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The Schoolcraft Connection

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 8

SERVING THE SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY FOR 19 YEARS

January 24, 2006

Learning institution or local bar?

■ Students caught drinking in lower Waterman

By **JOHN PARSELL**
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Final exams can put pressure on many students. This stress may have been too much for several students and at least one student, who was allegedly found intoxicated in the VisTaTech Center, Lower Waterman Wing on Dec. 14 2005, the week of finals.

According to a crime report released by the Public Safety Department at the college, in the area of the old Ocelot Grill, some

students were sitting at a table, with open liquor within reach. An unidentified student, whose name was not disclosed by the college, was "obviously under the influence of intoxicants, with a strong odor of alcohol on her breath, slurred speech, inability to walk straight and glassy eyes."

"When an officer responded to ascertain the facts of the situation, it was found that several people were seated at tables on the East end of the Lower Waterman area," says John Monge, director of public

safety. "There were open intoxicants on the table and one female appeared to be intoxicated."

While students can regularly be found in the Lower Waterman Wing relaxing between classes, Student Activities Technician Todd Stowell, says that he's never seen a problem quite like this one.

"We always keep an eye out for problems down here," says Stowell. "I've never seen anything like this happen before."

Many students that frequent the Lower Waterman Wing are also

shocked by the news of the presence of alcohol on campus.

"I think it was stupid and ruined the atmosphere down here [Lower Waterman Wing] for a lot of people," says Jacqueline Seybert, third year finance student. "Now they're [the college] closing the Waterman down early so we can't stay here late."

Seybert says that she usually works at 10 p.m. on Thursday's and now, has nowhere to go before work starts.

"I can't go home because it's a half-hour drive both ways," says Seybert. "Plus I don't have the money for gas to get me there. I'm

stuck without a place to hang out; they ruined the Waterman for a lot of people."

The seemingly intoxicated student's mother was notified by public safety officers and arrived approximately 20 minutes later, taking her daughter home. During that time frame, the female student vomited repeatedly on the floor.

Seybert questions the officer's decision to call home rather than seek professional assistance.

"That's the stupidest thing I've

See *Drinking on Campus* on
PAGE 2



THEY GOT GAME

Photo by Rena Laverty

Schoolcraft forward Amanda Crouse (24) muscles her way past an Alpena defender. The Ocelots have had an impressive season so far with a 15-1 record and are currently ranked third in the nation by the National Junior College Athletic Association polls for Division II Women's Basketball. Check out the Photo Story on page 24 as we salute their accomplishments.

Internet textbook market continues to grow

■ More and more students buy online

By **HEATHER HYATT**
NEWS EDITOR

With the start of a new semester, students across campus will be purchasing books for their classes. The most obvious place to do that is at the campus bookstore. However, buying textbooks online from websites such as Amazon.com or eBay.com is becoming increasingly more popular, due to rising textbook prices.

A July 2005 report by the United States Government Accountability Office titled "College Textbooks: Enhanced Offerings Appear to Drive Recent Price Increases," states the price of textbooks has increased 6% a year and has practically tripled from December 1986 to December 2004.

Students can save money by purchasing used books from the internet and at times can save up to \$50 off the new list price.

Recently, this paper compared a set of four used books' prices at three websites to the price that the college's bookstore offers and found remarkable differences. "Statistics: A First Course Eight Edition" by John E. Freund and Benjamin Perles was priced at

\$78.75 used in the bookstore. At Amazon.com the book starts at \$50, at Half.com, a subsidiary site of eBay, it is as low as \$45.41. The bookstore's price for "Public Speaking for College and Career" by Hamilton Gregory is \$50.05, while Amazon.com has it for sale starting at \$49.50 and Half.com has it up for \$28.

Additionally, the bookstore offers "Infants, Children and Adolescents Fifth Edition" by Laura Berk for \$72.75. Amazon.com has it on sale starting at \$65 and Half.com has it starting at \$76.

The bookstore sells "Exploring Psychology Sixth Edition" by David G. Myers for \$44.60, while Amazon.com has it at \$42.26 and Half.com at \$39.32.

When comparing used book prices online, it really depends on the book and what the seller is willing to accept. Also, sites such as BarnesandNoble.com are going to have higher prices as they are retailers and are not going to go as low as the sellers at Half.com will.

"I use Half.com," says Mary Huff, second year student. "I can

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“Drinking on Campus” | continued from PAGE 1

ever heard,” says Seybert. “I’m pretty sure most of them [the students involved] were underage and I definitely know that the girl drinking alcohol was underage. To call her mom and wait for her to show up rather than calling an ambulance right away— that’s really dumb. She could’ve died by the time her mom got here, whereas an ambulance could’ve gotten here and taken her to a hospital, and then they could’ve called her mom.”

However, Monge states that the responding officer was a certified Emergency Medical Technician, and that the decision was made by that officer that this was the appropriate course of action.

This does not take into consideration that the State of Michigan has a “Zero Tolerance Policy” regarding underage drinking. Also the college’s Alcohol policy (#2007) stipulates that all students, faculty, staff and visitors must observe State laws regarding the use of alcohol on campus.

“As Director of Public Safety, I would normally anticipate that the appropriate police department would be notified if a crime is committed on campus,” says Monge. “The responding officer made a decision to turn the student over to the mother as opposed to calling the police. This was based on the facts and circumstances as observed at the time of the event.”

According to college administrator, Cheryl M. Wright, dean of student services, a meeting was held with public safety officials to discuss methods to prevent another occurrence of this nature. However, she refused to comment on the situation any further, stating that the college is working on the situation and has a Student Code of Conduct to address matters of this nature.

“One of the things that we have done is to discuss the matter with our Public Safety officials,” says Wright. “They have agreed to increase the frequency of patrols of the lower Waterman area.”

The Student Code of Conduct prohibits any student from partici-

pating in “illegal use, possession, or distribution of alcoholic beverages, narcotics, or controlled/illicit substances, or public intoxication” while on campus or at campus events. The results of infractions of this code can end a student’s Schoolcraft College career.

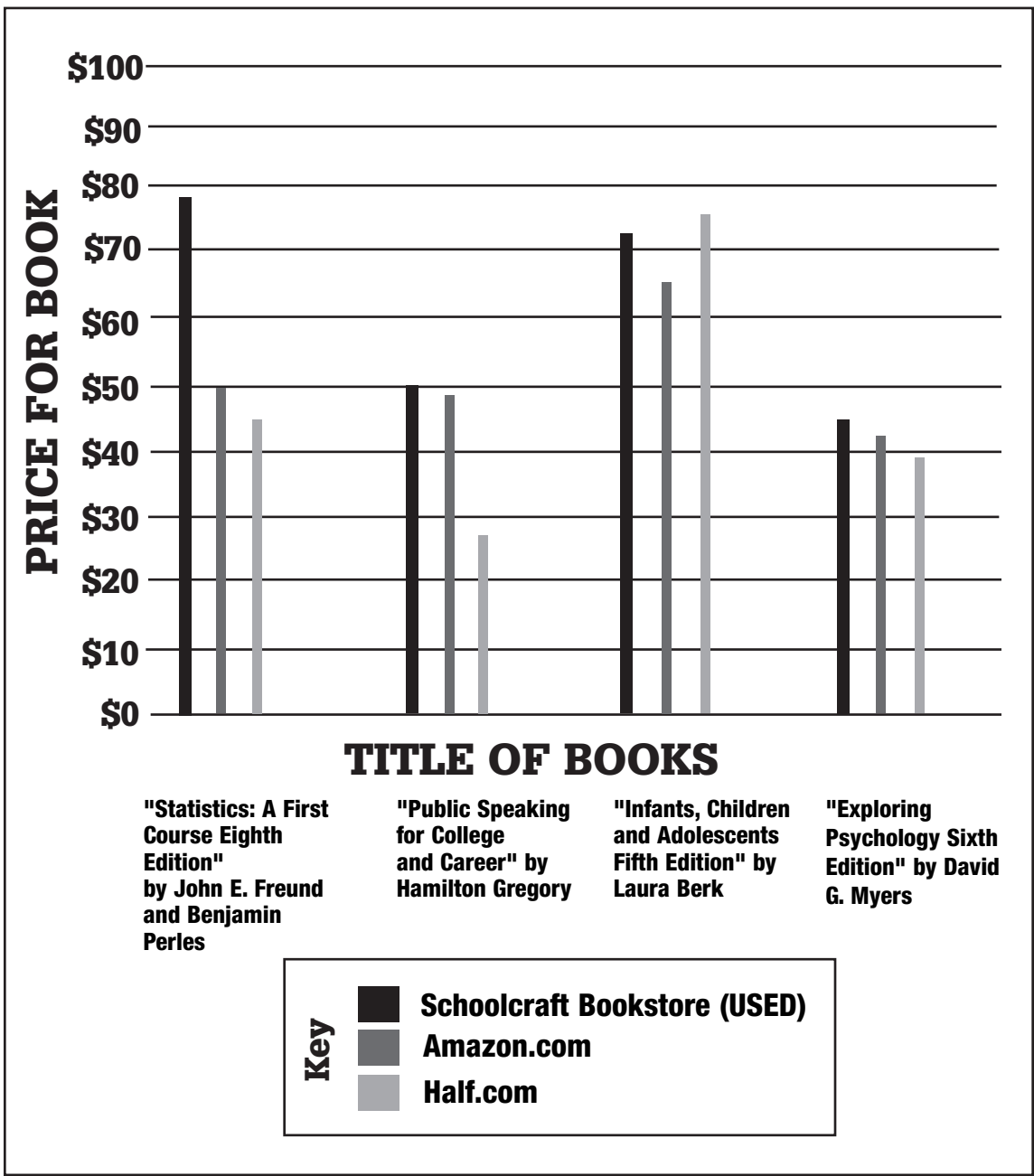
Monge adds that student discipline charges are pending against the students involved in this situation which could lead to sanctions up to and including dismissal from the college for those involved.

Nonetheless, this may not be enough to prevent this type of situation in the future, as according to Seybert — this is a pretty normal occurrence.

“Based on things I’ve seen down here, they [the people involved in the incident] were acting like drunken idiots all semester long,” she says. “I’ve heard rumors that they had been drunk all semester, and it’s just that nobody caught on.”

Stowell says that while there is always a chance that events like this could happen again, keeping an eye out for the signs of it is crucial.

