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Hotspots

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night owls page 10



# The Schoolcraft Connection

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 10

Serving the Schoolcraft Community for 24 years

February 14, 2011

## SC Shows their pink pride

Pink Zone gets an alley-oop

By BRANDON KARSTEN  
& WILLIAM ALBERT  
STAFF WRITER & SPORTS EDITOR

Playing basketball and supporting a good cause is the goal of the Pink Zone game.

The Lady Ocelots were looking to extend their home winning streak. The first few minutes against Oakland C.C. were close, but the Lady Ocelots started pulling away before halftime with a 41-27 score at the half. SC continued to build up their lead by knocking down many shots behind the three point arch. The final score ended with another Lady Ocelot victory 90-59.

The second game featured the SC men against Oakland. Once the game got underway, Oakland took a quick lead, but SC was resilient in putting some points on the board with the defense tightening up. SC finished the first half with freshman guard Matthew Long completing a fade away three point, making the score 39-35 in SC's favor. Oakland regrouped and started evading SC defenders as the Raiders were able to make open three point shots. SC tied it at 51 a piece from Daniel Hill, but Oakland pulled away. SC put up a fight and came within four points of tying the game. The game ended with Oakland winning 80-73. Both teams will be looking to continue their push towards the playoffs and will have that goal in mind until they are out of contention.



PHOTOS BY ERIC MATCHETTE AND BRIAN CAMILLERI

Women and men Ocelots take the court for the third annual Pink Zone.

## Take advantage of FAFSA

Students missing  
out on aid

By PATRICK WALKER  
STAFF WRITER

Federal Student Aid reports in a study that 47% of all college students didn't receive Federal Student Aid. Half of those students reported they did not know they were eligible or would have qualified for aid. In a time of economic duress and rising tuition costs, students should be looking for financial help in order to receive an education that will yield a rewarding career.

FAFSA, or Free Application for Student Aid, offers students a free and loan-less way to help finance their education. Federal Student Aid is actually an office of the U.S. Department of Education and it ensures that all eligible individuals can benefit from federally funded financial assistance for education post high school. Federal Student Aid partners with colleges to help students and families to pay for college by processing millions of student FAFSA applications each year.



Applying for FAFSA offers many opportunities to students struggling to find ways to pay for college. Depending on the applicant, FAFSA can help pay for an entire year of college costs and even offer grants if eligible. Furthermore, Federal Student Aid educates students and families on the process of obtaining aid, disburses billions of dollars in aid funds to students through

schools, services millions of students' loan accounts and manages billions in student aid dollars. For the fiscal year of 2010, Federal Student Aid reports they delivered \$134 billion of federal aid to 14 million postsecondary students and their families.

SC student Shelby McCoy said, "FAFSA awarded me about \$2,500 a semester, for fall and winter."

To be eligible, a student must meet requirements set by Federal Student Aid along with requirements set out by colleges. First of all, a student must be a United States citizen with a valid social security number and must have a high school diploma or GED, completed home-schooling or pass an approved "ability to benefit" test. A

SEE FAFSA PAGE 4



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# The state of everything

Leaders address their constituencies

By SARAH SNYDER  
NEWS EDITOR

The New Year has come on strong with new proposals — nation, state and campus-wide — with the purpose of improving the lives of their representative groups. In January, President Barack Obama, Governor Rick Snyder, and Schoolcraft College President Dr. Conway Jeffress delivered annual addresses on the various approaches in which the lives of citizens will be improved through initiatives enacted within the upcoming year. Each leader is dealing with varying issues within their own jurisdiction yet the common thread is the wellness of the general public.

## United States

President Barack Obama presented his State of the Union address on Jan. 25 with much anticipation from a public exhausted from a turbulent 2010. The annual speech has been a staple throughout United States history which allows a sitting president to address past, current and future issues facing the nation.



Leaders President Barack Obama, Governor Rick Snyder and Schoolcraft President Dr. Jeffress presented their proposals in January.

“I have never been more hopeful about America’s future than I am tonight. Despite our hardships, our union is strong, we do not give up. We do not quit. We do not allow fear or division to break our spirit,” said Obama.

For the speech, members of Congress sat amongst each other in a mix of Democrats and Republicans in a show of unity after the tragic shootings in Tucson. Even with an integrated audience, many of the President’s proposals were received with enthusiasm

or skepticism based upon party affiliation.

America has major changes to look forward to including a boost in research toward a clean energy economy, export of more goods and war brought to an end with troops returning home. Each proposal has underlying intentions of returning the nation to prosperity where the public may, once again, have high hopes for future generations while creating jobs now.

Clean energy research is anticipated to bring about

student academic success with pressure for more concentration on math and science. Job increase is also being anticipated with a boost of concern focused on obtaining clean energy resources. During his speech, Obama set a goal of doubling exports within the next five years which will supposedly inject two million jobs into the economy. Starting in 2011, government spending will be frozen for three years in order for the nation to dig itself out from a looming

SEE STATE ADDRESS PAGE 5

## In Our News

By SARAH SNYDER  
NEWS EDITOR

### World News

Every little girl dreams of being a princess and now they can at the Steven Friedman Gallery in London. A wax replica of Prince William was recently put on display for photo opportunities. American artist Jennifer Rubell created the life-size waxwork of Prince William and specifically posed him to mimic his stance at the moment of the press release when news was delivered of his engagement. Even better, the waxwork has a replica engagement ring attached to his arm so pictures can be taken with the perfect ring and prince. The figurine will be on display in London until March 5.

An elderly woman now has Internet fame through a simple act of humanity. Six thieves were attempting to rob a jewelry store in the United Kingdom when a surprise attacker ruined their plans. The woman, who did not reveal her name, noticed the commotion of the robbers from down the street and first thought that it was a fight between the men. Upon closer investigation she noticed it was a robbery and took actions into her own hands by beating the robbers with her purse to force them to flee from the jewelry store. The public

SEE INOURNEWS PAGE 4

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# Renovations are renewed by ...

Renovation plans for 2011 put in effect

BY ANITA MISHRA  
STAFF WRITER

Imagine walking through the Liberal Arts or the Applied Science Building and the furniture has changed; the lighting is now in a different spot. Even going through the Lower Waterman one would expect the same old gamers corner or the TV room but, instead, there are additional rooms. No need to be alarmed, these renovations are actually beneficial to students.

Classes require the usual textbook or two on top of other necessities like pens and paper, which is no problem. Just walk over to the SC Bookstore and the choices are endless now. The Tech Zone is expanding to accommodate the high demand for necessities laptops, software and hardware. Shelves are expected to be full of more gadgets to choose from.

The Liberal Arts and Applied Science Buildings are being renovated to create feng shui in the classroom. Having little to no room between desks can be inconvenient for students with excess baggage to carry. To solve this problem, some of the classrooms will be rearranged with the entrance being moved to the back of the classroom and possibly provide more space between desks.

In between classes, the most popular place to hang out is where the fun is. When people want to take a break, they go to the Lower Waterman to play games, socialize or even join school clubs. In several months people will notice extra conference rooms near the Student Activities Office. There will also be far more rooms to not only gather with friends but to meet up with all the cool clubs and fun-filled activities offered by the SAO.

Additional renovations include possible expansions of the Media Control Room (located in the Bradner Library), lighting in the VistaTech Theater and possible fitness center in the PE Auxiliary Gym. The Financial Aid office, as mentioned above, is planned to have barriers of sorts so students have more privacy with their advisors.

"Renovations for every year are decided at the end of the previous year," Executive

Director of Construction and Design Robert Wielechowski said. "I start the process in August and ask people to give me ideas," Wielechowski continued.

Wielechowski gets news from a multitude of departments about changes and costs to be made in 2011. He discusses this with his department and then proposes this

plan to Dr. Conway Jeffress, President of the College.

Once Dr. Jeffress approves, Wielechowski and Project Engineer Jerry Piasentin delegate the work to the rest of their team. The project begins thereafter but actual construction usually occurs when the least amount of students are on campus, most likely

during the spring and summer semesters.

The proposed time to finish all these projects is by the end of 2011, if not earlier. Students and faculty can look forward to these renovations to help maintain buildings, improve the surroundings around campus, and of course, provide convenience for facility users.



PHOTO BY ANITA MISHRA

**Robert Wielechowski, middle left, and the rest of the Facilities Management team review the plans for SC's renovations.**

## Break the norm by volunteering this spring

Alternative ways to spend spring break

BY KIM POMA  
STAFF WRITER

Every college student looks forward to spring break. While hundreds of students pack up the coolers, clothes and kegs and head down to Florida for a non-stop, week-long party, others choose this week to do something a little more meaningful: volunteer. The program is called Projects Abroad and it was founded back in 1992 by geology professor Dr. Peter Slowe. Just about anyone can volunteer and ages range from 16 to 75. While university students and recent graduates make up the majority of the program, the project finds an increase in volunteers during summer breaks and in high school students. But just what are the people volunteering to do? There is a wide variety of different things.

Students can head to Jamaica and volunteer to help repair homes that have been damaged by

weather or fire. Work might include mixing and laying mortar blocks, repairing roofs, installing windows, plastering and painting, landscaping and gardening or building basic facilities such as outhouses. The best part is that no construction experience is required so anyone can fly on down and lend a hand to those who need it. This program runs from Feb. 20 to 26, March 6 to 12, March 13 to 19 and March 20 to 26. Flying to Costa Rica and spending the week with children could spark another interest in students. Volunteers work together at local care centers for children, helping to improve the facilities and tend to the children. Creativity is encouraged in this program, due to the activity planning in order to keep the kids entertained. Volunteers will stay with a host family, which is a nice way to really be submerged into the culture of the country. It's perfect for students

interested in social work, child development or education and for anyone looking to learn Spanish. This program will run from March 13 to 19 and from March 20 to 26. Maybe traveling to Mexico to help an almost endangered species sounds more interesting. Volunteers carefully comb the beach in the evenings looking for the eggs of Olive Ridley sea turtles. They then collect the eggs and take them back to their camps where they can hatch safely and are later returned to the ocean. Volunteers also maintain crocodile farms, transforming the farms from meat and leather production into raising the creatures for reintroduction into habitats where they were previously hunted. There's beach cleaning and studying at a nearby lagoon. This experience is perfect for students preparing for major in science and environmental studies. This program will run

SEE BREAK PAGE 4

## Campus Crime

Compiled by Melina M. Chiatalas  
Staff Writer

### Information

On Jan. 18, an individual was observed removing metal out of the SC scrap dumpster and loading it into his Ford F150. An SC security police officer approached the subject and advised him that he does not have permission to remove the metal and then he was instructed to return the metal to the dumpster. The subject was cooperative and returned the metal. The officer informed him that if he were to return to SC, he would be arrested for trespassing. The subject then left without further incident.

### Larceny

A student visited the CPS office and reported her wallet missing on Jan. 10 at noon. She said the wallet contained her driver's license, student I.D., Visa debit card, Panera and Subway card and a blank check signed by her mother. She stated that she was in the Southeast area of the bookstore when she lost it. A video search was conducted and at 11:35 a.m., the student was seen removing her coat, while standing in line to pay for books. Two minutes later, a male was seen bending down to pick up something and then purchased his books at the fifth register when it was his turn. An employee from the bookstore viewed the video, identified the male's purchases and produced a transaction receipt that matched the items she saw on the

receipt. The student number on the receipt belonged to the above student. Records showed the subject was in a class at 1 p.m. Two officers pulled him from class and then questioned him about the missing wallet. He stated that he found the wallet in the bookstore but didn't turn it in because "he doesn't trust people." He stated that the wallet was in his car, so the officers walked to his vehicle with him, while he retrieved the wallet. The male produced the wallet but it only contained the driver's license and student I.D. The officer called the owner of the wallet. While he was on the phone with the owner of the wallet, the male produced the Visa card, Panera and Subway cards from his wallet and gave them to the other officer. The subject claimed he didn't know what happened to the missing check. The officers handcuffed the subject, checked for weapons and brought him to the Security Police office for further investigation. The subject stated that he threw out some papers from his wallet in the trash at Wendy's across the street and there may have been a receipt in there. One of the officers went to Wendy's and conducted a search through their trash and found the missing blank check in the outside entrance. The Livonia Police arrived and questioned the male. Then they took the subject into custody.



