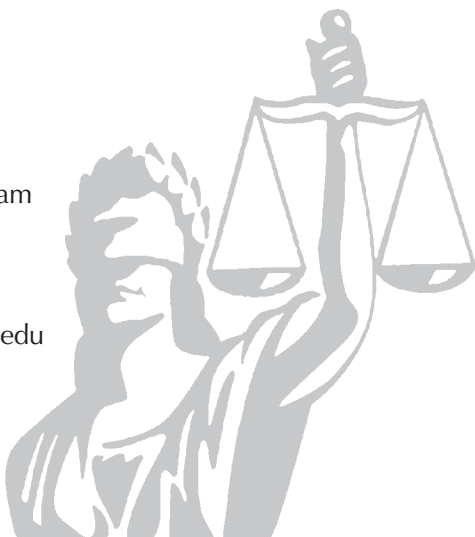
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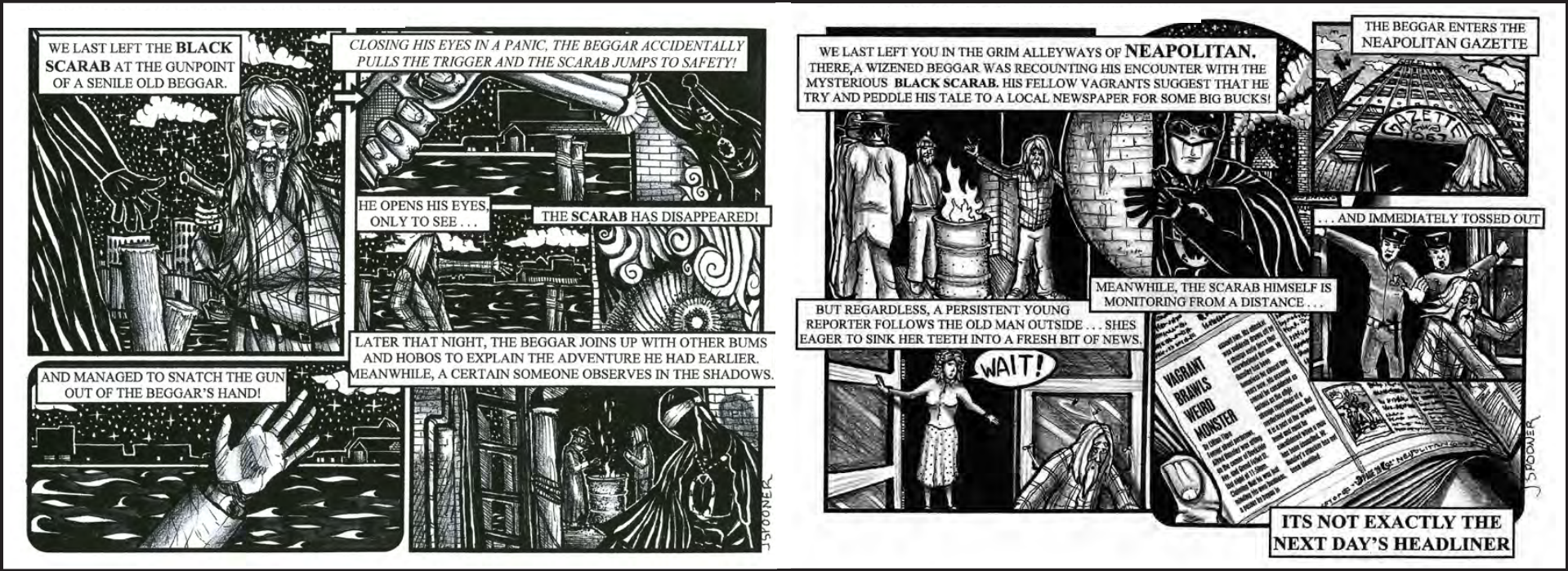
Crossword 101 Answers