“We saw what was going on back there that day and we just have to keep an eye out for circumstances like that in the future,” he says. “Also, Public Safety has agreed to do more patrols which will help the situation. Hopefully, these steps are enough to prevent this from happening again.”



“Textbooks” | continued from PAGE 1

buy a book for a quarter of the price, sometimes half the price; it just depends on the book.”

According to Jim Polkowski, executive director of business services and risk management, the price of a book is affected by what goes with it. If the book has CD-ROMs or study manuals, the book is going to be pricier.

“One main thing to remember when searching for textbooks on the web is to make sure the right edition and all the materials for the book meet the requirements of the class,” says Polkowski.

The easiest way to make sure the correct version of the text is being purchased is to use the ISBN

number on the back of the book when searching online instead of using the author or title.

According to Polkowski, when ordering books students should use websites that are legitimate and secure and have a method of payment because it is easy to get scammed, not receiving the book or receiving the wrong one.

The GAO’s report states the textbook market is quite complicated involving publishers, retailers and used book wholesalers. It is a large part of post-secondary education and the increased rate of online textbook buying is expanding the market.

CAMPUS CRIME REPORT

Unwanted Advances

An individual reported on Nov. 15, 2005 that another man had made unwanted advances toward him inside the men’s locker room of the Physical Education Building. The incident occurred on Nov. 8. The subject is described as a white, middle aged male between 5’11” to 6” tall, weighing approximately 200 lbs., with dark hair. The subject was wearing dark blue or black

clothes. After viewing the video surveillance, a person matching this description was seen walking out of the men’s locker room at 9:18 p.m.

Lost Woman’s Diamond Ring

On Nov. 15, a woman reported that she had lost her pink sapphire diamond ring, valued at \$500, in the women’s restroom in the upper level of the Waterman

Center. She had taken the ring off to wash her hands. She stated that she left the restroom, forgetting to replace the ring on her finger. When she returned to the restroom, she could not find the ring. She stated that there had been another person in the restroom at the time she was washing her hands, but that person could not be located.

Malicious Destruction of

Property

On Nov. 17, a woman had parked her maroon 2005 Chevrolet Malibu in the south side of Radcliff Center’s West Lot at 6:30 a.m. She returned to her car at 12:25 p.m. and noticed a scratch running down the entire length of the left rear passenger door to the left rear quarter panel. She stated she did not notice if the scratch had been on her car that morning because it was dark outside and therefore was not positive if the damage to her car had happened on the college’s property. She was advised to file a report with the Garden City Police Department.

A man parked his car in the North Lot’s parking row “D” next to the light pole on Nov. 17, at approximately 10 a.m. He returned to his car at 4:30 p.m. and discovered that person(s) unknown had attempted to remove the left front hubcap. The suspect had broken the hubcap in the attempted theft.

On Dec. 14, between 5:30 p.m. and 10:40 p.m., persons

unknown did damage to the lower level of the Waterman Building. A hole was punched in the ceiling tile above the first row of chairs in the TV viewing area. The remote control for the TV was smashed and ketchup and barbeque sauce was smeared on the floor, the walls and the pillars.

Disruptive Students

On Nov. 29, at approximately 7:47 p.m., a phone call to the Public Safety office was received, requesting that an officer come to the second floor entrance of the McDowell Building because a student was yelling at an instructor. By the time the officer arrived, the student had left. The instructor stated that the student had become disruptive in class. After class had ended, the instructor reminded the student about the classroom interruption policy and the student began to yell and make threats. The instructor was advised to contact her supervisor.

See Campus Crime on PAGE 3

continued from PAGE 2

On Dec. 14, a student attended a class he had missed for three sessions. The instructor was surprised to see him, but allowed him to take his final exam and complete his take home test. When he asked if he could take the tests in the Learning Assistance Center, where another student with disabilities was going to take the final exam, the instructor said no. The student then began to yell and become argumentative, refusing to give back the final exam and then proceeded to enter the

counseling office to talk to a counselor. Public Safety Officer Colling located the student at the counseling office and after the meeting with his counselor, he gave the final exam to Officer Colling and left the building.

Damage to College Equipment

Between the dates of Dec. 6 and Dec. 12, persons unknown had damaged a 3M Projector overhead, valued at approximately \$500, while it was in room 440 of the Liberal Art's Building. The damage was not reported until Dec. 12, when it was discovered by media staff while in the process of routine maintenance of the equipment. The damage to the overhead included a broken lens, bulb damage and a large dent on the side. The equipment is non repairable.

Lost Cell Phones

On Dec. 8, a woman lost her silver Verizon cell phone in its black leather case in the PE Building.

On Dec. 10, at approximately 1 p.m., a woman lost her black Sprint cell phone, valued at \$60, in the women's restroom of the MC Building before returning to class. Approximately an hour later she returned to the restroom but could not find the phone.

Intoxicated Student

Public Safety was notified that there were intoxicated

students in the area of the old Ocelot Grill in the lower level of the Waterman Building on Dec. 14, at 3:45 p.m. Upon arrival of Officer Dubois, students were sitting at a table with open alcoholic beverages within reach. One student was obviously intoxicated with a strong odor of alcohol on her breath, slurred speech, and the inability to walk straight and glassy eyes. She denied consuming any alcohol, but began vomiting. When asked again if she had consumed any alcohol, she admitted she had but could not remember how much or where it had come from. The student's mother was notified and was asked to come pick her up. No other students had alcohol on their breath and were all advised of the college's policy for alcohol on campus property.

Deployment of Fire Extinguisher

On Dec. 14, Public Safety Officer Dubois discovered that a fire extinguisher had been deployed and there was residue all over the floor in the area of the old Ocelot Grill in the lower level of the Waterman Building. The extinguisher had not been removed from the wall. It is unknown who deployed the extinguisher.

**In case of emergency,
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CAMPUS CLIFFNOTES

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. On Jan. 24, attorney Laura Reyes Kopack will present an overview of the process of divorce including information on property settlements, custody, child support and visitation and spousal support.

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 the financial concerns relative to divorce may sign in beginning at 4:30 p.m. on the appropriate day. Clients will be served 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 served on a first come, first serve basis.

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

Winter Play tickets on sale

Tickets for the Theater Department's production of Thornton Wilder's American classic "Our Town" are on sale now and selling fast. Dinner theater tickets are \$24, while tickets for the theater performance are only \$12.

Dinner Theater performances of "Our Town" will be on March 24, 25 and 31 and on April 1, with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the performance at 8 p.m. Theater performances will be on April 7 and 8, at 8 p.m. Tickets can be purchased in the main campus Bookstore or by phone at (734) 462-4596.

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IN OUR OPINION

The best way not to handle a situation

Student drinking incident mishandled

While college policies and standards may seem overbearing and unnecessary to some students, all of them have been adopted for a purpose. And, while some of these rules may sometimes be broken with little to no consequence, some things should not be over looked.

Public safety officers entered the VisTaTech Center— Lower Waterman Wing, to find students sitting at a table with open alcoholic beverages in reach on Dec. 14 at 3:45 p.m. Furthermore, one student smelled strongly of alcohol, had a slurred speech, the inability to walk straight, glassy eyes and was vomiting.

After all this, the police were not called, and we can only ask why?

An underage student is found severely intoxicated on the college campus and the Public Safety officers decide to call the student's mother instead of the Livonia police.

Are the campus officers not privy to the State laws against underage drinking — namely "Zero Tolerance?" Or, are they unaware of the college's alcohol policies that state basically, under no circumstances are students allowed to drink alcohol on campus unless it is an authorized event and they are over 21 years of age.

Where are the procedures that the college must follow when dealing with students under this type of influence? Surely there is a plan of action that involves the police and the EMS. And if there isn't, there ought to be.

While everyone deserves a second chance to redeem themselves from mistakes— such as in the case of this student— certain circumstances call for a more thorough investigation into the situation.

Calling the student's mother isn't going to cut it.

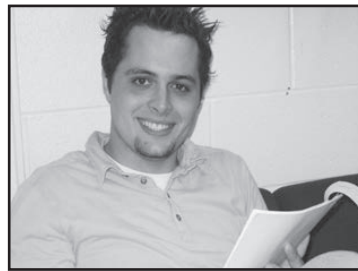
It is understandable that a situation this extreme may not have occurred in the past, making it difficult to handle. However, our Public Safety department should learn from this and be better prepared in the future.

Expulsion from school may be in consideration, as it should be. However, a call to mommy is nothing more than a slap on the wrist, which is a little less than deserving when it comes to underage drinking on a college campus.

FROM THE EDITOR'S GARAGE

Education vs. Religion

Should theology be taught in a classroom?



JOHN PARSELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

“When you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogue and at the street corners that they may be seen by men... When you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret...” (Matthew 6:5-6)

This excerpt taken directly from the Bible should put an end to the controversial question, “Should religion be taught in public schools?” However, the subject will continue to be debated, as it has been for years.

My question for debate would be, “which religion is going to be taught?”

According to an article titled, “The Rise of Islam in America” on <http://www.amren.com>, the religion is one of the fastest growing throughout the country. At the current rate of increase, there will be more Muslims than Presbyterians within the decade. Early in the next century their numbers may well grow past six million, at which point there will be more American Muslims than Jews.

According to that same article, there are now more than 1,100 mosques in the United States— with at least one in nearly every state— and 80% were founded in the last 12 years.

In fact, between 1990 and 2000, the Islamic faith gained a 109% increase in the United States, while Christian religions only gained a 5% increase, according to <http://www.adherents.com>.

The point that I am trying to make is that teaching one specific type of religion would be prejudiced against followers of other religions.

To create a standard of religion in public schools would be to impose upon people of other religions, who by living in the United States have been guaranteed freedom to practice their own faith. And with so many different religions in this country, it would be near impossible to incorporate all of them into a public school's curriculum.

I do not see how reading passages from the Bible and leading them in prayer could be constructive in a classroom full of such diverse religions. It doesn't make any sense; that is why private schools were created.

These schools incorporate religion into their daily class routine. While it is more expensive than public school, it is necessary for Christians, according to Jerry Falwell who states, “The public school system is damned. Let me tell you how radical I am. Christian students should be in Christian schools. If you have to sell your car, live in a smaller house, or work a night job, put your child in Christian schools.”

Religion is based on faith, and therefore has no place in public schools, although students should have the right to pray on their own in a non-disruptive manner, and schools should teach about religion as a part of objective instruction. However, a public school should not sponsor religious worship. This is a job that should be left to houses of worship.