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## BREAK

continued from PAGE 3

during the same time as the Jamaica program. Spring breakers can also go to Morocco and learn all about its unique culture. Volunteers will take Arabic lessons, do community work like painting a school and volunteering with children and visit significant cultural and historic sites. Volunteers will also live with host families to get a court-side seat to Moroccan life. This program is great for anyone majoring in international relations or commu-

nity development and will run from March 13 to 19 and March 20 to 26. Projects Abroad is a great way for anyone to spend spring break in an entirely different way. It can help students experience their majors hands-on and take the time to harness the skills they will need once they begin their careers. It's also perfect for those who just want to help someone else for a change. To apply for the program and get any other information, head to [Projects-abroad.org](http://Projects-abroad.org).

## FAFSA

continued from PAGE 1

student must also be enrolled in an eligible program as a regular degree-seeking student and must be between the age of 18 and 25 while registered with the Selective Service. Other rules are set out by the Federal Student Aid and colleges — you can contact a financial aid office for more detailed requirements.

SC student Carlene Marable shared her optimism, "I plan to apply for FAFSA to qualify for money next year."

The deadlines and when FAFSA is submitted is also a key fact to know. According to the Federal Student Aid website, online applications for the 2011-2012 year must be submitted by midnight, Central Standard Time, on June 30, 2012. Any corrections or updates must be submitted by midnight, Central Standard Time, on Sept. 15, 2012. To maximize the chance of getting financial aid, it is recommended to submit the FAFSA as soon

as possible after Jan. 1 of the year of which aid is being requested.

Considering the large amount of students that didn't apply for Federal Student Aid, help is available to assist students in finding aid. SallieMae, the only financial services company specializing in education, is now offering comprehensive tips, videos and online chats to help students complete the FAFSA. Help from SallieMae is available at [SallieMae.com/fafsa](http://SallieMae.com/fafsa) where they offer the preceding help and a step by step process of how to complete the FAFSA. Also, Federal Student Aid has announced that as of Jan. 30, families will be able to transfer their financial data from the IRS to automatically complete some FAFSA questions. For any other questions or help with aid or applying for the FAFSA, go to [federal-studentaid.ed.gov](http://federal-studentaid.ed.gov) or get a free guide to FAFSA from [studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov).

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## IN OUR NEWS

continued from PAGE 2

now hopes the woman receives recognition from the queen.

### National News

Apple recently revealed an experimental newspaper, The Daily, to their Apple Inc.'s App Store designed for the iPad. News Corp. CEO Rupert Murdoch introduced the digital newspaper in New York City early February. The Daily will be 99 cents per week or \$39.99 for an annual subscription. The pricing is offered at a low price because the company will save money on printing presses and fuel to deliver editions. The innovative newspaper comes as a result of publishers turning to digital print to make up for lacking print publishing.

Iran bans foreign cuisine food from cooking channels. The deputy head of Iran's state broadcasting, Ali Darabi, banned foreign foods during a visit to one of the countries 30 state run television channels in February. The ban was started as a nationalistic campaign being implemented by Iran's government. French and Italian cuisines are commonly shown on cooking channels while pizza, pasta and Western foods are common within restaurants.

### Local News

Inkster Judge, Sylvia James, is under investigation in early February due to frivolous spending of taxpayers' money. Despite her tough reputation, an even tougher fight is ongoing between the judge and Inkster Mayor, council and treasurer because she insists on keeping her spending of millions a secret. James is being accused of paying herself \$1,950 of the courts money for a clothing and gun allowance. James is also holding Court bank accounts ransom after not being audited for years. Action News Investigator Bill Proctor for WXYZ is investigating the case further.

The feral pig was named an invasive species now spreading across more than 65 of Michigan's 83 counties according to the state Department of Natural Resources and Environment. The Senate has been issued a July deadline to decide whether the big, mean and hungry pigs should be declared illegal to own. Feral pigs are referred to as big cockroaches with husks and will eat anything in site. They travel in herds and the highest numbers seen have been reported in Midland. The issue arising now is how to deal with the invasive 200-300 lb. feral pigs.



Check out page 17 for your chance to be one of the Top Ten Tweets of the SAO or the Face of Schoolcraft.





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# STATE ADDRESS

continued from PAGE 2

financial crisis. The most anticipated proposal could be the return of combat troops from Iraq by the end of August. Each action stands to have a significant impact on American citizens.

"A new decade stretches before us, we don't quit, I don't quit, lets seize this moment-to start anew, to carry the dream forward and to strengthen our union once more," said Obama.

## Michigan

Newly elected Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, delivered his first State of the State address on January 19. The address is typically delivered at a later date but the energetic governor intends to begin reinventing Michigan quickly. Residents need to become accustomed with major changes nation and statewide with Snyder proposing alternative methods to revitalizing the state of Michigan.

Snyder, the tie-eschewing former CEO who campaigned as "The Nerd," presented a stern but hopeful outlook on leading Michigan out of debt by using lessons learned in the corporate environment. A key first step is eliminating the Michigan Business Tax and replacing it with a 6% corporate income tax. This tax cut is estimated to create \$1.5 billion for businesses according to the Detroit Free Press.

During the address, Snyder endorsed the Detroit River Crossing Project and requested approval from lawmakers. The new route to Canada will create jobs, strengthen the economy and re-establish Michigan as a hub for global commerce according to Snyder.

Boosting Michigan's economy will also be obtained through \$25 million annually spent on the Pure Michigan advertising campaign. The program is anticipated to pay for itself through the tourism it stands to attract.

"Job one is jobs," said Snyder regarding the first priority for the upcoming year. Although many issues were presented during the address, the Governor left Michigan residents

anxious for more. Education and budget reforms will be assessed within the next two months providing in-depth details to the actions that will be taken to restore the state's economy.

Schoolcraft College president, Dr. Conway Jeffress, delivered a smaller and more personal set of proposals to faculty and staff on Jan. 7 at the annual Welcome Back breakfast. This speech is given at the beginning of the fall and winter semester each year. The event is a chance for the entire Schoolcraft staff to be informed, as a whole, of new policies, programs and initiatives to be enacted.

Presidential award staff winners were announced to introduce the breakfast and maintain an uplifting spirit. Dr. Jeffress continued with a recap of 2010's major bankruptcy scandals and events in the past we now have the opportunities to learn from and grow.

Plans for 2011 include the completion of all police and fire training facilities as the nursing program will continue to pursue NLNA accreditation. One major accomplishment is the completion of the upgrade of the computer infrastructure system. Additions to the staff with a mix of push for the math and sciences will also be incorporated within this year. The 50th birthday of Schoolcraft will also be celebrated in October with a kickoff program already in the works to commemorate successful operation.

"We have come from a tiny place in the middle of nowhere with about 2,000 students, to a very big place with about 36,000 students in the middle of Livonia. I think we have done quite well," said Dr. Jeffress.

An optimistic tone has been set throughout all the proposals with a year full of recovery and innovation. National, state and local improvements can only be achieved with team efforts and drastic changes.

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# The Great Debate

## No Sconces Involved

In an effort to increase the scope of political discussion on Schoolcraft’s campus, the Connection staff reached out to faculty to find a way to include more voices in the College’s student publication. The Great Debate provides a venue for respectful discussion on both sides of today’s controversial topics, all in the name of educating readers.

The Connection would like to thank Professor Thomson’s Political Science 105 class for taking on this first subject:

Should Schoolcraft College update its non-discrimination clause to include a reference to sexual orientation?

### Leave the policy unchanged ...

BY PHILLIP STRZALKOWSKI  
GUEST WRITER

Should Schoolcraft College amend the discrimination, harassment and offensive conduct policy? A complicated and sensitive issue, many on campus would agree. To approve such an amendment would extend an umbrella of protection from abuse and or discrimination based on sexual orientation. Being gay or lesbian is not merely a choice, it’s just who some people are. People in same sex relationships don’t believe they are wrong in what they are doing; just like straight people don’t see anything wrong with their relationship. On the other hand, should we expect the school to add a special rule to protect students from hurtful comments just because some want to wear tennis shoes instead of boots to class?

A free society requires each of us to agree to disagree on some issues. In this instance there are those who feel a policy needs to be in place to prevent such abuse. The current policy needs to be more specific. Two separate categories, the first protecting everyone from discrimination based on their race, gender, age, etc ... the second category should protect those who make personal choices. To place individual choices such as getting married or being gay with genetics or age is to say that we are required to get married or we have to live up to our social ste-

reotypes. Every adult American can choose his or her own path through life.

Being free has its consequences. Local governments, such as city hall or school boards, have to make decisions based on what they think is the correct choice. Some may differ in opinion when it comes to how much regulation should be in place. On one side of the argument, people are very capable of policing themselves; but inevitably someone will go out of their way to hurt someone else if a rule does not provide for a reason not to do such a thing.

Most people wish they could make every decision based on their own personal beliefs, only doing what they think is right. We’re not selfish people; we realize everyone does not share the same beliefs. To only do what one thinks is right can lead to some bad decisions. The individual — not the government — should make choices about what is socially acceptable. Others would say they cannot make those choices by themselves so they need rules. There is nothing wrong with rules so long as they don’t impede the freedoms of others.

Holding these views does not make one anti-gay or anti-lesbian. Many individuals who are gay tend to be

SEE AGAINST PAGE 8

### ... Amend the policy

BY ALISON ARMSTRONG  
GUEST WRITER

Today, the Schoolcraft policy states, “That no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, marital status, creed, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program or activity or in employment.” Ok, but what about everyone else? How would you feel if you were a lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, and you understood that your school’s policy held protection against everybody else no matter their color, age, etc ... but not you! Discrimination against lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender in colleges is unacceptable today. Due to this unfair, judgmental issue, Schoolcraft College should amend its non-discrimination policy to include language covering a person’s sexual orientation.

While attending classes on a college campus, all students want to feel safe and accepted. Having to walk around the grounds constantly feeling judged, looked down upon, or simply feeling unsafe just because of being “different” is unjust. In today’s society, there is such a large population of gay students and it’s only right for them to be able to feel protected and acknowledged in a positive manor — not only by each other, but by their fellow peers and faculty. If the colored people, the

married people and even the disabled are being protected by the policy, then why should gays be excluded? They are people too like everyone else around and they certainly deserve the same support and respect. Their sexual orientation should not matter under any circumstance.

College students in today’s world feel extremely pressured to fit in socially. That can sometimes be much harder when you are a gay student trying to feel socially accepted. There have been numerous incidents on other college campuses where students have been bullied and harassed dramatically due to their sexual preference. This is a very depressing issue. Some students have even taken it so far as to where they cannot handle the harassment any longer and turn to serious measures to end it all. We all would hate for anything that drastic to happen to a Schoolcraft student because of the lack of support that the school’s current policy has. The faculty would feel just as ashamed if anything of the sort were to happen to a student. Schoolcraft College overall holds a respectable reputation and adding to its non-discrimination policy the right to express one’s sexual orientation would boost that reputation tremendously.


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THE SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

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Leave the Internet alone



By Ashley Carley  
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LIFE'S TOUGH — GET A HELMET

It seems that every reference to life in the fast lane these days revolves around social media to some extent. With the heat of revolutionary politics spilling into the streets of Cairo, the Egyptian government has taken the liberty of shutting down the Internet. In a time of crisis it is sometimes necessary to pull out the magic wand of safety to maintain order. But having the power to completely shut down a major, if not the best and fastest, form of communication available to citizens is more akin to the tactics of totalitarian dictators. Egyptian and American governments alike should recognize the imperfections of the digital world without stealing the people’s freedom of speech.