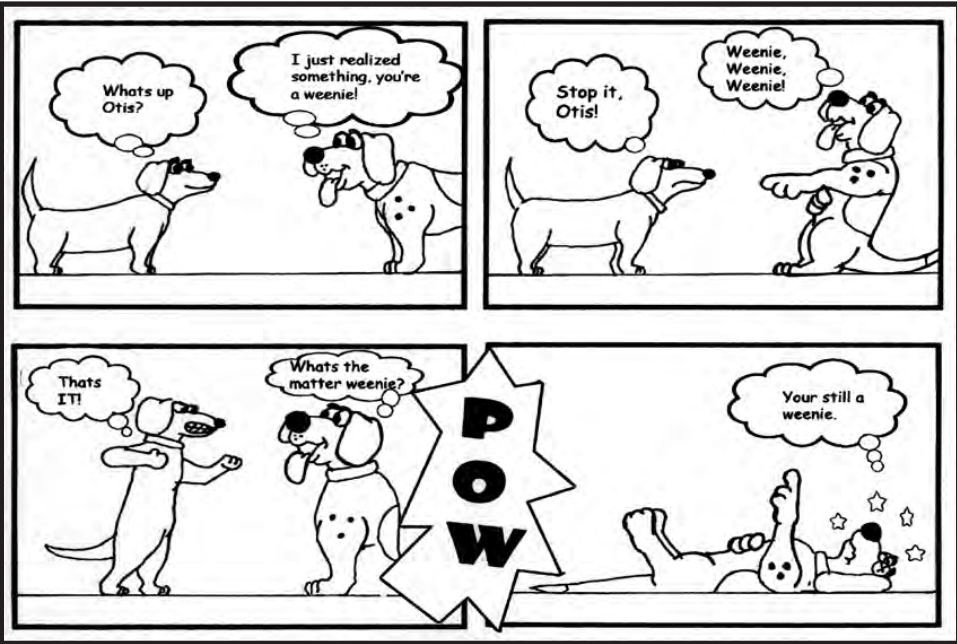
For Crossword Puzzle see **PAGE 23**

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THE BLACK SCARAB BY JOSH SPOONER



BABY AND THE BEAGLE BY STEVE MARKEY



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Crossword 101

By Ed Canty

Seussically Speaking

Across

- 1 Sign of boredom
- 5 Wound seriously
- 9 Precedes test or rain
- 13 Boston Pops need
- 14 Style of dancing
- 15 Stand up
- 16 Seuss classic
- 19 Moth-eaten
- 20 Conform
- 21 Sanctioned
- 22 Moody
- 23 Actor Joel
- 24 Help
- 27 God of love
- 28 Precedes Gen.
- 31 Cyclist Armstrong
- 32 Totem pole, e.g.
- 33 State of Unconsciousness
- 34 Seuss classic
- 37 Elderly
- 38 Bass offerings
- 39 Scene of action
- 40 At all times
- 41 NFL players
- 42 Handsome youth
- 43 Kissing disease
- 44 Dog paddle
- 45 Acid neutralizer
- 48 Mark
- 49 Convulsive gasp
- 52 Seuss classic
- 55 Pennsylvania's lake
- 56 Basketball player
- 57 Fence piece
- 58 State of disorder
- 59 Word before control or defense
- 60 Nautical mile

Down

- 1 Ma, for one
- 2 Early victim
- 3 Microsoft program
- 4 Surfing spot
- 5 Liturgical headdress
- 6 Pasty-faced
- 7 Pub staple
- 8 Big name in communications
- 9 Arrangement
- 10 Urban center
- 11 Pines, for one
- 12 Achievement
- 14 First appearance
- 17 Unbind
- 18 Hawaiian guitars
- 22 Prepared the potatoes
- 23 144
- 24 Seaweed
- 25 Beetle Bailey's boss
- 26 Expression of contempt
- 27 Borders
- 28 Songwriter Leonard _____
- 29 Muscat native
- 30 Buddhist monks
- 32 Iditarod sight
- 33 Computer feature
- 35 Salary
- 36 Zenith opposites
- 41 Sport or shirt
- 42 Accolade
- 43 Partners
- 44 Neckwear
- 45 Used to attract attention
- 46 Acquired knowledge
- 47 Songwriter Kristofferson
- 48 Barking performer
- 49 Precedes dive or song
- 50 The Buckeye State
- 51 Door lock
- 53 Tinge
- 54 Boat

Quotable Quote

Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind.