Senator Phillip A. Hart from Michigan, says it best, stating “I'm a Catholic and I hope a devout one, but I think that the public school classroom is no place for me to try and impose my world formula for prayer on children who don't share it, and for that very reason, I don't want my children in a public school classroom to be exposed to someone else's religion or formula.”

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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 Columbia Scholastic Press Association, College Media Advisers, the Student Press Law Center, Community College Journalism Association and the Society of Professional Journalists.

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ONE HAND CLAPPING

Keeping it in the family

Legacies do nothing but create dynasties



MICHAEL SIEGRIST
MANAGING EDITOR

A special interest category found in higher education's admissions policy has come under tepid scrutiny in recent years. Legacy students, or children of alumni from a specific university, have received advantages over more qualified students. These students have a family history of attending top universities and have continued to follow relatives into these institutions.

According to Dan Saracino, assistant provost for enrollment at Notre Dame, the private university proudly claims 22 percent of the entire

class of 2009 as children of alumni. The University overshadows other Ivy League schools, which have an average of ten to 15 percent legacy enrollment.

The University of Michigan changed its undergraduate admissions policy, after the 2003 Supreme Court decision which deemed part of the school's affirmative action policy unconstitutional. The point system was abandoned for a system where counselors will evaluate each applicant and no factors will have fixed weight.

Alumni connections fall next to race and ethnicity as a nonacademic factor in determining admission, however, I rarely hear critics of affirmative action make any claim against a policy of legacy. These "champions of academic fairness" generally fall silent when this topic arises, focusing solely on the unfair nature of assisting groups that have historically been denied access to competitive schools.

Critics of affirmative action tend to make the claim that "giving minorities an advantage in hiring and education does not allow the most capable people to receive the opportunities they deserve." Conversely, the critics' outrage ends there. Apparently the threat of unfairness only covers racial minorities and fails to extend to the more affluent members of society.

Defenders of the system claim alumni kids are often more qualified than most students for admission. However, according to Saracino, the average legacy's SAT score falls less than ten points below the national mean.

How can universities justify this unbelievably biased act of social Darwinism, practiced in almost every competitive school?

President Bush, who attended his father's Alma Mater, Yale, returned to the university to deliver the commencement address a few months after taking office. The President had an air of self-criticism about his failed academic performance during his time there.

"And to all the C students, I say, 'You, too, can be president of the United States.'"

Quite to the contrary, I would never even be admitted to the school with a C average, let alone become president. The president, whose grandfather graduated from the university along with his daughter this past year, probably would not have been accepted to the institution either.

The only rational explanation for a university to support a system which gives a student an advantage based on direct genetic lineage is that they support Social Darwinism; the idea that the level a person rises to in society and wealth is determined by their genetic background.

If Charles Darwin's idea of natural selection directly applied to our society, people like Illinois Senator Barack Obama, who wrote in his autobiography of his father's history as a goat herder in Kenya, would be unable to break social barriers. I would be in northern Michigan working with my father on the family farm, like his father did before him.

Social Darwinism has no place in our society today, and many other public universities seem to agree. Texas A&M and the University of Georgia are just two who have abandoned the practice of accepting individuals without regards to their heredity.

More universities need to follow in these footsteps, while promoters of "academic fairness" need to drop their dishonest view and apply its philosophy across the board.

LOOKING FOR

ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL ALUMNI

St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church is celebrating 75 years in 2006. We are looking for school alumni to join us in the festivities. Alumni are invited to the upcoming Cardinal's Mass, which takes place on February 12, 2006 at 12:00pm. An open house and reception will follow the mass. Alumni are asked to visit the St. Michael's website at livoniastmichael.org/. Please sign the guest book to be kept informed on other upcoming events throughout the year by emailing us at stmichaelalumni@yahoo.com.

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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The future has yet to come

When do I get my jetpack?



TRAVIS GRAND
A & E EDITOR

I don't know about the rest of the world, but on New Year's Eve, when that ball made its slow descent down the pole of new beginnings, and this civilization prepared to march into 2006, I found nothing to celebrate about.

With each passing year, I find that the further we travel into the "future," all that essentially matters is the fact that we still have no jetpacks.

Sure, we might have made some incredible breakthroughs in science and medicine over the years, thus obtaining vital data that can help with

cures as we struggle to fight disease, but seriously, where are the cars that can fly?

So far, some of our advancements include tiny gizmos that can transport over a thousand songs, cell phones equipped with built-in cameras, edible women's underwear, sneakers with "shocks" in the heels, wireless internet, life-like video games and car rims that spin.

But what about hover boards?

I remember being five years old and asking Santa to bring me a hover board for Christmas; little did I know that both Santa and hover boards did not exist. That year, on Christmas morning, I awoke to a pile of presents, none of which were hovering above the ground. My parents tried the best they could to forge a note in St. Nick's defense, writing in red pencil and explaining to me ever so delicately how hover boards were heavily in demand that season, and that maybe next year I would receive one.

I lead my young heart to believe that, surely in the future, perhaps, in the year 2000, the hover board would be invented and I'd be able to purchase one. And yet, with it presently being 2006, we're not even one step closer! We have hovercrafts, why not hover boards? Quite frankly, Heaven will be a huge disappointment for me if I make it up there, only to find out that hover boards still do not exist.

To me, it seems as though inventors are not thinking enough outside of the box. For instance, are we any closer to learning how to teleport? Teleportation would be a safe and inexpensive way from getting place to place, and would also solve our nation's endless starvation for oil. All people would have to do is learn how to transport matter through space by converting it into energy, and then, reconvert it at the terminal point. Now, teleporting may seem impractical, but it sounds like something that could be achieved through a few yoga classes. All I'm saying is don't knock it before you try it.

Even an item as simple as waterproof socks would be a thing of the future. I can't tell you how many times I've been in the bathroom brushing my teeth, having already put on a fresh pair of socks. Meanwhile, the rug is still wet from whoever took a shower last, and I accidentally step on a wet spot and ruin my socks before even putting on my shoes. It's actually not that big of a deal when I'm on time; however, if I happen to be running late, which invariably is the case, it becomes a big dilemma over whether or not I should change into another pair. Who wants to be uncomfortable the whole day?

There is no telling what the future has in store for us. Some people like to believe that the future is the present, which is fine by me. Just don't come crying to me when you're the only one without a jetpack, because I'm not going to let you take mine for a test spin.



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FROM ANGELA'S ANGLE

Avoiding Drunk Driving
Personal breathalyzers are the solution



ANGELA BELCHER
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Breathalyzers should be more readily available and affordable for public use. If people had easy access to breathalyzers, they could monitor when to stop drinking, and when they are sober enough to drive a vehicle. I believe this would cut down on the number of drunk drivers and binge drinkers.

Some bars already have breathalyzer machines, which for a dollar you can put a straw into a box on the wall and test your blood alcohol content (BAC). Places that serve alcohol should be required to have these machines, so that nobody can leave under the false implication that they will be fine to drive. Not only should they be provided in every bar, but they should be free of cost to encourage patrons to utilize them.

"Friends don't let friends drive drunk." Although it's easy to agree with this statement, it can be hard to implement this policy. Belligerent drinkers often get offended when someone tries to tell them that they shouldn't be driving and others lie when they promise they are not drunk. Having breathalyzer tests would help the hosts of parties and friends to convince the drinkers that they should stop drinking or call a cab.

Currently, the cost of an accurate professional grade breathalyzer is between \$400- 600. There are breathalyzers available on the market which cost less, but as the price decreases, so does the accuracy. Novelty BAC testers range between \$5 -50. These include saliva test strips, red and green test results, and ranges of alcohol levels rather than BAC accuracy. The manufacturers of these products stress that they are made for entertainment purposes only.

Perhaps the government should team up with a manufacturer of accurate breathalyzers to make them more affordable and abundant. This is a serious problem with a potential solution that has not been considered. I believe that taking this action would cut down greatly on traffic accidents and arrests while making everybody safer.

Alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes kill someone every 31 minutes and nonfatally injure someone every two minutes according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 2005. They also report that each year, alcohol-related crashes in the United States cost about \$51 billion. Although over 2,300 anti-drunk driving laws were passed in the U.S. between 1980 and 1996, we continue to face harsh statistics which show the serious consequences of driving while under the influence. I propose a new solution to this problem.

MY MEANDERINGS

Forget inter-racial problems,
what about inter-species?

Woman 'marries' porpoise



HEATHER HYATT
NEWS EDITOR

Not anywhere in my wildest imagination did I ever picture a woman falling in love with a dolphin, let alone a woman actually "marrying" one. After reading the article entitled "With this herring I thee wed" on MSNBC.com, I could not help but be stupefied. A 41-year-old woman from London named Sharon Tandler, "married" a 35-year-old male dolphin named Cindy this past December. A woman marrying a dolphin, let alone any animal is something that society should not accept.

This woman will be ridiculed for the rest of her life. What could she have been thinking as she said "I do" while standing on a dock in a wedding dress, holding the fin of a bottlenose dolphin?

The "romance" began 15 years ago when Tandler first met Cindy at a resort in southern Israel. "The peace and tranquility under water, and his love, would calm me down," she told the Israeli Daily.

It could be argued that it was only a silly little ceremony that means nothing but the reflection of Tandler's feelings for an animal. I disagree. To me a marriage ceremony is serious and it is not something that people should do frivolously. Someone who spends time holding a wedding should marry someone who they can actually have a life with. Besides the occasional yearly visit to the resort where Cindy lives, Tandler will have no contact with him.

One fact that boggles my mind is that people actually took part in the ceremony by attending. They cheered and applauded the bride and groom.

Tandler is quoted as saying "It's just something we did because I love him....it's just a pure love that I have for this animal."

I could say the same thing about my hamster, but I'm not going to propose that we take a trip to a Las Vegas chapel anytime soon.

This so called "union" defies the laws that we as humans have established to govern ourselves. Having pets is fine, but when someone starts talking about marrying them, people will start to question their sanity.

Marrying a dolphin because someone loves it is—in short—loony. This kind of craziness is what people crave and it could spark a horrible new trend. The next thing we know, people all over will be marrying animals. We'll have to start worrying about significant others having affairs with the penguins at the zoo.

I was looking forward to swimming with the dolphins while on vacation in Panama City Beach for spring break, now I am not so sure I want to. I wouldn't want my boyfriend to get any ideas about me cheating on him with Flipper.



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OCELOT OPINIONS



Amir Amen-Ra
Age: 18
Year: 1st
Major: Health Administration
"I think they should be expelled."