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution prohibits our government from infringing on the freedom of speech and freedom of the press. Thanks to the Cybersecurity Act of 2009, the President can order the disconnection of any federal or private critical infrastructure network during emergencies or for reasons of national security. While businesses such as AT&T and Verizon could cause uproars if legislation were to affect, limit or dictate their company, they hesitate to voice any opinions until the legal matters arise. There’s big money in government contracts, essentially earning the major corporations some cash.

But what happens to the little guy? The government would be interrupting almost every aspect of human life. National laws have failed to encompass the increasingly global scale of digital life. It’s called the World Wide Web for a reason. The entire country should not have to suffer for the actions of one person or a small group to keep things “on the safe side.” Instead of a law giving more power to an elected few, the government should follow through

SEE CARLEY PAGE 8



# Hollywood is coming to town



**HOLD ON,  
HEAR ME  
OUT**

**By JONATHAN KING**  
MANAGING EDITOR  
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In summer of last year, the city of Northville was all abuzz about the local bookshop (Next Chapter Bookstore & Bistro) which was hand-chosen by Wes Craven to be a major set piece in the upcoming movie "Scream 4." Like so many others, Craven and company were drawn to Michigan for the generous tax incentives which were instituted in 2008. The incentive policy, enacted by governor Granholm, basically allows for film productions in Michigan to be reimbursed up to 42% of their expenses. For many studios this deal is too good to pass up and, as a result, the state has been inundated with filmmakers trying to save a buck or two.

This trend has left Michiganders suitably excited. With the auto industry in a less-than-favorable position and the city of Detroit in "a bit of a state," many feel that this turn towards filmmaking is a shining beacon of hope in a murky sea of uncertainty. Believe me, as a movie buff, I'm all in favor of Spielberg camping in my backyard but, at the same time, I have to wonder ... is this really the godsend that we've been hoping for?

Obviously, the reason most people

are excited — besides the possibility of bumping into Johnny Depp at a Starbucks — is that films bring the potential for employment. With the scourge of unemployment still very much with us, the idea of Hollywood arriving with a bucket of jobs in tow seems ideal. Unfortunately, while film production does create jobs, the permanency of these jobs is questionable at best. It's important to note that film companies can either stay in the state to create production studios — which, in turn, creates permanent, stable jobs — or they can simply show up, shoot their film and leave. The tax credit favors neither. Should Michigan become a thriving hub of the movie industry, the balance will inevitably tip in favor of production studios but, until then, the idea of the movie industry being a reliable source of work is somewhat nebulous.

Money is also a key factor worth exploring. In 2011, Michigan is estimated to give out \$155 million in tax credits. That's precisely enough money to buy everyone in the state a copy of "The Godfather" on DVD and a Klondike Bar to enjoy while they watch it. While it may prove to be a valuable play in the long run, sinking so much money into this venture at such an unstable time, economically-speaking, seems unwise. And since Michigan is competing against other states offering similar incentives, there's no real way to cut back on the percentages without losing potential clients. This leaves the state in an all-or-nothing position, which is not where you want

SEE KING PAGE 8



**SARAH  
SAYS ...**

**By SARAH LAVIER**  
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR  
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Ringin in 2011 was not only about celebrating with loved ones and friends this year. For a number of smokers and bar owners, New Year's Eve was a night to protest the new smoking ban. The ban, which took effect last year on May 1, prohibits smoking in any public building, most notably bars and restaurants. Many businesses are stating that they have lost money in their cash registers due to the ban. While that may be true, the ban has also led to healthier environments for customers and employees alike.

Some bar owners planned the New Year's Eve protest to send a message to the state lawmakers due to the so-called "negative" effect the new smoking ban is having on their businesses. The protest, organized by Bloomfield Hills-based Protect Private Property Rights in Michigan, included over 450 bars in Michigan. Those against the ban allowed its customers to light up inside after 9 p.m. on New Year's Eve, ignoring the potential \$500 fines. Fox News, which was aware of the protest beforehand, posted a hotline on their website for the Wayne

# Butt out

County area to crack down on any bars ignoring the ban.

Michigan banned smoking in public places for a reason. Smoking inside public buildings creates an atmosphere where everyone ends up smoking in a way. Having worked in a bar, I can tell you that cleaning up all the ashtrays and breathing in the entire room of cigarette smoke was a nightmare. Since May 1, bars and restaurants have become much nicer and cleaner working environments. One question that has been brought up is whether or not bartenders and servers have seen a decrease in tips. The answer to that question probably depends on the persona of the bar or restaurant. And anyway, people still need to eat, right? Not being able to smoke a cigarette inside a building should not stop anyone from having a good time. People are still going to go out and enjoy themselves on the weekends, regardless of not being able to smoke indoors.

According to Steve Mace, spokesman for the smoking ban protest, 60% of bar and restaurant owners are barely able to survive financially since May 1. While this may be the case for some businesses, many customers have avoided the blanket of smoke in bars and restaurants before the smoking ban took place. Public establishments may have lost the smokers but they have gained the non-smokers. Nothing is worse than coming home from work or a night out on the town then smelling like an ashtray.

According to Henry Ford Hospital,

SEE LAVIER PAGE 8

# Michigan needs more Snyders



**THE SNYDER  
REPORT**

**By SARAH SNYDER**  
NEWS EDITOR  
ssnyder51@yahoo.com

Once upon a time, the helpless could count on a superhero to fly down from the sky and fight away all evil villains terrorizing good citizens. With unemployment and financial crisis still lingering in Michigan, it's about time the state receives a new superhero with the letter "S," stitched on his cape to save the day from these two dreadful monsters. Newly elected governor Rick Snyder has stepped into office with a long list of evil forces he needs to combat in an effort to protect his citizens and will fight evil under the moniker "The Nerd." It's going to be a tough long fight for Snyder, a Republican in a traditionally democrat stronghold but, if he can't do it, no one can.

Currently, unemployment in Michigan looms at 11.7% as of December 2010 (and that doesn't factor in the underemployed and those that have given up on looking for work altogether). When Snyder recently delivered his State of the State address in January, he laid out proposals for all the ways in which he would curb these insidious adversaries. Creating jobs is

The Nerd's first mission in order for Michigan to be restored to its former self. For too long this state has seen automotive workers being laid off and assembly workers being kicked off their lines, forced to find work elsewhere. The unemployment monster has made life quite unpleasant for residents. Luckily, our superhero Snyder has a strong background in managing and creating resources from working within major corporations in his past. Snyder flies into his position with previous knowledge of overseeing and leading businesses such as Gateway. These acquired skills will help our governor to look at Michigan's failing economy with a business mindset and dig through the murky mess to discover the important assets of this state. Unemployment will be karate chopped and kicked back into 2010. Snyder approved of the Detroit River Crossing project, which will make access into Windsor, Ontario an easy transition for jobseekers. This new bridge will also make transporting goods quicker and easier for profits to be made by businesses. Jobs will begin to be filled with Snyder leading the way.

Michigan is now facing a \$1.8 billion deficit for the fiscal year. The green dollar goblin attacks Michiganders at the worst time following unemployment. Proposals of making investments into programs that can be profitable in ways that will offset deficit were made by Snyder during his recent State of the State speech.

SEE SNYDER PAGE 8

# Can we kick the habit?



**NAT  
ATTACK**

**By NATALIE BURNS**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR  
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Since the ban of smoking inside public places, you probably noticed the groups of people always gathered around outside in a huddle, freezing and hoping that maybe the bar will bend the rules and allow them to smoke inside. Considering the support for the ban by non-smokers, it's unlikely there will be an exodus back inside the warm confines for tobacco enthusiasts.

However, there might be a legal way for smokers to get their fix and stay indoors.

Maybe you have heard about the new e-cigarette. The one you can legally smoke in bars and restaurants. Call it whatever you want — an electronic cigarette, e-cigarette or vaporize cigarette — this battery-powered device provides inhaled doses of nicotine and is a smoker's ticket back onto a barstool.

Not everyone is a smoker, which is understandable. But for the people that don't smoke, it's a lot easier on their lungs not having to breathe in the plumes of toxic smoke, when hanging out with a crowd that likes to puff. Because these electronic cigs

are absent of additives and chemicals found in tobacco cigarettes, the new wave of e-cigarettes is more cost effective and more convenient than traditional cigarettes. Being hailed as the smoker's "smart" choice, switching over makes it easy to become an instant modern smoker.

The vapor formed from e-cigarettes actually provides a unique flavor and even a physical sensation similar to the ordinary tobacco. There are also many varieties of tobacco flavors that regular cigarettes can't supply. Tastes such as fruity and spearmint gum, cinnamon Danish swirl, coffee bean and French swirl are all available. The e-cig is an alternate smoking experience that can provide the same nature of pleasure and level of satisfaction like that of smoking a traditional cigarette or a cigar.

"I can't speak for everyone but almost 40 years of smoking two packs a day, the patch/gum/lozenge/hypnosis did not work for me. The day I picked up this new technological device was the last puff I had on a cigarette. Cold turkey and no withdrawal" stated Daniel Kling.

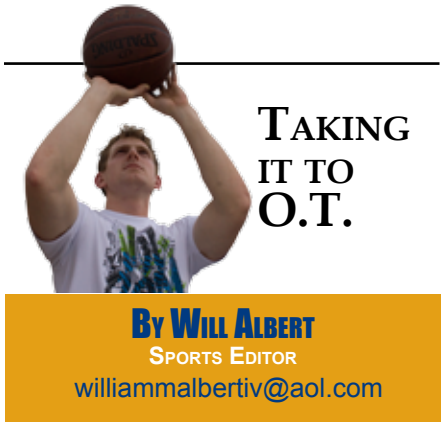
However, some people are mentioning that it's not worth paying the money for this new product. Ryan Cook, a smoker of 12 years stated that this vapor stick is nice for a puff in places such as the movies or at the bar but at the end of the day he always went back to his safe pack of Marlboro Reds. "It just wasn't the same," he said.

Dr Joel Nitzkin, Chair of the

SEE BURNS PAGE 8



# The moment of truth



TAKING  
IT TO  
O.T.

By Will Albert  
SPORTS EDITOR  
williammalbertiv@aol.com

Recruiting players is a 365-day-a-year job for college coaches and the process starts several years before a player can sign his letter of intent on National Signing Day. Coaches build relationships with high school coaches, players, players’ families and, at times, entire communities. It’s one reason why staff continuity is so important to good recruiting efforts and it’s a big reason why expectations should be tempered for even the biggest name coaches at the most prestigious programs.

The bottom line is that recruiting is a cutthroat process between teams. Some coaches use any means necessary to bring in new talent.

The media uses the 24-hour news cycle and recruiting websites to turn high school athletes into celebrities by just talking about which school a top prospect will choose to attend. Where 10 years ago the recruitment process happened behind closed doors, now it’s all done in front of the watchful eyes of the masses where every move made by a highly-touted recruit is scrutinized and analyzed. It’s almost to the point where the media is trying to stir up decisions without care for who’s at the losing end.

But the increase in readily-available information has almost become too much. Fans are able to follow a recruit every step of the way, knowing exactly when they step on campus, which schools they’re considering and what direction they’re leaning as the big day approaches. There’s a high-demand for the information, sure, but it feels so wrong to hang on an 18-year old’s every word.

The “hat dance,” as it’s called, is more prevalent than ever as recruits announce their college decision to the world with increasingly over-the-top pomp and circumstance. No longer is a commitment solidified with a phone call to the lucky coach. Nowadays, the most sought-after recruits take to the national airwaves, plopped down at a table with hats of the schools they’re deciding between. They’ll fake one way, go the other, or even come up

with a new or unique way to announce their decision.

We’ve seen this at play quite a bit in recent weeks, but it still never ceases to amaze. A long-time verbal commit to one school reverses course, spurning his original choice as the recruitment process comes to a close. 18-year-old kids changing their mind isn’t surprising — they’re fickle; every-one was at that age — it’s the reaction of the masses that is troubling.

There’s nothing messier than when a recruit goes back on his word and has a change of heart. The typical reactions range from “we didn’t want him anyway” to questioning the recruit’s character. Fans fly off the handle, criticizing opposing coaches, their team’s staff and even the recruit himself.