• • • Dr. Seuss

By GFR Associates ••• Visit our web site at www.gfrpuzzles.com

For Answers see **PAGE 19**

HOROSCOPES:



Aries
Mar 21- Apr 19

Do not rush something that requires care, you may have to go back and do it over again. It will be important to avoid the temptation to succumb to take shortcuts.



Libra
Sep 23- Oct 22

You will be able to approach situations that are both practical and emotional in a focused and balanced way. Therefore, now is an excellent time to consider decisions that need to be made.



Taurus
Apr 20- May 20

Find any excuse to take a break in order to remind yourself not to overextend your energies. You don't have to say "yes" to everyone. The ability to say "no" will be of great value in the coming days.



Scorpio
Oct 23- Nov 21

While it is true that many hands make light work, this does not apply in your personal life. Sitting idly by and waiting for someone to help you with your problems will prove futile. Take action now!



Gemini
May 21- Jun 21

You will be faced with mundane tasks throughout your business and personal life. They may seem monumental and frightfully boring, but don't put them off.



Sagittarius
Nov 22- Dec 21

If you are seeking romance, you will not have to look very hard. If you seek simply more comfort, it will come to you.



Cancer
Jun 22- Jul 22

Your intuition is abundant and your logic is operating at a high level. It will be easy to understand what you must do in every situation and execute it quickly. You might find a talent of which you were never aware of before.



Capricorn
Dec 22- Jan 19

Now is the perfect time to work on a particular setback that you have been ignoring, or letting slide. Remove anything that stands in the way of who you want to become.



Leo
Jul 23- Aug 22

There is something you want, but one way or another, the universe is not yet letting you have it. However, there is something else that will more then compensate for this and which is clearly available.



Aquarius
Jan 20- Feb 18

The truth doesn't always have to hurt. Sometimes it inspires, uplifts and liberates. There is no guarantee that your brush with the truth will be pain-free, but don't bother guarding yourself from it either.



Virgo
Aug 23- Sep 22

When dealing with people over the next few days, you will find skills you never knew you had. Use them by catching up on correspondence, transacting any needed business and tacking care of any issues that require tact and diplomacy.



Pisces
Feb 19- Mar 20

You will have a deeper insight into an issue that has been plaguing you lately. Act on this revelation and a much needed change will occur. This will greatly improve your outlook on life.