Carol Peterson
Age: 44
Year: 1st
Major: Nursing
"Depends on how old you are. First offense- warning and fine. Second offense- expulsion."



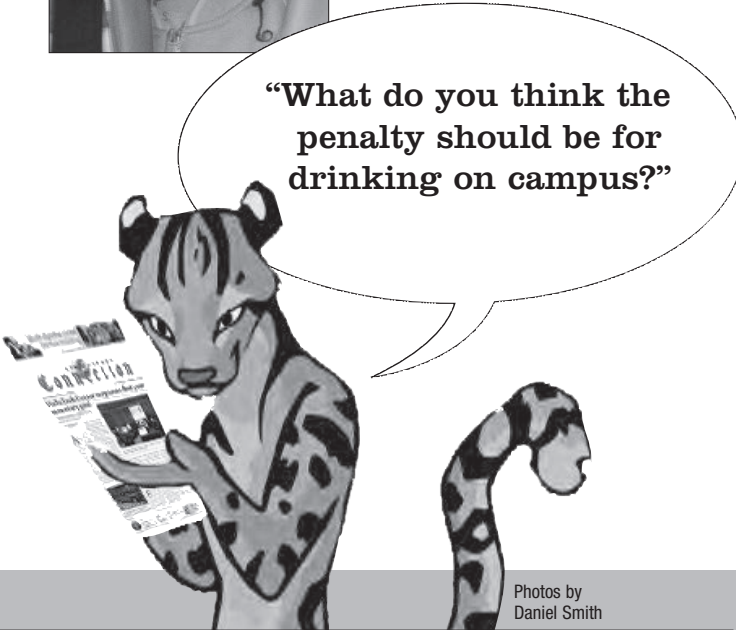
Maricka Seay
Age: 18
Year: 1st
Major: Nursing
"I think the penalty should be a suspension or a fine charged against them. One action can always lead to another. The consequences from drinking can end up with them harming other students."



Jarred Axon
Age: 20
Year: 2nd
Major: Business
"The school should suspend them."



Katie Russell
Age: 18
Year: 1st
Major: Broadcast Communication
"I think they should be removed for the remainder of that semester. They should be allowed back at the start of a new semester."





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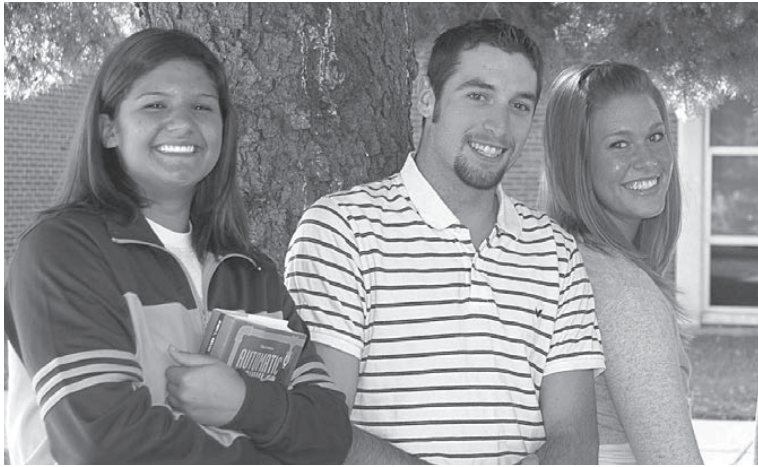
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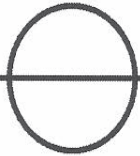
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Professor Dori McPherson goes over the class syllabus for her CIS 115 class.

Photo by Rena Lavery

Professor brings interesting ideas to the classroom

PROFESSOR PROFILE

By JOHN PARSELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Professor Dori McPherson had no interest whatsoever in teaching. However, after her college counselor told her “girls are either nurses or teachers” and insisted she get a teaching certificate along with her business degree, she took the advice and after student teaching found out that she, “absolutely loved it.”

Dr. McPherson received her education at several colleges. After transferring from Ohio State University to Eastern Michigan University, she acquired her Associates, Bachelors and Masters Degrees. She then received her post graduate certificate in Management Information Systems from

The University of Detroit, and followed up with a Doctorate from Nova Southeastern University

“Obviously I have come to value the impact and consequences of a sound education,” says McPherson. “I think it’s a privilege to be both a student and a professor.”

Currently teaching online, open entry/open exit and traditional courses which include CIS 115, 185 and 225, McPherson is constantly searching for ways to make the subject relevant to students.

“Even if you’re not going to be a computer major, you’re almost certainly going to be using a computer. It’s the old notion of computer literacy, but with a world’s worth of up-grading,” she says.

First year accounting student Sonya Angevine says that she recommends that everyone take at least one CIS class with McPherson.

“Dr. McPherson gives ou the impression that she knows what the heck she’s talking

about,” says Angevine. “At the same time she makes you feel like you’re going to be successful at learning her class and encourages and builds your confidence all at once.”

McPherson was born and raised in Michigan and lives on Grosse Isle. Her house, “Gray Gables” was built in 1849— 12 years before the Civil War— and was designed by its namesake, Major Horace Gray, who was a farmer, Union officer, lawman, Indian agent, politician and early broker of real estate.

“We enjoy living in the Major’s house,” says McPherson. “That and the ambience of Grosse Isle itself, which is kind of like having a place “up north” to come home to every day.”

McPherson is married to an author, actor and film-maker named Mark and has a 27 year old daughter, Gabrielle, who is an attorney employed by Rolls-Royce and presently lives in England. She also has a sister, Peggy, who lives in Dearborn and a big gray cat named, “Horace.”

In her free time, McPherson enjoys being active in her church, gardening, traveling, reading, healthy cooking and physical fitness.

“Weather permitting, I walk four miles daily and it’s not unusual to see deer, rabbits or occasionally even a fox or a snowy owl. I love my house and yard and working in the flowerbeds.”

She also loves to play piano and music in general. “I like Beethoven’s ‘Fur Elise’ as a piano practice piece— and because it was one of Schroeder’s (the Charlie Brown kid) favorites! I also enjoy some country western music and certain types of what’s called classical.”

McPherson likes to promote literacy in a variety of ways and also says she lives by the golden rule.

“Do unto others as you would have them do unto you,” says McPherson. “That’s a notion which has, I think, stood up to the test of time.”

Honor student and clothing connoisseur

■ Elizabeth Hasse works hard as secretary of Phi Theta Kappa

OFFICER PROFILE

By ANGELA BELCHER
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Elizabeth Hasse became involved in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society about nine months ago when she heard about it while involved in another school organization, the Student Activities Board. “I heard all of these great things, so I joined,” says Hasse. She now takes a very active roll in PTK, where she serves as Recording Secretary. Liz finds her position ironic, because she claims that she is “the worst speller ever.”

Her favorite part about being involved in the organization is the volunteer work at St. Leo’s soup kitchen. “My future plans for PTK

include more member involvement and continuing our involvement in the community,” says Hasse.

Owais Nadeem, Vice President of PTK says, “Liz always is smiling and has a great, upbeat attitude.”

Hasse grew up in Canton, and still lives there with her mom, dad and little brother. She attended Canton High School, where her extracurricular activities included involvement in the Student Council and serving as secretary of the Key Club— a community service organization.

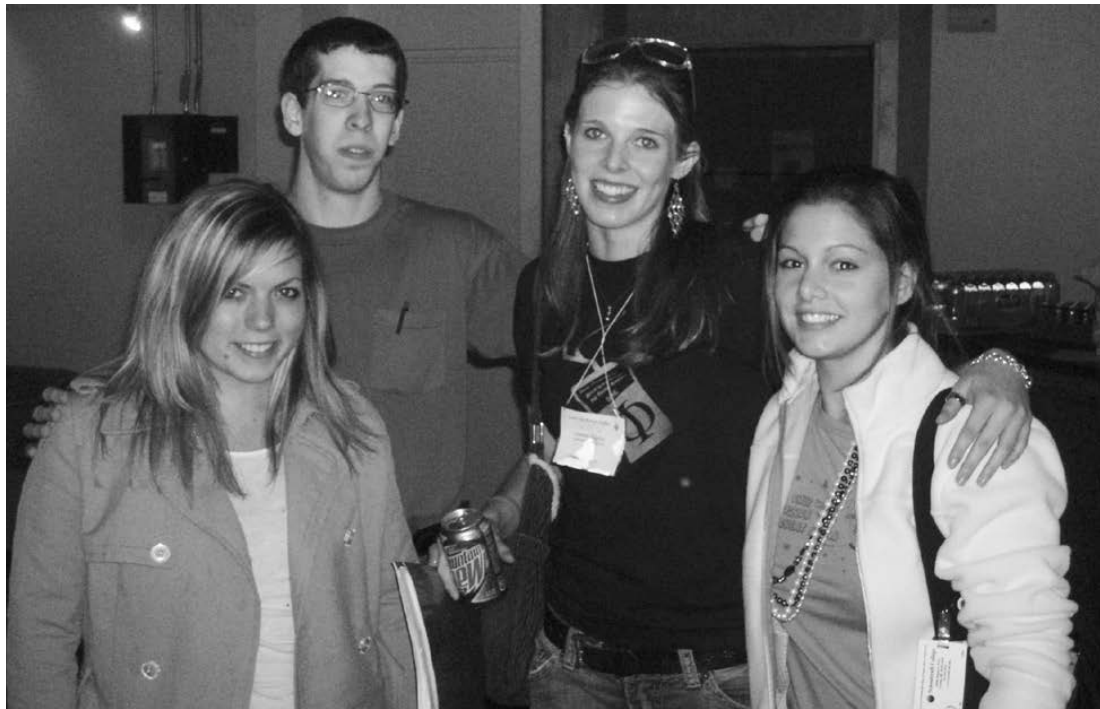
This twenty year old spends her free time hanging out with friends, shopping, golfing in the summer and snowboarding with her boyfriend in the winter. “I’m new at the sport but I really enjoy it so far,” says Hasse. When it’s time to relax, she enjoys watching movies,



PTK File Photo

Phi Theta Kappa secretary Elizabeth Hasse searches for scholarship opportunities for Omicron Iota members.

► See “Hasse” on PAGE 9



PTK File Photo

Phi Theta Kappa secretary Elizabeth Hasse (far left) and President Nikki Nader (far right) pose with other Phi Theta Kappa chapter members during a Mock Chapter conference.