But why? We’re talking about a foot-ball player that’s never set foot on a college field. Yet fans develop an emotional attachment to these recruits — whether rational or not. The hopes and dreams of their program hinges on the decisions of an 18-year-old kid.

Coaches, on the other hand, are left at the mercy of an 18-year old, a terrifying prospect for someone with a multi-million dollar job on the line. A coach’s job — his livelihood — depends on evaluating how these recruits will project, then convincing a recruit to join them for the next four-plus years.

With some much on the line, some big-name programs and coaches resort unethical tactics behind the scenes which should be made illegal in the process of attracting young athletes.

Just take a look at the Crimson Tide down in Alabama for a great example. Head Coach Nick Saban has brought the “sharpest tools in the shed” year after year because of oversigning, grey shirting and recording more released players than any other school to fill his rosters with new talent. While these tactics are hardly exclusive to the University of Alabama, being one of the top programs in the nation must tempt other programs to follow suit.

These kids are dealing with the spotlight and attention that comes with being a highly-touted recruit. It’s a confusing time, compounded by the prospect of making the biggest decision they’ve made in their lives but the media and coaches are throwing a fastball right at the player with no remorse on whether they make the cut for the roster or not. It’s a high-stakes game and one can’t help but wonder if the students are often left holding the losing hand.

## CARLEY

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with net neutrality and make a priority of increasing their ability to pinpoint the problem.

It is no secret that our country and most of the world’s civilization relies heavily on the Internet and mobile traffic, or that our government wants the best safety for its people. So, why would we put ourselves in a position for an easy attack? Terrorists could simply tap into our systems and cause enough problems to shut down the nation and essentially cut off the average citizen from these techno-

logical forms of communication. It’s hard to say how long people could last without these medias —and not just for social interaction, but even careers and education systems. If we have to sacrifice Facebook in the name of national security, then haven’t the terrorists already won? While no one would object to the federal government improving its ability to fight off a cyber war, it seems intelligent to be wary of handing over so much power to a few people and give up much of our digital sovereignty.

## BURNS

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Tobacco Control Task Force for the American Association of Public Health Physicians, notes that the long-term health effects are as yet unknown, however predictions are positive.

“There is no research per se on e-cigarettes. The safety information we have is on the delivery of nicotine for nicotine cessation and also on the safest of the tobacco products, which basically deliver the same nicotine. ... If we can figure that the nicotine in the e-cigarettes is basically a generic version of the same nicotine that is in prescription products, we have every reason to believe that the hazard posed by e-cigarettes would be much

lower than one percent, probably lower than one tenth of one percent of the hazard posed by regular cigarettes.”

This new product, the e-cigarette can be ordered online or bought at the local grocery store. Never one to judge, I say you can’t knock something until you try it. If the results are real and it is improving people’s smoking habits, then it could be worth a shot. There are obviously many pros and cons about this new design. However, it’s important that we keep all our options open. Whether it will replace the traditional cigarette or not, at least we’re trying to make this world a healthier place.

## LAVIER

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a nationwide smoking ban in public places will result in 18,600 fewer hospitalized heart patients and can save \$90 million in health costs. So whether you’re a smoker or non-smoker, the ban should be thought as something that enhances the way we live. We can

all agree that smoking is unhealthy in the first place. So why create an environment that is hazardous to everyone’s health? Next time you’re out, whether it’s a restaurant or bar, think of the positive effects the ban has had on our society today.

## SNYDER

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He also supports \$25 million Pure Michigan campaign, which attracts tourists into our lovely state. This project not only brings money from tourists back into state funding but also creates jobs through the project. Every superhero should be proud of the area he protects and Snyder supporting the Pure Michigan Campaign is proof that we all should take pride in our State.

Although cartoon superheroes

swoop right, in kick butt, and are out before the 30-minute time block is up, Michigan residents must understand that our hero differs in small ways. The Nerd has many humongous monsters to handle that are timely, costly and require a lot of participation. Our hero needs backup from every citizen but will surely defeat these monsters and bring our state back to a prosperous economy. So, Have no fear, Snyder is here.

## AGAINST

continued from PAGE 6

more successful. It could be a side effect from years of being told they won’t become anything because no one will like you. Maybe they are just more apt to be go-getters. Whichever the case, being gay is still a personal

choice. As Americans we have a choice to tell others about rules simply to stop people’s feelings from getting hurt.

## FOR

continued from PAGE 6

Overall, all students that attend Schoolcraft College deserve the right to be treated equally and fairly no matter what their race, gender, age or sexual orientation may be. There should be no discrimination on campus towards any human being, and all should be supported and greatly respected by one another. To help end

some of this unfortunate harassment and bullying taking place,, and to help all people feel safe, supported, and equal, the College should amend their non-discrimination policy in the favor of including all lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals. We all are people and we all deserve to be treated equally.

## KING

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to be when your state’s economy hangs in the balance.

Now, this is not to say we should be entirely pessimistic about this situation. Ultimately, this could be the beginning of a glorious new era for our little mitten-shaped state. There is potential for great success and prosperity in our future. Clint Eastwood, who filmed “Gran Torino” in Michigan,

even went so far as to declare that our humble state “will be the new film capital of the world.” However, it’s in our best interest to remain skeptical, at least for a little while. That is unless there are any directors out there who’d be willing to give me a starring role in their latest film, in which case, make yourselves at home!



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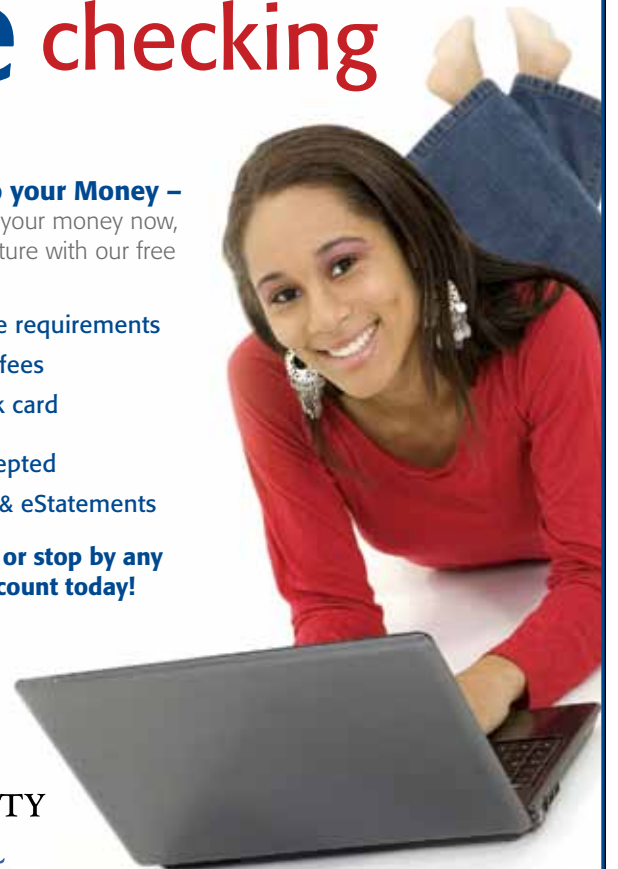


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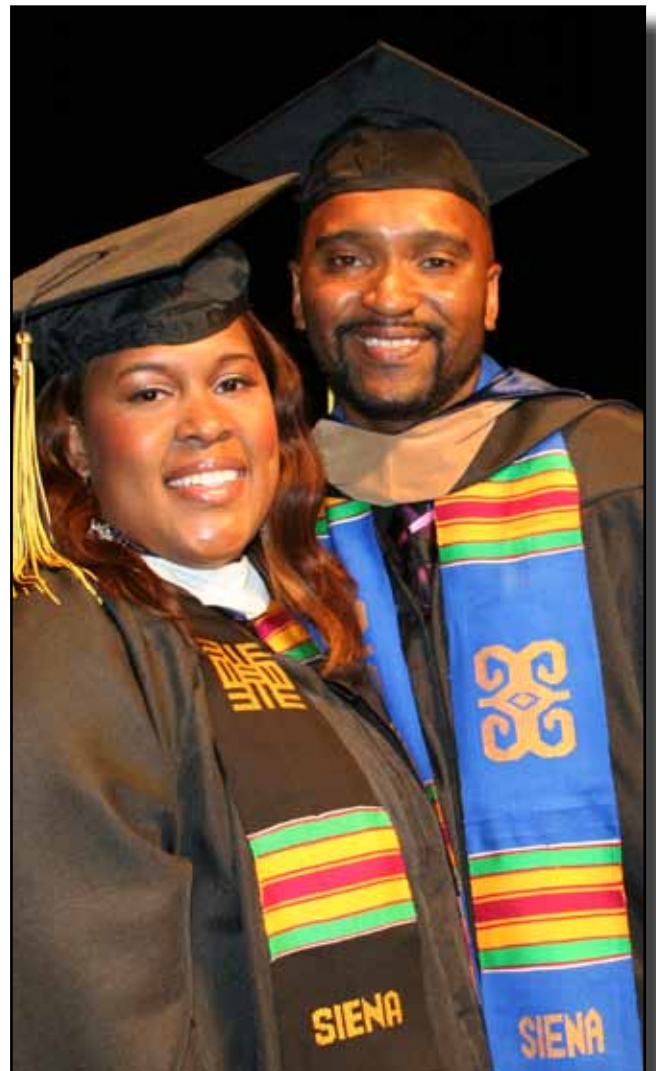
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# Late night hotspots

Places to study after 9 p.m.

By MELINA CHIATALAS  
STAFF WRITER

Sometimes students may not finish all their homework in time before the Bradner Library closes at SC. But don't worry, there are other alternate places students can go to study or finish their assignments. Several local cafes and restaurants in the area provide free Wi-Fi for their customers with the convenience of being open past 9 p.m.

## Caribou Coffee

17378 Haggerty Rd., Livonia

With great costumer service and a relaxed, quiet atmosphere, Caribou Coffee is a great place for studying. Students looking to get a cup of coffee can also receive a discount when presenting a college ID. Additionally, students can bring in their own coffee mugs for 50 cents off. Caribou also features a live acoustic open mic night every first and third Tuesday of the month from 6 to 9 p.m. Caribou is open until 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

## The Coffee Bean

884 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

With a conformable and artistic atmosphere, The Coffee Bean in Downtown Plymouth offers several coffee selections and is a great, late night study choice. Every Friday and Saturday night, The Bean offers live performances



PHOTO BY ANITA MISHRA

A study group is fully engaged in their studies ignoring all the commotion in the other rooms at the Plymouth Coffee Bean Co. aka The Bean.

featuring local talent from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. and on Monday evenings the coffee shop has Open Mic night from 7 to 10 p.m. They even have their own resident guitar that customers can play while they're there. During the warmer months, The Bean has an outdoor patio in the front and in back of the coffee shop. The Bean is open until midnight every day.

## Barnes and Noble

6 Mile Rd. and Haggerty Rd., Northville

Conveniently placed inside of Barnes and Noble, there is a mini Starbucks café, along with several couches placed throughout the book store, that provide a comfortable atmosphere for some serious studying. According to Barnes and Noble website, "We have

always wanted our stores to feel like home — a place where people can relax, explore and connect with ideas and each other at their leisure. So it is only natural that, in today's world, we want our customers to enjoy complimentary Wi-Fi."

Barnes and Noble is open Sunday until 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday until 11 p.m. and Monday through Thursday until 10 p.m.

## Grecian Café

413 N Main St., Plymouth

The Grecian Café is a diner located right down the street from the heart of downtown Plymouth. The diner offers a delicious Greek style menu, along with plenty of comfortable booths and places to sit. What's great about this place is that it's open 24 hours.

Whether a student is a night owl or an early bird, this place is always open and always inviting.

## Buffalo Wild Wings

6 Mile Rd, Livonia

For students who love to watch their favorite sports while studying, Buffalo Wild Wings (BW) is the place to be. They have several plasma screen TVs along with delicious wings ranging from mild to blazing hot. BW has something for everyone. They're open every day from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. For other store locations and hours, visit [buffalowildwings.com](http://buffalowildwings.com).