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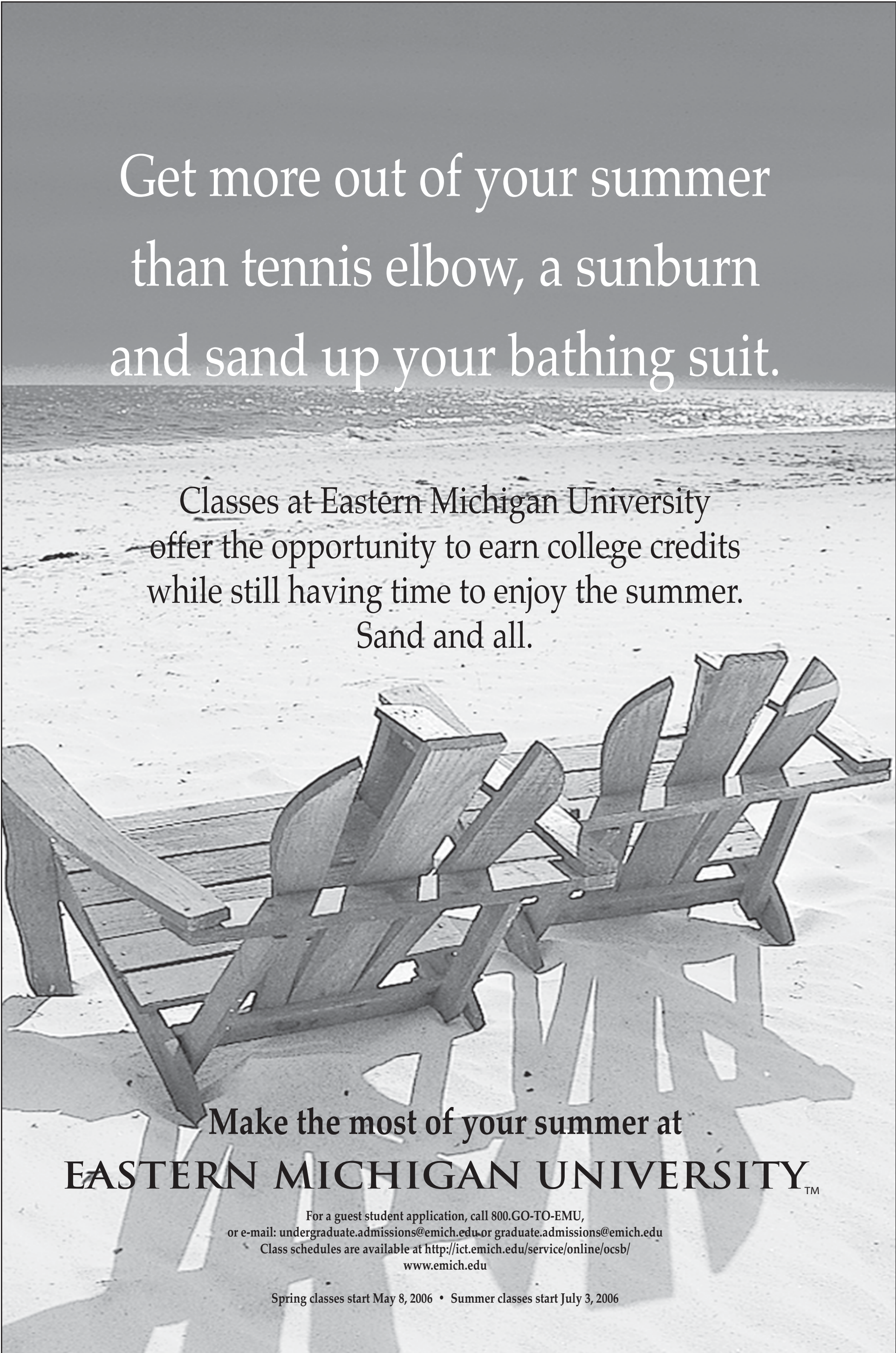
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(Left to Right) Bryce Calka, Robin Calka, Taylor Vitori and Diane Calka enjoy a delicious pancake and sausage breakfast together before meeting the Easter Bunny.

BUNNY BREAKFAST

Photos by Rena Lavery

On Saturday April 15, 2006, the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society hosted its annual Bunny Breakfast in the VisTaTech Center's DiPonio Room. Nearly 150 children, parents, relatives and community members enjoyed a morning pancake breakfast followed by the arrival of the Easter Bunny. Children played games and won prizes, got their faces painted and entered coloring contests. Each child got the opportunity to meet the Easter Bunny and get a photo taken.



Eva Walton says goodbye to the Easter Bunny just before she leaves.



Three year old, Sean Klotz shows off prizes that he won playing the games.



Cloyee Muldoon gets her face painted like a bunny at the face painting table.



Bayleigh Sanders is focused as she colors her entry for the Bunny Coloring Contest.