“Hasse” continued from PAGE 8

such as “All the Presidents Men,” and loves to sleep.

Liz is majoring in International Business and plans on transferring to U of M Ann Arbor. “I want a job that lets me travel often. I want to go to a lot of different places,” says Hasse.

If she could go anywhere in the world, she would like to go to Venice, Italy.

For the last year and a half, Liz

has been working as an associate at the Express clothing store in Westland Mall. “I really enjoy it because my best friend, Becky, works there too. Whenever we work together, we get paid to hang out,” says Hasse.

Working in a clothing store fits her well, as she is a self proclaimed shopaholic. “I have a big spending problem,” says Hasse. Her favorite thing to buy is clothing and her

favorite stores are Abercrombie and Fitch, J. Crew and of course, Express.

Hasse looks forward to contributing new ideas to Phi Theta Kappa by being part of it this year. She says, “It’s a great way to get involved with your school and community. It also looks great on applications if you plan on transferring.”

Nicole Nader, President of PTK says, “when it comes down to crunch time, Liz keeps me stress free by taking on the burdens.”



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CLUB EVENTS



Student Activities Board

Spring Break

Escape the snow and join SAB for sun, sand and spring break fun in Panama City Beach, Florida. This trip will take place March 3-12, 2006, and students can attend for the unbelievable price of \$375. This includes accommodations for seven nights at a four star hotel on the beach and luxury motorcoach transportation.

The first deposit of \$100 is due Jan. 27. Stop by the Student Activities Office, or call (734) 462-4422 for more information.

General Meetings

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 SAO, located in the Lower Waterman Wing of the VisTaTech Center. All students are invited to join.

Scraftstock

Come to a free concert show comprised of local bands. On Feb. 17 at 7 p.m., the SAB will sponsor Scraftstock. This concert will take place in the Lower Waterman Wing and everybody is welcome and admission is free. Refreshments will be provided.

Video Production Club

Students interested in working in media should take advantage of the hands-on opportunities that are available through the new 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 contact the Student Activities Office at (734) 462-4422 for more information.

Honors Society- Phi Theta Kappa Omicron Iota Chapter

Orientation

Join a prestigious group of dedicated students who enjoy giving back to their schools and communities while also enjoying scholarship opportunities. Students must have completed at least 12 credit hours with a cumulative 3.5 GPA to join. Those who meet this criterion are encouraged to attend orientation, which will take place Tuesday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. in the Lower Waterman Wing of the VisTaTech Center.

Membership Meetings

The first general membership meeting will take place Saturday, Jan. 28 at 10 a.m. in the Lower Waterman Wing of the VisTaTech Center. The discussion will include icebreaker activities, new and upcoming events and ways to get involved.

Blood Drive

The American Red Cross will be taking blood donations in the Lower Waterman Wing on Tuesday, Feb. 2, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Schedule a time to donate by contacting the SAO at (734) 462-4422. Walk-ins are also welcome.

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 and photographers to work on this semester’s staff. All those interested should attend a meeting, which are held every Monday at 4 p.m. in the Lower Waterman Wing of the VisTaTech Center. 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 Jan. 28, from 5 to 10 p.m. in the Lower Waterman student lounge.

*For all club information,
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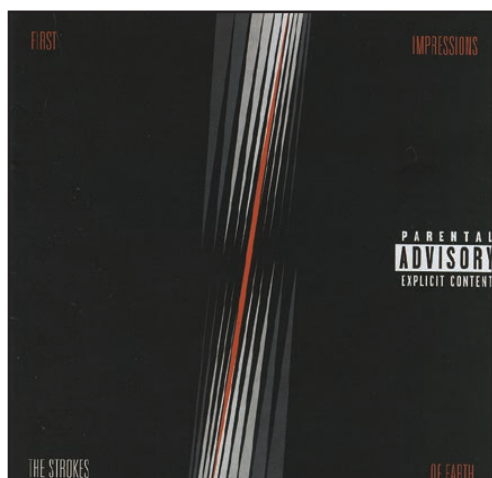


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MUSIC REVIEW

The Strokes manifests a melancholy mood



'First Impressions of Earth' shows signs of maturity

BY JOHN PARSELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Even before their 2001 debut release, "Is This It," The Strokes were hailed by many critics as the saviors of rock and roll. After their disappointing 2003 release, "Room on Fire," which sounded like an attempt at pushing the band into the mainstream, The Strokes built a custom studio and replaced producer Gordon Raphael with David Kahne, ultimately leading to a more mature and confident sound.

While it may be rather philosophical to credit them with such a title as "saviors," their new album, "First Impressions of Earth" will not disappoint.

The disc opens with the track, "You Only Live Once," a perfect starting point for the album. Noisy and impetuous, listeners will be reminded of Blondie as the song transitions into a wonderfully crafted rock song.

The second track, "Juicebox," is soaked in classic Strokes style, with a heavy bass intro that leads into wailing guitars courtesy of Nick Valensi and Albert Hammond Jr. However, the originality of the song shines through as Julian Casablancas articulates the lyrics, "everybody sees me but it's not that easy standing in the light field waiting for some action."

Casablancas' style quickly segues back to his roots as he howls out the chorus, "why won't you come over here? We've got a city to love." The track ends abruptly, bringing a perfect close to a typical Strokes song.

"Heart in a Cage" is the third track, and probably the strongest on the album. Meaningful songwriting and superb musical talent are joined to create an indie-rock song that is almost too good for this album.

Fab Moretti provides a near-incessant pounding of drums as Nikolai Fraiture creates an exhilarating yet soothing sound from the bass guitar, all while Casablancas nonchalantly sings the despondent lyrics, "I went to the concert and I fought through the crowd/Guess I got too excited when I thought you were around/Oh he gets left, left, left, left, left, left, left/I am sorry you were thinking I would steal your fire."

The album is not without its flaws, as the track, "Vision of Division," provides sloppy lyrics, unoriginality and a sound that is almost identical to the Foo Fighters. Casablancas has been accused of poor songwriting in the past, and while several songs on this album are an exception, this track is definitely not.

See Strokes on PAGE 15



Alex (Allen Covert) tests out a new video game with his grandma Lilly (Doris Roberts)

'Grandma's Boy' provides juvenile laughs

New film produced by Adam Sandler disappoints

BY TRAVIS GRAND
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

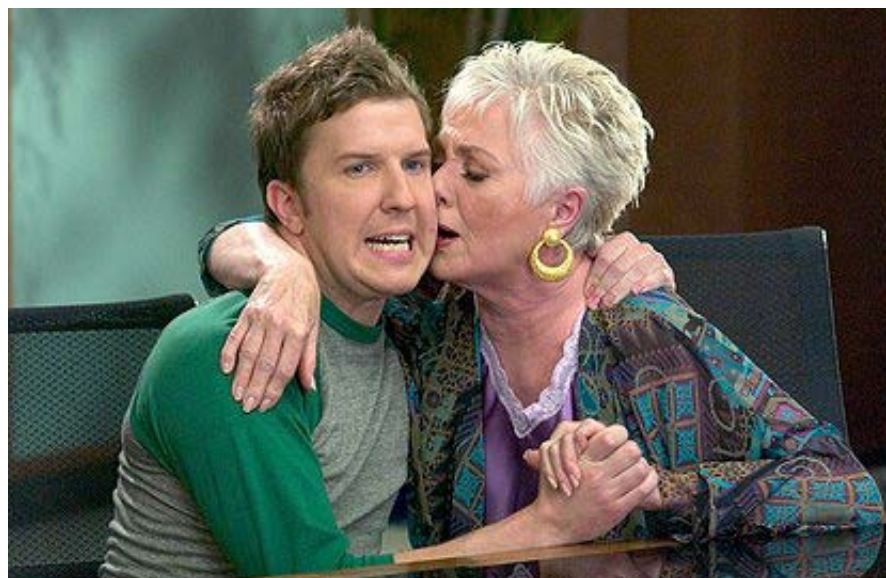
In order to make a movie these days, all one has to do is follow a simple procedure. First, befriend Adam Sandler and earn his loyalty. Second, write a screenplay with an overused premise mixed with some bawdy humor, add a few almost famous actors, get Adam Sandler himself to co-produce it; and then, finally, sprinkle some Saturday Night Live alumni on top for more flavor, and out comes "Grandma's Boy."

A Happy Madison production, "Grandma's Boy" is written by Allen Covert ("The Wedding Singer," "Big Daddy"), Berry Wernick and Nick Swardson, and is directed by Nicholas Goossen.

The movie stars Covert as Alex, a 35-year-old stoner that tests video games for a career and, as his occupation might suggest, cannot seem to break into the pattern of living an adult lifestyle. After getting kicked out of his apartment, Covert is faced with a dilemma: either find some place else to live, or move in with his Grandma Lilly and her two elderly roommates.

Finding a new place to live does not come that easy, however. Alex cannot crash with his stoner/pot dealer friend, Dante, played by Peter Dante ("Mr. Deeds," "50 First Dates"), because he is making room for his other two friends, a Jamaican herbalist and pet lion. Staying at his friend Jeff's, played by Nick Swardson, seems like an okay alternative, until Jeff's mother accidentally walks in on Alex performing a sinful act with a seductive-looking action figure in the bathroom.

And so, after getting a terrible night's sleep in his office at work, and using the keyboard as a pillow, Alex moves in with



Jeff (Nick Swardson) gets close with an "old friend" (Shirley Jones)

his Grandma Lilly, played by Doris Roberts ("Everybody Loves Raymond").

As it happens, life at grandma's house turns out to be less than fitting. For starters, the antique grandfather clock in Alex's room does not come equipped with a "snooze" button; grandma and her roommates hog the television, making it impossible for Alex to get his work done, and every morning, there is a daily chore list assigned to him that needs to be completed before he goes to work.

On top of learning to adjust with his new living conditions, Alex must battle his work adversary, J.P., played by Joel Moore ("Dodge Ball"), who is a prodigious video game creator; all the while, competing to gain the affection from the extremely hot new boss, Samantha, played by Linda Cardellini ("Scooby Doo," "Brokeback Mountain").