## Panera Bread

Haggerty Rd., Nothville

Panera has many specialty breads ranging from their

famous asiago cheese to the ever popular cinnamon raisin. There are several healthy items on their menu to choose from. They have great salads, sandwiches and delicious coffee. They also provide a rather spacious dining area, with many seats to choose from. It's a laid back place to go for students to do their class work and enjoy a healthy meal. Panera is open till 10 p.m.

These are just a few of the local cafes and restaurants that students can study after the library closes. The Internet is full of more options of local Wi-Fi hotspots in your area. So grab a cup of coffee, log in and enjoy one of these late night hotspots.



PHOTO BY JENAE CONLEY

Club members enjoy various types of anime.

# Otaku what?

SC anime club holds screenings and events

By KRISTA WALLACE  
STAFF WRITER

Interested in anime? Here at SC, the student-led Otaku Anime club holds screenings of several types of anime each month. The meetings are described as a sort of "viewing party" for members. The club screens a blend of anime ranging from action and mystery to romance and big robot. The Otaku Anime Club is always looking for new members to join.

"We show anime, hang out, order pizza and save the world from angry robots, ninjas, zombies, schoolgirls or whoever else has been causing trouble that week. There's a raffle, Pocky (Japanese biscuit sticks flavored with different kinds of frosting) and some video games in the backroom." Leon Wilborn, President of the club since January of 2009, said. "Essentially, we're about providing a place for



# The bee's knees

Student Profile:  
**Erica Antishin**

By **SARAH LAVIER**  
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

*What's your major?*  
Conservation Biology

*Why did you choose it?*

I love biology in general and since I am a beekeeper, it all just worked out that my profession would be in conservation work.

*What do you enjoy most about being a beekeeper?*

Well for me, being a beekeeper has so many benefits. I love the opportunity of being able to work with such amazing creatures and knowing that I am helping them grow and become more prevalent in our day in age, when studies have shown that the population of honey bees is starting to dwindle.

*Being the Student Activities Board (SAB) President, what made you run for it?*

I knew that it would be an amazing opportunity to learn and grow and get more involved on campus.

*What's the mission of the SAB?*

We put together numerous events and make it easier for students to get to know other Schoolcraft students. We are Schoolcraft's social network!

*What do you enjoy most about Schoolcraft?*

I love the small classes, which make it seem a lot easier to form more relationships with my fellow classmates. The professors also seem a lot more enthusiastic about the subjects they're teaching and the personal relationship with each student.

*Favorite subject ...* Biology

*Guilty pleasure ...* Gummy worms and gummy bears

*Dream vacation ...* Europe!

*Dream job ...* Beekeeper

*Hobbies ...* Outside of school and beekeeping, I love to work on music and just relax with friends. ... School, work, beekeeping and working for school takes a lot of my time and energy but when I am able to get some free time, spending it with my friends and family is what I love to do the most.



PHOTO JENAE CONELY

**Erica Antishin gets involved on campus as the SAB President.**



PHOTO BY ERIC MATCHETTE

**Athletes with 3.70 GPA and above- Fall Semester 2010:**

Jason Jesse  
Ronald Pummill  
Sierra Cano  
Lindsay McMullen  
Nathaniel Sergison  
Jessica Macari  
Christine Maleske  
Brooke Ehman  
Emily Marshall  
Hailee Azizi  
Tevin Wynter  
Sarah Suppelsa  
Jessica Lyon  
Jennifer Giegler  
Ashley Werner  
Nicolette Plewa  
Nicholas Walker  
Lauren Macuga  
Jamie Monterosso  
Rachel Hayes  
Philip Strachan  
Jonathon Beal  
Alyssa Cuthbert  
Samantha Suter  
Renee Boudreau  
Lauren Meadows

## Smart jocks?

Student athletes recognized for academic achievement

By **PRINCESS GABBARA**  
STAFF WRITER

During halftime of the first Pink Zone basketball game, 25 student athletes with a GPA of 3.7 or higher were recognized for their outstanding achievements at the College. After carrying a heavy load with schoolwork, practice and social lives, these students have excelled academically in addition to their athletic performances.

Like so many other students, sophomore Ron Pummill is in the process of

deciding where he will transfer with the intent of studying for a teaching degree. His goal is to major in Physical Education with a minor in History. Pummill juggles basketball and golf along with classes, work and academics. What is the key to his success? Planning. He has found that planning is crucial and keeping a detailed schedule helps him to stay on track.

"I feel great [to be successful in both school and sports]. It's nice to know that hard work pays off. When you're going to school and playing sports,

sometimes you feel that it's too much, so it's nice to be recognized."

Pummill, as well as the other athletes, work closely with Michael Oliver, coordinator of the Student Athlete Support System (SASS). The program works to help student athletes balance both academics and sports, which can be a real challenge. SASS fosters better communication between student athletes, instructors and coaches. Often, student athletes are unable to attend their classes because of being away at a game. Because of this, student athletes

are required to submit a Class Absence Notification (CAN) form to their instructors at least a week in advance before their absence. The purpose of the CAN form is for instructors to make note of any assignments or exams that the student athlete will miss and indicate when they expect this important class work to be made up.

Student athletes are also evaluated every two weeks, in order to keep



Walsh College is serious business. A college is all about its students and helping them develop the tools to succeed. Walsh College students know better than most what they need, and they get it. Above all, Walsh College students want to learn about business. Any and all aspects of the college experience which don't help them learn about business are considered, well, unnecessary. They want smaller classes, so they can talk to their professors easily and readily. They want the business skills that can put them ahead of the pack and enable them to climb a rung or two or more on the corporate ladder. They want to be taught by people who live and breathe the business world every day. And they are, by CEOs, CFOs, CMOs, partners in law firms, CPA firms and other positions of prestige who share their stories and business-world insight as Walsh professors. Walsh students take pride in learning the ropes at the state's largest graduate business school, where they can rub elbows with many like-minded students, including the largest group of MBA candidates of any in Michigan. And, they all want to be able to work while they go to school, out of sheer necessity. The luxury of putting their career on hold while they go back to school isn't an option. But all this serious talk doesn't mean the Walsh College experience isn't enjoyable. It is, but in a decidedly no-nonsense way. Serious students. A college serious about helping them. Perfect match.

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PHOTO BY JENAE CONLEY

Anime club President Leon Wilborne shows his love for Pokémon.

## ANIME

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people to hang out and share their love of anime, manga, video games, computers and certain elements of popular culture. We've done events such as field trips, bazaars and of course our annual contests and parties." The club made it their mission to provide the SC community with a place to enjoy Japanese animation in a theater-like setting.

The Otaku Anime club was founded in December 2000 by a group of friends who enjoyed anime and wanted to watch it together on a big screen. The club took off from there. Each year the Otaku Club has a pizza party to celebrate its anniversary.

The members of the club also hold a Doujinshi circle: a group of writers and artists who creatively draw and write a comic that describes the club. The circle is formed the Friday before every anime club meeting in the conference room of the lower Waterman. The circle is made up of several writers and currently are looking for a few more artists to add to the circle.

On Feb. 12 the club held a Gothic Valentine's Day event, which featured a contest for best gothic outfit. Participants had the opportunity to

vote for the best female and male outfit. According to Wilborn, "This was originally done in the month of October to complement our Halloween Cosplay (Costume Play) Night. However, in 2004 we moved it to February because the year before, our former officers were involved in an auto accident and have kept it there because of the irony people found in it coinciding with Valentine's Day."

The screenings are free for anyone to watch, with several fun-filled activities such as raffles, prizes and anime music videos being shown during intermission at 7:30 p.m. There are also Japanese snacks for sale and pizza to buy by the slice. Students, faculty and staff are all welcome to attend club meetings. Come check out the club for yourself with an upcoming screening this month on Saturday, Feb. 26. Meetings are held in the Lower Waterman located in the VisTaTech Center from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on the third and last Saturday of each month. For more information about the club, visit the official website at Otakuanime.org or visit the SAO in the Lower Waterman.

## JOCKS

continued from PAGE 11

track of their progress, which can be thought of as a report card. The form is completed by the instructor reporting on the student athlete's attendance indicating whether they are passing, borderline or failing. If a student athlete is borderline or failing, they are required to develop an Academic Performance Improvement Plan (APIP) in order to ensure greater academic success.

SASS is dedicated to helping its student athletes soar, not only on the field of play but in the classroom as well. Oliver is responsible for keeping this program up and running and very passionate about his work. "He's always there," Pummill said of Oliver.

"The success of SASS has to do with three factors. Building trusting relationships, working closely with coaches, as well as the athletic director, and faculty," Oliver said,

"Academic recognition in general reinforces the behaviors and actions that we want to see repeated. For the student athletes, we are reinforcing them to continue to be academically productive and positive. Secondly, they set an excellent example and standard for other student athletes striving for the same. And finally, by recognizing their effort, dedication, and hard work, we help to create an environment that promotes success."

Pummill and Oliver both agree that many student athletes are very bright, but lack the proper resources and tools needed to balance classroom work and participation in sports. Oliver wants all student athletes to realize that no matter how great you are at your sport, grades come first. "Wherever you go to play your sport, your GPA is definitely considered," Oliver addressed as his message to the students.

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# Dean's List – Recognition

## Academic Achievement

Each semester we recognize students for high academic achievement by naming them to the Dean’s List. The minimum requirements for fall or winter semester are:

- Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits during the semester with a semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher. The College sends a letter of recognition to students’ homes and notifies hometown newspapers.
- Part-time students who, after completing a total of 12, 24, 36,48 and 60 credit hours, have earned a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or higher. The College sends a letter of recognition to students’ homes.

Lisa Aaron  
Mary Abay  
Rashid Abdullah  
Gent Abdullai  
Lars Abela  
Kelli Abrahamian  
Justin Abro  
Komal Acharya  
Adam Achkar  
Brad Ackerman  
AlexandarAdamovic  
Casey Adams  
Chelsea Adams  
Courtney Adams  
Kathy Adams  
Sheila Adams  
Susan Adams  
Nicole Adelson  
Rhonda Adhami  
Carly Adrian  
Nicole Aguayo  
Antonio Aguirre  
Rahul Ahluwalia  
Aisha Ahmad  
Ammer Ahmad  
Syed Ahmed  
Hiba Al Adhami  
Salam Al Hariri  
Faizan Alam  
Venkateshraddi  
Alavandi  
William Albert  
Joy Albright  
Michael Alder  
Ada Aldred  
Gregory Alexiev  
Kevin Alfrey  
Muhammad Ali  
Danielle Aliseo  
Grace Allasio  
Chelsea Allen  
Christopher Allen  
Jodie Allen  
Joshua Allen  
Kimberly Allen  
Dalal Allie  
Ashley Alsup  
Marisol Altamirano  
Carlos Alvarado  
William Amato  
Michael Amman  
Kelly Ammons  
Donald Amore  
Alyse Anderson  
Carol Anderson  
Eric Anderson  
Kristina Anderson  
Nolan Anderson  
Tracey Anderson  
Kirk Andes  
Matthew Andres  
Christopher Andrews  
Sandra Angelos  
Kevin Anger  
KristenAnglebrandt  
Joanne Anheuser  
SheharyarAnjum  
Talath Ansari  
Jaime Anway  
Anthony Aquinto  
Joseph Aragones  
Melissa Arai  
Alicia Armstrong  
Melissa Armstrong  
Leslie Arnett  
AmandaArnold  
Lynette Arpi  
Fernando Arredondo  
Adam Arsenault  
Ashley Ashford  
Jackie Ashley  
Phillip Asmus  
Lisa Associati  
Eileen Astrologo  
CandaceAtisha  
AlexanderAtkinson  
Monica Atton  
Ryan Aubry  
Joshua Avery  
Kelly Ayotte  
Robert Ayres  
Debra Azizi  
Hailee Azizi  
Katelyn Babcock  
Bina Babinsky  
Olivia Babiuk

Taylor Bacigalupo  
Sean Backer  
Lourit Bader  
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Dale Bahr  
Paige Baidel  
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Marcia Bak  
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Dreama Baker  
TimothyBaker  
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Thomas Baldwin  
Jeffrey Balewski  
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Michael Baltz  
Anna Bandoian  
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Zachary Baraboll  
Rachel Barath  
Jared Barber  
Tyler Barber  
Douglas Barcia  
MarcelleBarlage  
Benjamin Barnes  
Kaedra Barnes  
Stephanie Barnes  
Hetal Barot  
Mary Barraco  
Barbara Barreto  
Shelby Barrett  
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Olga Baruk  
Carmen Baskerville  
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Janie Bauer  
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Stephanie Ford  
Wilford Ford  
AmandaForde  
Amber Forsyth  
Sarah Forsythe  
Andre Fort  
Courtney Fortress  
Crystal Foster  
Catherine Fowler  
Derek Fowler  
Stephanie Fowler  
Sierra Fowlkes  
Janay Fox  
Jesse Fox  
Roger Fracalossi  
Sheri Frader  
Veronica Fradette  
Krenar Fralholl  
Tammy France  
Travis Frangie  
Ryan Frederick  
ChannieFreeman  
Patrick Freer  
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# Club Events



Compiled by Kathy Hansen • Staff Writer

## Baptist Christian Challenge

Do you want to enrich the quality of your overall college experience ethically, morally, and spiritually by challenging yourself to explore God's word? Then come to our meetings every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Lower Waterman. The next meetings are scheduled for Feb. 17, Feb. 24 and March 10.