Overall, "Grandma's Boy" does not

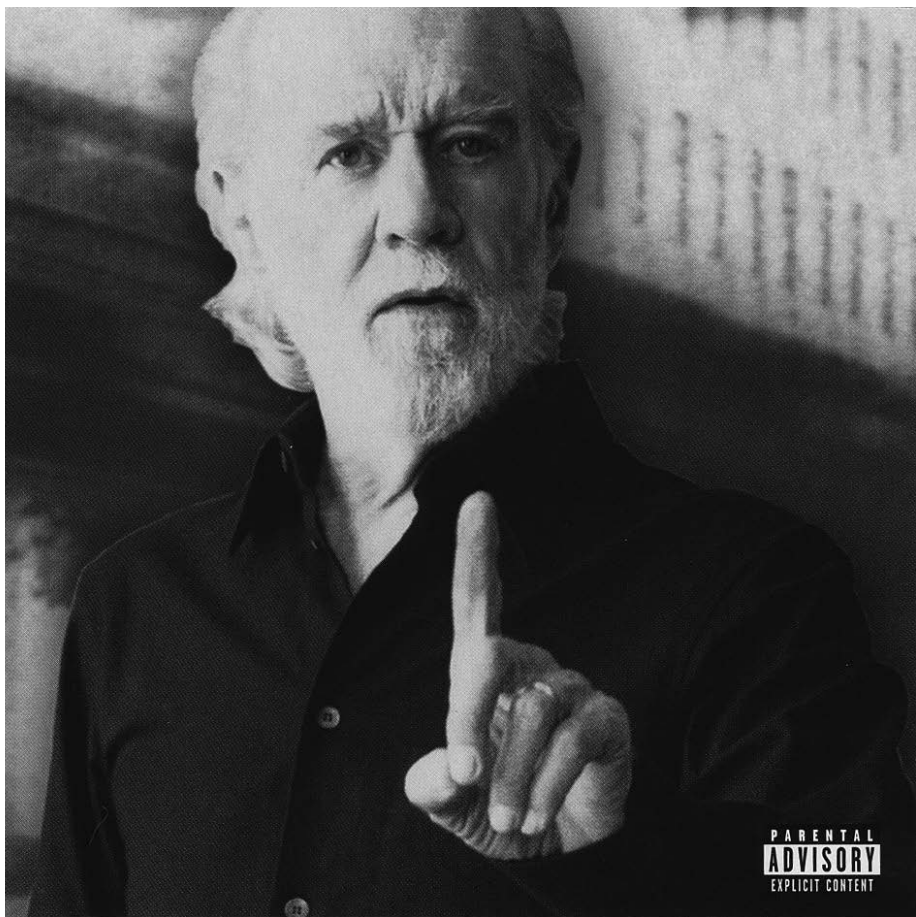
really have anything special to offer that is worth purchasing a movie ticket for. For one, the acting is substandard. The starring role does not look good on Covert; consequently, he has been second to Adam Sandler in so many of his movies that it seems as though he would be better off wearing the role of Sandler's sidekick instead.

However, the cameos of former SNL cast members, David Spade and Kevin Nealon, are both unexpected and hilarious.

As far as the writing is concerned, there are a few genuine laugh-out-loud moments, whereas the rest of the movie relies entirely on juvenile humor to get cheap laughs.

Despite its affiliation with Sandler and the SNL ties, "Grandma's Boy" will most likely be collecting dust on shelves in video stores across America shortly, right next to "Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo."

With age comes audacity



George Carlin dares to offend in 'Life is Worth Losing'

By TRAVIS GRAND
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Over the years, comedy legend George Carlin has become increasingly brazen with his material, ever since he discarded the

straight-edge, suit-and-tie image with the release of "FM & AM" in 1971, the first of Carlin's albums to showcase his irreverent, observational brand of humor that, incidentally, helped shape the world of comedy to what it is today. Now, more than thirty years

later, with the release of his 19th comedy album titled "Life is Worth Losing," Carlin proves that even the touchiest of topics can be made funny.

Some people might say that certain things just are not funny; whereas Carlin adheres to the belief that anything can be turned into a joke, as long as the situation has been exaggerated enough. "Life is Worth Losing" is a prime example of this philosophy, as it is unquestionably Carlin's darkest comedy album to date. The underlying theme of the album circles around death and includes issues ranging from extreme human behavior and suicide, to natural disasters and a pyramid for the hopeless.

In a piece called "The Suicide Guy," Carlin points out that every 30 seconds a person takes their own life; he then takes a long pause and says, "there goes another one." From then on, he talks about the intricacies that come along when planning a suicide. Foremost, there is a time investment that one has to pledge to, and Carlin wonders, "where do you find the time? I've got stuff to do."

He goes on to explain that, for a writer, committing suicide would be next to impossible; a writer would keep revising and tweaking their suicide note, and soon enough, they would have a book proposal, which, in turn, would give them a reason to live.

Much like a modern day Mark Twain with a microphone, Carlin expounds on matters with sage finesse. When talking about particular forms of extreme human behavior, he mentions assassination and provides a list of historical figures who have been murdered in the name of righteousness, some of which include Jesus, Gandhi, John F. Kennedy, and John Lennon. Unable to value the purpose of assassination, Carlin then simply asks, "did

you ever notice who it is we kill? ...it's always people who have told us to live together in harmony and try to love one another. Apparently, we're not ready for that yet."

For anyone not very familiar with Carlin and his perspective, his humor may come off as crude; and his outlook on life might sound nothing short of nihilism. For instance, in his closing piece titled "Coast-to-Coast Emergency," he admits to taking pleasure in natural disasters. "For centuries now," he explains, "man has done everything he can to destroy, defile and interfere with nature...so when nature strikes back and slaps man on the head and kicks him in the nuts, I enjoy that. I have absolutely no sympathy for human beings whatsoever—none."

Carlin urges on and reveals his ideal disaster; much like the Chaos Theory, it starts with just one small fire in Los Angeles, which ultimately prompts an upheaval of diseases, famine, explosions, flames, floods, riots, etc. that spreads across the entire country.

However, in the end, despite all of his sadistic desires, Carlin ends on an endearing note, which leads listeners to believe that maybe his attitude was just a comedic front.

While describing his disaster, he envisions chaos and disorder so powerful that it is enough to split the entire fabric of space time in two. Soon, dead people fall from the sky and gather around, still resentful about their past life grievances. The hatred drips from them and begins to swirl around in a liquid pool of hate, faster and faster, until it explodes into trillions of stars; each star with its own universe, and everybody leads a good life with well paying jobs and great families,

See Carlin on PAGE 15

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p.m., and as late as 12 a.m., however, show times do vary each night.

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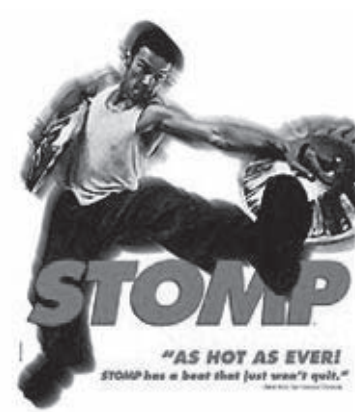
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The Blind Pig is located at 208 S. First St. in Ann Arbor. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <http://www.blindpigmusic.com> or call (734) 996-8555.



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Tickets start at \$29.50 and are available at <http://www.ticketmaster.com>, or by calling (866) 516-0200.

The Fisher Theater is located on 3011 W. Grand Blvd. in Detroit. Visit <http://www.nederland.com> for more information.

ART EXHIBITS

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great artists for the first time in America.

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MUSIC



Sheryl Crow

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Crossword 101
Answers

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A	N	N	O	O	N	I	O	N	E	D	N	A
G	E	T	S	M	O	N	E	Y	O	R	D	E
A	S	H	L	A	D	E	B	U	S	E	D	
	E	M	O	T	E	D	O	E	S			
K	I	M	O	N	O	G	I	U	S	E	P	P
A	M	O	N	G	F	O	R	T	E	U	R	N
Y	A	N	K	C	L	O	G	S	S	T	E	T
A	G	E	S	O	U	S	E	H	O	M	E	R
K	E	Y	S	T	O	N	E	F	E	L	O	N
	T	A	L	K	A	R	L	E	N			
S	C	A	R	F	G	R	A	M	E	S	P	
P	O	T	O	F	M	O	N	E	Y	T	Y	P
A	M	O	K	O	R	A	T	E	W	O	O	S
T	A	M	E	M	E	T	E	D	O	N	T	O

For Crossword Puzzle see **PAGE 20**

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“Strokes” continued from PAGE 12

The disc hits its low point on the track, “Evening Sun.” This sluggish and whiny song is nearly psychedelic, and would be enjoyable on a Flaming Lips album, however, does not sound right for The Strokes.

Aside from the first three tracks, this

album is very similar to their last two, which should not be a disappointment to loyal fans. For everyone else, this album walks the line between indie-rock and mainstream, making it enjoyable to any fan of rock and roll.

“Carlin” continued from PAGE 13

and finally, everyone is happy. Carlin concludes, “Now do you see why I like it when nature gets even with humans?”

For loyal fans, “Life is Worth Losing” is a seminal album for the reason being that Carlin has once again shifted his style of

comedy from a witty observer to an iconoclastic satirist. Although, while it speaks out against conformity and governmental authority, people who prefer their laughs to come in more frivolous doses may not be amused.



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Ocelots rebound after season's first loss

■ Women's basketball team dominates latest opponents

BY RYAN RUSSELL
NEWS EDITOR

The women's basketball team had a disappointing start to the new year, ending their 11 game winning streak after a loss in a 62-77 showdown with Mott Community College on Jan. 4; but with victories over Alpena and Oakland Community Colleges on Jan. 9 and 11, the ladies have obviously returned to the dominance they displayed earlier this season.

In an impressive show of strength, the Ocelots took out Oakland with the Jan. 11 64-47 victory, leaving the ladies with a 14-1 overall record at press time. "We played a better game defensively than we have been," says head coach Karen Lafata. "We made better offensive decisions; we let the shots come to us. We were 23 for 31 on free throws, so that improvement was a good sign."

Schoolcraft also made an impact on Alpena on Jan. 9, earning a 90-50 win with their aggressive shooting and a constant defensive pressure that forced 34 turnovers. Despite the Lumberjacks' best attempts to stop them, the Ocelots led 40-16 at halftime, and continued to lead throughout the second.

"Turnovers were key in that game," states Lafata. "We kept pressuring them, and they just didn't handle the ball well."

The ladies were forced to play without Mikiko Williams, who Lafata says is suspended due to an academic situation, but the rest of the team easily picked up the slack. Leading the charge were sophomore Tomika Hodge and freshman Maricka Seay with 21 and 19 points, respectively.

The team's renewed vigor against Alpena

and OCC may well have been a result of Jan. 4's disappointing loss to Mott. The Ocelots were forced to play without sophomore Renita Price, who will not be returning for the rest of the season, as she was found academically ineligible, and also without Williams, who arrived late.

In addition to the loss of two major players, poor shooting and a number of turnovers throughout the game led to the end of the team's undefeated streak; as well as the loss of the number one spot in their division. The absence of Price and Williams also hurt the ladies when they were looking for big plays late in the game.

"We are recovering from their [Williams and Price] absence," says Lafata. "We are a different team without two returning sophomores, without two of our quicker girls."

Sophomores Tracy Winkler and Greer did their best to carry the Ocelots, but the freshman players folded before the Bears' onslaught, whose roster includes four returning players from last year's national tournament squad.

"We made some bad decisions at the end of the game, turnovers that led to baskets," states Lafata. "And free throws, we were shooting horribly from the line, which is one of our weaknesses. I didn't expect to go undefeated, but I didn't like losing to Mott."

The lady Ocelots' next game will be at Mott on Jan. 28 at 1 p.m., and their next home game will be against Henry Ford Community College on Feb. 11 at 1 p.m.



Photo by Rena Laverty

Schoolcraft forward LaShanda Thomas maneuvers her way past an Alpena defender.

Ocelots overwhelm opponents

■ Despite losses, men's basketball team keeps rolling

BY RYAN RUSSELL
NEWS EDITOR

While the campus took a break between semesters, the members of the men's basketball team continued to rack up impressive wins, kicking off the new year with three victories and a 14-3 overall record.

The team's latest game, a 114-73 win over Oakland Community College on Jan. 11, showcased the talent and determination they have exhibited since the start of the season. In an exciting display, the Ocelots out-shot the Raiders offense and rolled through their defense, shooting well over 50% and earning 40 points off of OCC turnovers.

"I think our conditioning wore Oakland down," says head coach Carlos Briggs. "They got tired and we took advantage."

Center James Davis continued to lead the team, with five field goals, seven free throws, and 19 rebounds, adding to his already impressive statistics.

"James is a good player for our team, and our team is a good team for him," states Briggs. "He fits real well with the system we run."

Prior to the Jan. 11 game, SC scored two more wins, taking out Alpena Community College on Jan. 9 and St. Clair County Community College on Jan. 7.

The Ocelots defeated Alpena in a 96-73 showdown, out-shooting the Lumberjacks

from everywhere on the court. Guard Jarred Axon and Davis led the charge once again, with 22 and 20 points respectively. Guard Wallace Hall also made an impact with 18 points.

"We got off to a slow start, having just come off the road with St. Clair," says Briggs. "Our starters were tired, so we put in some subs and pressed them, changed the tempo of the game. Then we brought our starters back in fresh. We started slow, but we picked it up and played strong."

SC shot 77% from the field over St. Clair on Jan. 7 on their way to a 116-90 victory. The Ocelots' outside shooting was far too accurate for the Skippers' taste, as the team hit all seven attempted three-pointers in the first and went 66% in the second.

"Overall, our team shot the ball very well," says Briggs. "We played with energy and enthusiasm. I think that we grew up a little bit, that Mott woke some people up."

Davis remained at the core of the team's offense, sinking 16 of his 17 shots. Guard Darryl Garrett also played big for SC, scoring 15 points, 10 rebounds and five assists.

So far, the only black spot on the Ocelot's January record is their loss to Mott Community College on Jan. 4. Despite trailing by only one point, 32-33, at halftime, the team couldn't keep up with the Bears'



Photo by Rena Laverty

Schoolcraft guard Jarred Axon (left) puts some defensive pressure on an Alpena player. Axon also added an offensive punch with 22 points against Alpena.

See Men's Basketball on PAGE 17

Whalers pad lead in OHL West with 4-0 win over Saginaw



Photo by Rena Lavery

Whalers goaltender Justin Peters blocks a slap shot by Saginaw Spirit left winger Tim Priamo. Peters went on to stop 27 shots and earn a shutout victory.



The Plymouth Whalers used excellent goaltending, special teams and transition to beat the Saginaw Spirit, 4-0, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Wednesday January 11th at the Compuware Sports Arena.

The victory gives Plymouth a record of 22-14-1-3, good for 48 points and first place in the OHL's West Division. The Whalers are now six points ahead of Saginaw (21-18-0-0).

John Vigilante led the Whalers with a pair of goals as the game's first star and now has 19 of the season to go with 42 assists for a team-leading 61 points. Justin Peters stopped 27 Saginaw shots as the game's second star for his first shutout of the season and eighth in his career. Rookie Chris Terry scored his fourth goal of the season as the game's third star. Evan Brophy added a goal (his 14th of the season) and an assist for the Whalers.

Although Plymouth didn't score a power play goal, they scored a shorthanded goal and went 4-for-4 on the penalty kill. Plymouth is 11-2-0-0 when not allowing a power play goal this season.

Vigilante scored the only goal of the first period on a shorthanded effort at 12:00 of the first period; Vigilante and Brophy scored at 2:00 and 12:03 of the second period to give the Whalers a 3-0 lead after forty minutes, and Terry scored at 7:20 of the third period to complete the scoring.

KITCHENER WINS FIRST AND THIRD PERIODS TO DEFEAT WHALERS, 7-4

Jean-Michel Rizk scored a short-handed goal at 8:50 of the third period to snap a 4-4 tie and the Kitchener Rangers went on to defeat the Plymouth Whalers, 7-4, in an Ontario Hockey League game played at the Compuware Sports Arena Saturday night before 3,015.

With the victory, Kitchener (now 27-12-1-1) completed a home-and-home sweep of Plymouth. The Rangers beat Plymouth, 4-1, Friday night in Kitchener.

While Rizk scored the game-winner with his sixth goal of the year, Kitchener left wing

Craig Voakes was the game's first star with four goals and now has 18 on the season. Red Wing draft Evan McGrath (27) and third star Justin Azevedo (17) scored one goal apiece.

Plymouth's goals – all in the second period – came from Dan Collins (team-leading 25 of the season), John Vigilante (20), Gino Pisellini (12) and Andrew Fournier (13).

Kitchener raced to a 3-0 lead after the first period on goals by McGrath (1:51), Voakes (8:15) and Azevedo (9:15).

Whalers started their comeback at 1:21 of a wild second period when Collins' hard shot from the right point found the mark under the bar by Kitchener goaltender Dan Turple. Vigilante then cut the Kitchener lead to 3-2 at 5:38 of the period when he took a back hand shot from the left wing that Turple got a piece of, but the puck trickled over the line. Voakes scored his second of the night at 6:51 of the period when he stuffed from the left goal line by Plymouth goaltender Justin Peters. Pisellini cut the Kitchener lead to 4-3 at 15:16 when he batted home a loose puck through traffic in front of the Kitchener goal by Turple and Fournier tied the game with 55 seconds left in the period when he stuffed home his own rebound by Turple.

Rizk's game-winner came when – with Azevedo serving a penalty for tripping – he followed up on his own shot on Peters from the right wing and stuffed home the rebound. Voakes completed the scoring in the third period with goals at 16:30 and 18:31 respectively.

Plymouth remains in first place in the OHL's West Division with a record of 22-16-1-3 and is four points ahead of Saginaw (22-18-0-0), won defeated Ottawa tonight, 7-5.

Plymouth hosts Ottawa Sunday afternoon at 2:00 pm at the Compuware Sports Arena. Tickets are available by calling the Compuware Sports Arena box office at (734) 453-8400.

Press release courtesy the Plymouth Whalers

Plymouth is home Friday January 27 when they host Sault Ste. Marie at 7:30 pm at the Compuware Sports Arena. Tickets are available by calling the Compuware Sports Arena box office at (734) 453-8400.



Photo by Rena Lavery

Schoolcraft guard/forward Ryan Williams (4) puts up an all out effort to score some points for his team.

“Men's Basketball” continued from PAGE 16

offense in the second, resulting in a 62-77 loss. Shooting only 35% for the night and committing 21 turnovers, the Ocelots were simply outplayed.

“They outplayed us from the jump ball,” states Briggs. “They beat us in every aspect of the game. Not taking anything away

from Mott, that was the worst we have ever played at home.”

The team's next game will be on Wednesday, Jan. 25, at Macomb Community College at 7:30 p.m. Their next home game will be on Monday, Jan. 30, at 7:30 p.m.

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JAMES DAVIS

54

MEET SCHOOLCRAFT'S SHAQ

7' CENTER JAMES DAVIS DOMINATES THE COURT

BY ANGELA BELCHER
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

It's hard not to notice seven-foot tall, 285 lb. James Davis prowling around campus. This 20-year-old Ocelot is the basketball team's starting center and captain. Wearing 54 on the back of his jersey, he averages around 20 points per game, making him the greatest offensive threat on the team.

James grew up in Minneapolis, MN, and has been playing basketball since age nine. He insists that

his favorite part is "the passion of the game," although he quickly adds, "and everything else about it."

Davis attended Minneapolis North High School, where his extracurricular activities included basketball and girls. His mentor helped him decide that Schoolcraft was a good place for him.

"I hope to contribute to the basketball team this year by bringing leadership, both on court and off court. I want to be like a big brother to my teammates," says Davis.

Fellow teammate D'Mario Curry

says, "he's a good teammate and a good guy. He's working hard to get somewhere."

His basketball idol is Kobe Bryant and as a pre-game ritual, he listens to Young Jeezy and Tarrytown. This must be working for him, because his talent has brought scouts from Gonzaga, Oklahoma, Minnesota Universities and a few NBA teams.

"He's the man in the paint. He's also a good team leader and a great person," says teammate Ryan Williams.

When Davis is not playing basketball, he enjoys talking on the

phone, freestyle rapping, listening to music, clubbing and going to parties. He likes movies starring Martin Lawrence and all songs by Young Jeezy.

"I really enjoy spending time with my mom, grandpa, brother, nieces and nephews," says Davis. He really values his family, and the person he most admires is his mom, "She's a true solider," says Davis.

Currently, Davis has an undecided major, although he jokes that he is getting a degree in Women Studies. He is unsure where he will transfer to after SC, but is taking

this time to focus on school and basketball. In ten years, James hopes to be enjoying life with a family of his own and owning a few businesses, such as clubs or restaurants.

Assistant basketball coach, Mike Brown, explains why Davis is such a valuable asset to the team, "James' size alone is so big that he really dominates the court. He is such a skilled player, very unselfish and a good passer. I think he gives us an advantage that most teams don't have."