## Beats and Music Faction

Want to make progress in personal musical talent? Then stop by the Beats and Music Faction meetings. During meetings you'll meet, teach and learn, as well as giving and receiving constructive criticism with those who share the passion of music. The meetings are at 3 p.m. on Wednesdays and the next meetings are scheduled for Feb. 16, Feb. 23, March 2 and March 9 in the Lower Waterman located of the VisTaTech Building.

## Campus Crusade

### General Meetings

Are you interested in growing spiritually and learning more about your faith? Then join the Campus Crusade during their meetings every Monday and Tuesday in the Lower Waterman. The Monday meetings are at 11 a.m. and will be on Feb. 21, Feb. 28, March 7 and March 14. Their Tuesday meetings are at 2 p.m. and will be on Feb. 15, Feb. 22, March 1, March 8 and March 15.

### Game Night

Campus Crusade will be hosting a game night on Tuesday, Feb. 22 from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Lower Waterman. For more information, please contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

## Catholic Student Association

Join the CSA as they connect students with Jesus who is the source of hope, the model of life and was a young adult himself. Their meetings are every Thursday at 4:30 p.m. and Friday at 1:30 p.m. The next Thursday meetings are scheduled for Feb. 17, Feb. 24 and Mar. 10. The next Friday meetings are scheduled for Feb. 18 and Feb. 25.

## College Republicans

The College Republicans will be hosting an event on Feb. 19 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Presentation Room located in the VisTaTech Center. For more information please go to [www.schoolcraftcollegegop.com](http://www.schoolcraftcollegegop.com).

## Eccentric Movie Club

Join Schoolcraft College's Eccentric Movie Club for some of the most odd, puzzling and just plain crazy movies produced by some of the most respected writers on TV. Each session

is from 1 to 6 p.m. Schedules of movies can be provided upon request. Movies are watched in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center. Their next viewings are on Feb. 15, Feb. 17, Feb. 22, Feb. 24, March 1, March 8, March 10 and March 15.

## Gay/Straight Alliance Meetings

The Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA) is a social connection for equality-minded individuals who want to create a safe environment to help change, support and educate our world one step at a time. Meetings are held on Wednesday's at 5 p.m. Their next meetings are on Feb. 16, Feb. 23 and Mar. 9 in the Lower Waterman located in the VisTaTech Building.

### Winter Clothing Drive

The GSA is collecting boots, coats, gloves and hats for the Ruth Ellis Center. Please donate what you can and bring your donations to the Student Activities Office in the lower level of the VisTaTech Center.

### Mardi Gras Party

The Student Activities Board and GSA will be hosting a Mardi Gras party on Mar. 8. For more information, please contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

## Metro Detroit Association for the Education of Young Children (MDAEYC)

### General Meetings

The MDAEYC has been formed to provide a professional development opportunity for Schoolcraft students interested in teaching and/or working with children and families. They will be having a meeting on Thursday, Mar. 10 at 4:30 p.m. in LA 240. For more information please contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

### Game Night

The MDAEYC group will be having a game night on Monday, Feb. 21 from 5 to 9 p.m. For more information please contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

## Native American Club

Learn about Native American culture and tradition with respected Schoolcraft College faculty member Karen Schaumann. Learn the ins and outs of Native American history, traditions and customs through a variety of hands on activities, productions and learning-based activities. Their next meeting will be on Feb. 25 from 12-1 p.m. in LA 521.

## Otaku Anime Japanese Animation Club

The Otaku Anime Japanese Animation Club provides an opportunity for viewing and discussion of Japanese animation. Their next meetings are Feb. 26 and March 12 from 5 to 10 p.m.

## Pageturners

Join the Pageturners book club on Monday, Feb. 21 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday, Feb. 22 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. as they discuss this month's book in LA 105. They also will be showing a movie on Thursday, Feb. 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in MC 200. Phi Theta Kappa members will receive

1/4 star for attending or one star for facilitating.

## Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

### General Meetings

There will be a general meeting for Phi Theta Kappa members on Thursday, March 10 at 7 p.m. There will be another general meeting on Saturday, March 12 at 11 a.m. At either meeting, members may ask questions about their star status or about upcoming events.

### Pizza Kit Orders Due

Pizza Kit orders will be due on Wednesday, Feb. 16 before 4 p.m. for those members who sold them. Members will receive one star for every \$50 sold. Please pick up order forms in the Student Activities Office located in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center.

### Pizza Kit Pick-up

Pizza Kits can be picked up on Feb. 23 for those who sold them between the hours of 1 to 6 p.m. For more information please contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

### St. Leo's Soup Kitchen

PTK's monthly trip to the St. Leo's soup kitchen will be on Saturday, Feb. 19. Please meet in the Lower Waterman at 8 a.m. Carpooling will be available. Members will receive one star for full attendance.

### Morley Candy Orders Due

Morley Candy orders will be due on Wednesday, Mar. 9 before 4 p.m. for those members who sold them. Members will receive one star for every \$50 sold. Please pick up order forms in the Student Activities Office located in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center.

### Buffalo Wild Wings Fundraiser

Help raise money for Phi Theta Kappa by eating at Buffalo Wild Wings (37651 6 Mile Rd., Livonia) on Wednesday, March 9. Show the flyer and 20% of your party's bill will benefit PTK. Funds raised will be used for community service projects throughout the Metro Detroit area. Members will earn 1 star for every \$50.

## Photography Club

Photography Club provides a welcoming environment for graphically inclined hobbyists, graphic designers, and students majoring in artistic fields. The next meetings are scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 24 and Mar. 10 from 6-8 p.m.

## Project Playhem

Project Playhem is the club for those people who love video games, or are just looking for something to do between classes. Project Playhem hosts tournaments for cash prizes, as well as hosting gaming-related events that support their vision and goal of bringing gaming into the mainstream. Their next meetings will be on Wednesday, Feb. 16, Feb 23, March 2, and March 9 at 4:30 p.m. in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Building.

## Save Our Youth Task Force

Want to make a difference in today's youth? Join the Save Our Youth Task Force for an informa-

tive, yet empowering, organization engaged in making our youth make positive social choices such as going to college, completing volunteer work, and empowering social justice. Meetings will be held on Monday's in the Liberal Arts building in Room 230 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Their next meetings are scheduled for Feb. 21, Feb. 28, Mar. 7, and March 14.

## The Schoolcraft Connection

Want to further your skills in writing, editing, photography, and design? Then join the award-winning Schoolcraft Connection, a student-run newspaper. Staff meetings are every Monday at 4 p.m. in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center.

## Schoolcraft Peace Alliance

The Schoolcraft Peace Alliance is devoted to promoting peace here on campus as well as through the community. Along with this, they are continually seeking ways to bring peace to others as well as themselves. Join them for their next meeting on Monday, Feb. 21 and March 7 at 2:30 p.m. in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center.

## Student Activities Board

### Mardi Gras Party

The Student Activities Board and Gay/Straight Alliance will be hosting a Mardi Gras party on Mar. 8. For more information, please contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

### General Meetings

Want to get involved on campus? Then come and see how at the Student Activities Board meeting on Monday, Feb 21, Feb. 28, March 7, and March 14 from 5-6 p.m. in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center. The Student Activities Board provides students and the college community with a variety of programs and activities that are educational, service-oriented, have entertainment value and provide a social environment where students can meet a diverse group of new people.

## Students For Life

Students for Life is a pro-life organization on Schoolcraft College that discusses various pro-life policies and legislative analysis in various Michigan and federal legislatures. Their next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 22 from 12-1 p.m. in the Lower Waterman of the VisTaTech Center.

## Table Top Club

Come and join the Table Top Club every Tuesday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and every Wednesday starting at 6 p.m. The Table Top Club is Schoolcraft College's premier location for game players alike. Play a variety of card games ranging from Dungeon and Dragons, Solitaire and Cheat. Students shall learn to develop personal friendships and leadership.

*For all club information, contact the STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE at 734-462-4422.*



# OCELOT OPINIONS

"Do you think Obama has done a good job as President?"

Compiled & Photos by  
Patrick Walker



"I haven't heard any horrible things but he's spent more money than any President we've had."

**Andrew Williams**

Major: Studio  
Recording Technology



"No, there are very few who ever do an okay job."

**Rose Haidar**

Major: Wildlife  
Biology



"While I do agree that Obama could have done a better job during his first two years, I also believe that it takes a great deal of time to change a system that was messed up."

**Dustin Cehaich**

Major: Child  
Development



"I think aside from the issue of the oil spill that began his Presidency, he is trying to do a good job in office and in some places his plans are working."

**Ehimare Arhebamen**

Major: Engineering



"Definitely think that so far so good, I mean to do the things he's planning to do take time."

**Joshua Robinson**

Major: Acting



"The President was elected into some tough times but I feel he invigorated the interest of many youths into politics and voting."

**Phira Lort**

Major: Metallurgy and  
Material Science



"Considering the economic situation he entered the presidency under, I believe he has done the best he can."

**Megan Larson**

Major: Education



"Unfortunately, I haven't been paying much attention to political news but since I haven't heard any major problems in the media so he is doing alright."

**Albert Brown**

Major: Art



## "Like" my tweet

Social media competitions

By **ASHLEY CARLEY**  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Student Activities Office (SAO) launched Facebook and Twitter competitions to break in their marketing season. With a new semester underway, the SAO is beginning to follow through with these social media competitions. The Faces of Schoolcraft and Top Ten Tweets competitions hope to encourage a whole new realm of student involvement.

Students shall submit an interesting individual or group photograph depicting typical student life on campus. The submissions can be made through approved mediums such as email, a hard copy made in the SAO or directly to the SAO Facebook page. From there, students are encouraged to vote on each photograph submitted by using the "like" function on Facebook. Each photo will be tallied for its number of "likes" and a "Face of Schoolcraft" will be awarded each month. Along with having their picture displayed as the SAO profile picture, the winning students will be awarded a \$25 gift card. This month's winner will receive a gift card to Lucky Strike Lanes.

The Top Ten Tweets promotion requires students to submit at most a 140 character paragraph – a "short" – describing in detail why the SAO should follow the contestant on Twitter. Entries can be as serious or hilarious as you like! Similar to the Facebook competition, students will submit the required paragraph by e-mail, Twitter or by physically dropping the quote off in the SAO for review. The resulted quotes are published onto Twitter, resulting in system-wide publication by the SAO screensaver and the Twitter API for existing and perspective students, faculty and staff. Each semester, the SAO will select the most popular ten quotes published by students. The selected quotes will be published in a future publication of The Connection entitled "Top Ten Tweets" describing the humorous stories of our student body.