Photos by Rena Lavery





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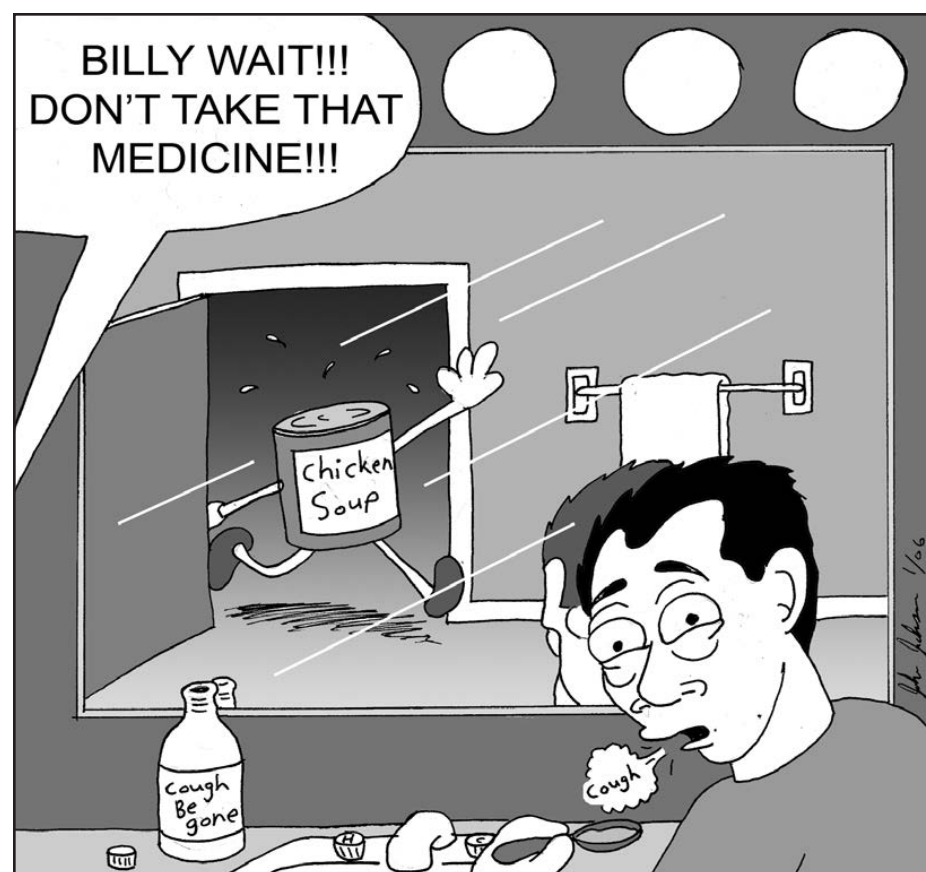
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Ready Cash

Across

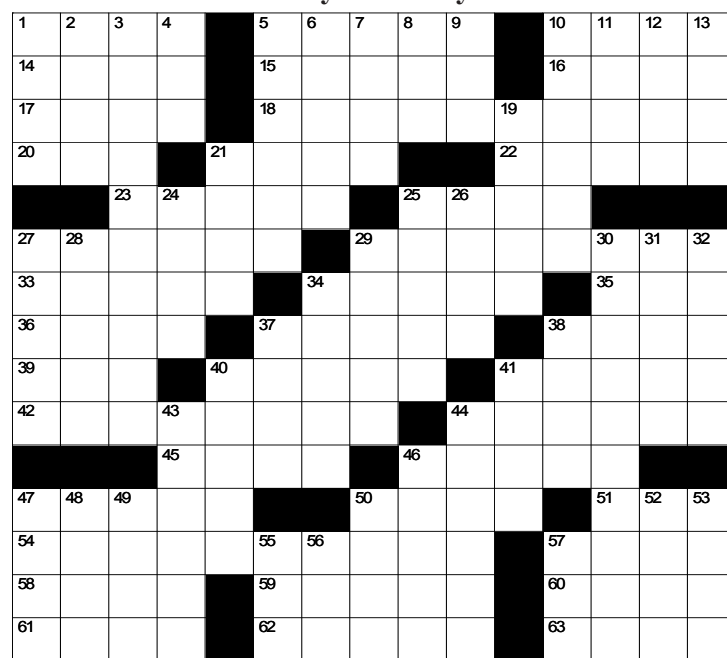
- 1 Stain
- 5 Florida port city
- 10 Slammer
- 14 Word on a cornerstone
- 15 Bermuda, e.g.
- 16 Author Ferber
- 17 Understands
- 18 USPS offering
- 20 Residue
- 21 Dish out soup
- 22 Transported
- 23 Express yourself
- 25 They bring in the bucks
- 27 Robe
- 29 Joseph in Milan
- 33 In the middle of
- 34 Long suit
- 35 Vase
- 36 New Englander
- 37 Plumber's assignments
- 38 Editor's direction
- 39 Mature
- 40 Lush
- 41 Marge's hubby
- 42 Arch need
- 44 Serious crime
- 45 Lecture
- 46 Senator Spector
- 47 Neckwear
- 50 Metric unit
- 51 Clairvoyance
- 54 Poker goal
- 57 Use a keyboard
- 58 Wildly; without self-control
- 59 Speak
- 60 Romances
- 61 Gentle as a lamb
- 62 Measured out
- 63 Fully aware of

Down

- 1 Adventure story
- 2 Wallet stuffers
- 3 Rich
- 4 ____ Altos

Crossword 101

By Ed Canty



- 5 Attractive woman:Sl.
- 6 Electrode
- 7 Hole in the ground
- 8 The Raven's author
- 9 One, some, every, or all
- 10 Examine
- 11 Vegas probabilities
- 12 Type of joint
- 13 Court or back add on
- 19 Corpulent
- 21 Drawn-out
- 24 Trappist, e.g.
- 25 Mournful music
- 26 Baseball defensive goals
- 27 Small canoe
- 28 Icon
- 29 Place for down
- 30 Place a bet
- 31 Groom with elaborate care
- 32 Hall, e.g.
- 34 Fail
- 37 Excellent:Sl
- 38 Shoemaker's concern
- 40 Faculty
- 41 Steering mechanism

- 43 Tiger's try
- 44 Frazzled
- 46 Ridge
- 47 Tiff
- 48 Unconsciousness
- 49 Particle
- 50 No-see-um
- 52 Position
- 53 Pedro's moolah
- 55 May honoree
- 56 Product of 7 Down
- 57 Deuce

Quotable Quote

Money doesn't always bring happiness. People with ten million dollars are no happier than people with nine million dollars.

... Hobart Brown

For Answers see PAGE 14

HOROSCOPES:



Aries

Mar 21- Apr 19

Now is the time to look into your health. Follow though on a diet or take up jogging once a day. Be sure that you get enough physical activity and rest.



Taurus

Apr 20- May 20

As you settle into your new schedule and adjust to your daily routine, be sure not to neglect any of your needs. Make the necessary changes now, before things are too customary to change easily.



Gemini

May 21- Jun 21

Many new people are coming into your life. Remember that they can only come as far as you let them, so try to get to know as many as you can. A new strong and fulfilling relationship could be on the horizon.



Cancer

Jun 22- Jul 22

You may not have a lot of new opportunities in the weeks to come. However, do not set your expectations too high. Go in with a realistic attitude and you will not be disappointed.



Leo

Jul 23- Aug 22

You may eavesdrop on some juicy information in the next few weeks. The urge to share it may be overwhelming, but remember to consider all parties involved. Put yourself in their shoes, and then decide what to do.



Virgo

Aug 23- Sep 22

Although you may be preoccupied with your own business right now, try to keep track of those close to you. Someone may need a friend to talk to, and you could be the perfect person.



Libra

Sep 23- Oct 22

This month will be a test for you. A new situation will arise that will take you by surprise. Don't be afraid to ask for help. Your friends and family will be there to support you.



Scorpio

Oct 23- Nov 21

Try to avoid drama this month. Spend some time with yourself, and resist the temptation to gossip with others. If you get too involved, you may turn a good friend into an adversary.



Sagittarius

Nov 22- Dec 21

You may be forced to make a seemingly difficult decision this month. However, if you look past the surface, you will find that the answer is easier than you expected. Trust your instinct and you will come out of it all right.



Capricorn

Dec 22- Jan 19

Stop grieving about past relationships. There are plenty of other people out there; you just have to keep your eyes open. Don't miss out on a good opportunity with somebody because your too busy sulking over the past.



Aquarius

Jan 20- Feb 18

You will make a new friend in the next couple of weeks. While it may seem hard at first, avoid complicating things by bringing intimacy into your relationship. You may find a friendship for life as a reward for your honesty.



Pisces

Feb 19- Mar 20

An obstacle may present itself at the worst of times. It may require some extra work on your part to get around it. Try thinking creatively and you may save yourself some frustration.

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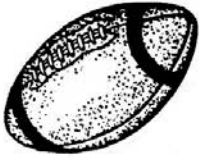
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With fifteen games played Charles Greer shows why she's a team leader. Greer is ranked 14th in the nation for NJCAA Division II Women's Basketball for scoring with an average of 17.9 points per game.

2005
SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
INVITATIONAL CHAMPIONS



On Dec. 3, 2005 Schoolcraft battled Kalamazoo Community College during the championship game and came out victorious with a 85-83 win. Holding the championship plaque are Co-Captains Tracey Winkler (left), Charles Greer (middle) and Head Coach Karen Lafata.



Co-Captain Tracey Winkler is a team player. Winkler is ranked 14th in the nation for NJCAA Division II Women's Basketball for assists with an average of 5.5 per game.

SCHOOLCRAFT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



2005

2006

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Photos by Rena Laverty



Head Coach Karen Lafata (kneeling), goes over some strategies during a timeout that will help keep her team's momentum strong. Assistant coaches Deidra Johnson (upper left) and Marty Simmonds (upper right) listen while she explains to the team.

The Schoolcraft Women's Basketball team is having an unbelievable season. With a current record of 15-1, they are dominating the competition. From Nov. 23, 2005 until Jan. 11, 2006 the Ocelots were ranked number one in the nation in Division II Junior Colleges by the National Junior College Athletic Association polls. With their only loss coming against rival Mott Community College, the ladies have demonstrated what it takes to go the distance and are on their way to win a national championship.



The Ocelots huddle before the tipoff as one cohesive unit. The girls work well as a team touting a 15-1 record.