The SAO hopes to gain a higher level of interest in the campus's social media by bringing the student's lives and interests to the spotlight. Both competitions will launch on Feb. 14. For more information, contact the SAO at 734-762-4422.

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BY RAMON RAZO  
STAFF WRITER

If you're a movie fan, there's no denying that the Academy Awards are an especially exciting time of year. It's an opportunity to celebrate the best cinema had to offer over the last year. Even if one of your favorites didn't get an Oscar nod, the event is still a spectacle to behold with hundreds of celebrity appearances, some surprise wins ("The Hurt Locker" beat "Avatar"? Say it isn't so!) and an entertaining host. This year, the show will be hosted by Anne Hathaway and James Franco, who himself gained a Best Actor nomination for his role in "127 Hours."

This year's Best Picture nominees range from a tale of computer savvy geniuses to another animated Pixar classic to a thriller about ballet ... certainly not something you see every day. The characters up for Best Actor and Actress are equally diverse and include a relentless Wild West marshal, a mother trying to deal with the loss of her son and the King of England. But who will be chosen the best in their respective category? And what film will be crowned the best of 2010? We won't know for sure until the big day but until then here are our predictions.

## And the Winner is ...

### Predictions for the 83rd Annual Academy Awards

#### Best Actor in a Leading Role

Javier Bardem for "Biutiful"

Jeff Bridges for "True Grit"

Jesse Eisenberg for "The Social Network"

Colin Firth for "The King's Speech"

James Franco for "127 Hours"

Prediction: Film critic Roger Ebert says he believes Colin Firth will be the one taking away the Oscar for Best Actor for his portrayal of King George VI. This seems to be a rather logical guess. Firth's role fits right in with many other Oscar-winning roles, playing a real-life figure (Harvey Milk, Truman Capote and Ghandi) as well as a figure with a special condition (Rain Man or Forrest Gump). Of course, if the mere type of role doesn't shift the odds in Firth's favor, then his powerful, pitch-perfect performance certainly should.

#### Best Actress in a Leading Role

Annette Benning for "The Kids Are All Right"

Nicole Kidman for "Rabbit Hole"

Jennifer Lawrence for "Winter's Bone"

Natalie Portman for "Black Swan"

Michelle Williams for "Blue Valentine"

Prediction: John Mitchell of PopEater.com said, "The Golden Globes are usually a pretty good indicator of who is on the road to Oscar glory." Combined with the throngs of critical praise she has received, this prediction indicates that Natalie Portman is a shoe-in to win for her intense and haunting performance as an obsessed dancer in "Black Swan."

She should also get kudos for the six months of ballet training that she and co-star Mila Kunis went through. Ouch.

#### Best Actor in a Supporting Role

Christian Bale for "The Fighter"

John Hawkes for "Winter's Bone"

Jeremy Renner for "The Town"

Mark Ruffalo for "The Kid's Are All Right"

Geoffrey Rush for "The King's Speech"

Prediction: Having already received numerous accolades for his performance, Christian Bale seems poised for his first Oscar win. Richard Corliss of Time.com writes that "All these [other roles] shrivel beside the crack-headed Dicky Eklund in 'The Fighter.'"

#### Supporting Actress

Amy Adams for "The Fighter"

Helena Bonham Carter for "The King's Speech"

Melissa Leo for "The Fighter"

Hailee Steinfeld for "True Grit"

Jacki Weaver for "Animal Kingdom"

Prediction: For most critics, whenever they review "True Grit," the most consistent praise given the film is Hailee Steinfeld's performance as a girl bent on revenge. While young, Steinfeld gave a stunning performance opposite Jeff Bridges and might just see herself walking away — rightfully — as an Oscar winner.

#### Best Picture

"Black Swan."

A psychological thriller, the movie centers around Nina Sayers (played by Natalie Portman) and her

obsession with fitting into the role of the titular "Black Swan."

"The Fighter."

Based on a true story, the film follows the life of Micky Ward (Mark Walberg), a professional welterweight boxer and his relationship with his family. The film co-stars Christian Bale as his older brother, Dicky Eklund.

"Inception."

Leonardo DiCaprio plays professional extractor Don Cobb, whose job is to retrieve information from a person's mind by invading their dreams. When offered a chance of having the charges for his wife's murder cleared against him, Cobb and his team take on a daring mission to plant an idea in another person's mind — a difficult operation known as "inception."

"The Kids Are All Right."

The film stars Annette Benning and Julianne Moore as life-partners Nic and Jules. They both have a child, artificially inseminated by the same, anonymous sperm donor. One of their daughters, Joni, with encouragement from her younger brother, seeks out her biological father, Paul, played by Mark Ruffalo.

"The King's Speech."

Starring Colin Firth as King George VI, the story follows his ascension to the throne and Lionel Logg (played by Geoffrey Rush), a speech therapist who helped King George overcome difficult speech independent.

"The Social Network."

Not simply just "the Facebook movie," the film stars Jesse Eisenberg as Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg and follows the lawsuits and broken friendships resulting from the creation of

the popular social networking site.

"Toy Story 3."

This film marks the final chapter in Pixar's classic animated trilogy. When their owner, Andy, goes off to college, Buzz, Woody and the rest of the toys end up in a day-care full of rowdy toddlers run by a teddy bear with an iron claw.

"True Grit."

After her father is murdered, Mattie Ross (played by Hailee Steinfeld) recruits tough-as-nails US Marshal Rooster Cogburn (played by Jeff Bridges) to track down and kill the killer.

"Winter's Bone."

After her meth-cooking father skips bail and disappears, Ree Dolly (played by Jennifer Lawrence) journeys through dangerous social terrain to track down her father.

Predictions: While it might be typical for some to guess that the film that took the "Golden Globe" — this year, it was "The Social Network" — for Best Drama will be the winner of the Academy Award, this is rarely the case. Of the past winners of the Best Drama at the Golden Globes, only four went on to also win the Oscar for Best Picture. If the critics common consensus is anything to go by (which

SEE OSCAR PAGE 23



With Oscar night on the horizon, it's the perfect time to look back at some of the films that have been honored in years past. So far, 82 films have received the coveted Academy Award for Best Picture and soon another film will join that prestigious canon. Here are four previous Best Picture winners that are all must-watch titles in their own way. So grab some popcorn, get comfortable and get ready for four cinematic classics.

### "Rebecca" (1940)

British director Alfred Hitchcock's first movie in America was a film adaptation of a best-selling book by Daphne du Maurier. It showcases the strength of most of Hitchcock's movies, manipulating lighting to turn the house into a character all its own and using the actors' own faces to imply severe shifts in a scene. The movie begins with a monologue, where the unnamed protagonist says "Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again" and tells the viewer that she can never go to Manderley again as it no longer exists.

The story then flashes back to Monte Carlo to where the paid companion of a rich woman meets the slightly older Maxim de Winter. Over the course of her trip she falls madly in love with him and marries him in a small

ceremony. During this time, you see a dark side of Maxim in flashes, making you question whether this is really a good idea. She also hears a little about Maxim's first wife, Rebecca. She then goes to the ancestral home of the de Winter family, called Manderley where she learns that Rebecca has left some big shoes to fill and that the perfect man she has married might not be so perfect after all.

Once again, Hitchcock demonstrates that he is the grandmaster of suspense, weaving a brilliant tale that keeps you on edge the entire time. His wonderful visual style is reinforced by excellent performances, creating what is undoubtedly one of his finest works. A must-see for any lover of suspense.

### "In the Heat of the Night" (1967)

Everything seemed so quiet in the racial town of Sparta, Mississippi. All that quickly changes when a wealthy man is found dead. Virgil Tibbs, an African American detective from Philadelphia who is visiting his mother, gets forced into finding the mysterious killer with no respect from the prejudiced locals. "In The Heat of The Night" is a brilliantly written movie that intertwines a "CSI"-type mystery against the backdrop of racial tensions which were prevalent in the 1960s. This movie was, without a doubt, a shattering statement for its time. This explains why it won the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1967.

Sidney Poitier plays Virgil Tibbs, a very clever detective in a sea of uneducated rednecks. His zealous character and quick thinking hooks the audience into the

mystery. This is not a family movie by far but it is the kind of movie to be viewed with your buddies. If you are looking to sit back and relax, this choice may not be the best. "In The Heat of The Night" is a philosophical movie that will have you thinking until the final second.

Along with Sidney Poitier's outstanding performance, the staging — the placement of people or material within a scene — is expertly designed as well. Director Norman Jewison did a spectacular job of framing every scene to heighten the dramatic feel of story. The harsh lighting and shadows, the intense gum chewing and uncomfortable moments of silence really bring life to the movie.

When it all comes down to it, this is an extraordinary film that deserves to a chance to be seen. It really illustrates the brutality of the '60s as well as the investigative process involved in catching a killer. If you haven't seen it yet, you need to go out and rent this film immediately.

# Friday Night Rental

BY BRIAN CAMILLERI & KRISTA WALLACE  
STAFF WRITERS

### "Casablanca" (1943)

The Germans are coming! The Germans are coming! War is upon us and the Nazis have invaded Paris. Stragglers flee to Casablanca on the northern coast of Africa and everyone is trapped unless they find the right travel visas to escape. The movie "Casablanca" is a classic romance flick that intertwines the struggles faced in World War II with the complications of love. Now widely considered one of the greatest films ever made, "Casablanca" is an emotional summer love story that shows all the different sides that romance has to offer. This is the ideal movie to turn the fireplace on and cuddle up with someone special.

Humphrey Bogart plays a saloon owner, Rick Blaine, who lives in Casablanca, a New York City guy with a rough past and a witty

mafia-type persona. Ilsa Lund, played by Ingrid Bergman, walks into Rick's saloon and that's when everything unfolds. From there, the past is revealed and the audience follows Rick and Ilsa on a love/hate battle for compassion. Understandably, it might be hard for a college student to get interested in a black and white film but the saloon atmosphere and the clever dialog — including a great performance from Bogart — keeps the viewer engaged.

Even though World War II is in the air, this is not an action movie but, instead, an emotional, suspenseful ride. Classics are classics for a reason and this award-winning masterpiece will have you saying "Here's looking at you kid" all day long.

### "Slumdog Millionaire" (2008)

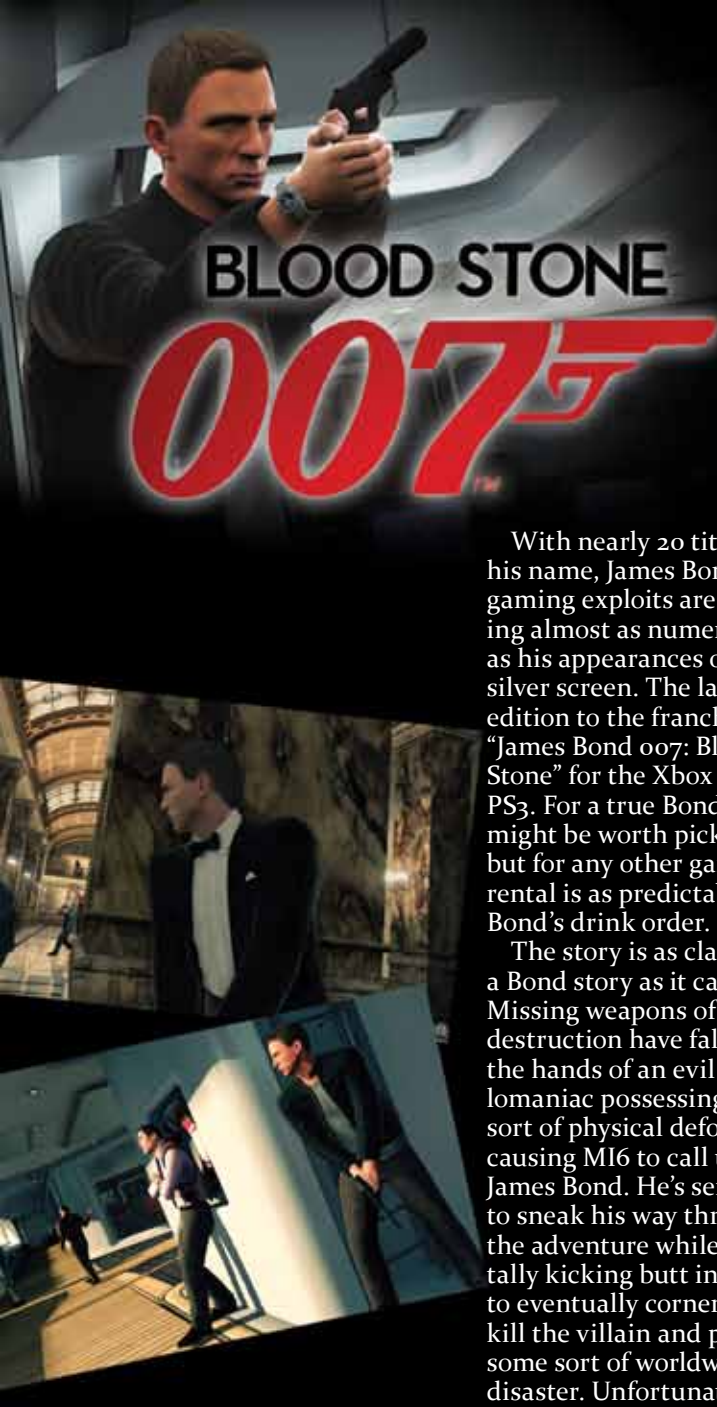
Slumdog Millionaire is the colorful and fanciful romantic drama that brought Bollywood to the mainstream back in 2008. This modern-day adaptation of the classic "rags-to-riches" tale won eight Academy Awards, including Best Director and Best Picture. It tells the story of how a young man, Jamal Malik, had come through life as a part of the lowest of the low and how he accumulates knowledge that comes into play when he goes onto "KBC," the Indian version of "Who Wants To Be a Millionaire."

He is accused of cheating by the police and he tells his life story to the head investigator.

You follow Jamal as he tries to make something of himself and you see him thorough amazing adventures, like when he has to team up with Salim, his brother, to save his lifelong love Latika from a life of prostitution and ownership by one of the lead gangsters in the area. As he makes his way through the questions and his story, you want to see him find his way to a better place.

The movie is full of music and fun but that's not to say it can't be hard to watch sometimes. It makes great use of environment and camera angles to tell a unique and meaningful story about how one man grew up and used what he learned throughout his life to make a better life for himself. Often breathtaking and occasionally heart-breaking, "Slumdog Millionaire" is an uplifting story that will leave you with a smile on your face.





# Bond, James Bond

007's latest gaming venture falls flat

By COREY M. REITER  
STAFF WRITER

With nearly 20 titles to his name, James Bond’s gaming exploits are becoming almost as numerous as his appearances on the silver screen. The latest edition to the franchise is “James Bond 007: Blood Stone” for the Xbox 360 and PS3. For a true Bond fan it might be worth picking up but for any other gamer this rental is as predictable as Bond’s drink order.

The story is as classic a Bond story as it can be. Missing weapons of mass destruction have fallen into the hands of an evil megalomaniac possessing some sort of physical deformity causing MI6 to call upon James Bond. He’s sent in to sneak his way through the adventure while brutally kicking butt in order to eventually corner and kill the villain and prevent some sort of worldwide disaster. Unfortunately, the

gameplay is as monotonous, although not as charm-filled, as the uniformity of the Bond stories.

In-game, the suave secret agent emulates “Metal Gear’s” Solid Snake, bending down to creep around dark corners and behind furniture as the witless AI stumbles around aimlessly. From there it’s just a matter of waiting until they’re close enough for the player to bring out Bond from the shadows and commence violent Daniel Craig martial arts, taking the enemy down to be rewarded with focus points. The focus aim system is the foundation, structure and window dressing of the combat system. You take down enemies to bank focus points to allow Bond to kill up to three opponents instantly with a weapon. While the system works and is fairly satisfying, it can get a bit tedious when repeated en masse dozens of times over.

The game’s saving graces are in the portrayal of 007’s legendary automobile

exploits. James Bond has famously never held many reservations in tracking down his targets throughout the years. His last two films “Casino Royale” and “Quantum of Solace” both amplified this hallmark of the franchise with awesome car chase scenes. Luckily, developer Bizarre Creations are known for their driving games – they created the “Project Gotham Racing” titles after all – and thusly, “Blood Stone” keeps up with this tradition of four-wheeled fury. Of course, what would a 007 game without the opportunity to get behind the wheel of a smooth, black Aston Martin?

The driving sequences are by far the most entertaining and functional pieces of gameplay. During these pedal-to-the-metal sequences the player will experience Bizarre Creations’ expertise and personal enjoyment of cars as Bond chases down an enemy SUV, running it off the road and letting it burn whilst dragging out the enemy contact for interrogation and incarceration. Although only approximately 30% of the game is driving-based, these portions of the game manage to throw a lot of game mechanics at the player in a

SEE BOND PAGE 23



# There's something in the water

"Black Swan" trades in the pink tutu for heart-pounding thrills

By BRIAN CAMILLERI  
STAFF WRITER

From a male’s perspective, it’s hard to walk into a theater and get excited about a movie that is based around ballet dancing. Well, let’s just say that this is not your standard song and dance film. “Black Swan” is an edge-of-your-seat, nail-biting, tension-filled roller coaster that keeps you guessing until the end credits. This is the kind of movie you will enjoy in the theater and grow to love the more you reflect on it. Simply put, it’s a film you need to see.

Natalie Portman plays a dedicated and passionate ballerina named Nina Sayers who has some edgy personal problems as well as family issues. She is training for the role of Swan Queen, the lead role in the ballet “Swan Lake.” The role of Swan Queen is comprised of two different characters. The White Swan personifies the good half or the “yin” while the Black Swan personifies evil half or the “yang.” Inevitably, her fear of failure and her drive to perfection causes the role of the Black Swan to consume her as she fights to remain sane from the darkness the character unleashes within her.

Director Darren Aronofsky brilliantly illustrates this story with a style that is comparable to his previous film

“The Wrestler.” The walking point-of-view shots, the graphically disturbing extreme close-ups and the shaky handheld camera angles really define Darren Aronofsky’s personal style of storytelling. Although, the thing that separates “Black Swan” from “The Wrestler” is the numerous unanswered questions. Is Nina’s mom a victim of Munchausen syndrome? Why does she baby her daughter? Is Nina the one cutting herself? Why is Nina hallucinating all the time? Aronofsky does an excellent job of focusing on the plot while at the same time adding little questions like these to keep the audience on their toes.

“Black Swan” also has a great way of building up tension in steps rather than taking everything all at once. Just like a steak is better enjoyed in small bites rather than grinding it up and chugging it down your throat, the same philosophy goes with movies. There is a slow build of tension between Nina and the characters that surround her: her seductive ballet instructor, her controlling mother and the Black Swan. Then in one defining moment, all these different building points explode at the same time, like the grand finale of a fireworks display. It’s satisfying and it leaves you awestruck. This is what makes a movie great.

Out of all the spectacular features this movie has to offer, nothing compares to the personal connection the audience has through the mind of the main character Nina Sayers. With

most psychotic characters, the audience views that psychotic character through the eyes of the normal people surrounding them. In the case of “Black Swan,” the audience actually steps into the mind of the crazy person, making it hard for the audience to identify what is hallucination and what is reality. By doing this, Aronofsky has complete control of dictating what he wants the audience to think next. For instance, revealing that a previously-occurring dramatic event was merely a hallucination completely changes everything in an instant, leaving it impossible to tell what might happen next. This ingenious way of story telling really adds a unique suspense throughout the movie.

When it all comes down to it, Darren Aronofsky really created a masterpiece of American cinema with this one. With “The Wrestler” and “Black Swan” under his belt, it is easy to imagine Darren Aronofsky one day entering the annals of great directors alongside Steven Spielberg, Martin Scorsese and Alfred Hitchcock. So put on a nice tuxedo and get ready for the red carpet Mr. Aronofsky, because “Black Swan” might just be primed to win the Academy Award for Best Picture of 2010.





# To infinity and beyond!

"Toy Story" is forgotten Genesis gold



By MICHAEL KING  
STAFF WRITER

Generally, movie-based games tend to prioritize making a quick buck over producing high-quality material. However, back in the '90s, there existed a solid handful of games which proved that stereotype otherwise. Those were the days, weren't they? While not every movie game to come out during this time was a classic or even good to any discernible extent – "Beethoven 2," for example, runs the gamut from "stupid" to "abysmal" – the proportion of solid adaptations to garbage was better than ever, especially in the respective heydays of the Sega Genesis and Super Nintendo. Amidst great games like "Aladdin" and "The Lion King" however, "Toy Story" has since been all but forgotten. This is a travesty which must be amended.

Released for the Genesis in 1996, "Toy Story" stars fans favorite toy sheriff Woody and follows just about every key scene from the movie. There are a few additions, including levels that place players between the gears and diodes of a claw machine ("The claw!") and a surreal first-person stage that pays homage to "Doom." While the sheriff spends most of his time platforming, levels can take a variety of forms. The last few stages, for example, put players in control of RC twice – once in a third-person view and once from a birds-eye perspective. All in all, the game features a nice variety of gameplay that prevents the experience from becoming stale.

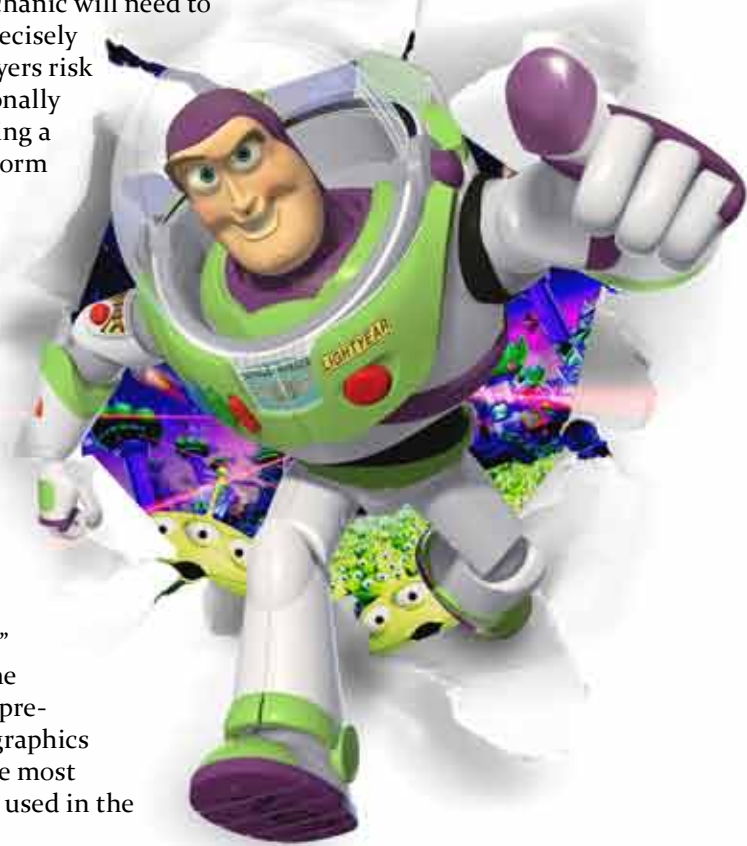
Woody's only tool on his journey is his pullstring which is used to attack enemies and swing from precariously-placed hooks. Unfortunately, his range is limited and his attack is fired at an angle, making the destruction of some enemies unnecessarily difficult. In later levels, which can be even more frustrating to gamers, the hook swing mechanic will need to be used precisely or else players risk unintentionally backtracking a la "Earthworm Jim."

The graphics will likely be the first thing that players will notice and for good reason. "Toy Story" features the high-tech pre-rendered graphics which were most noticeably used in the

"Mortal Kombat" series. Giving a more realistic look to the characters and movements, the game does a great job emulating Pixar's signature style and to this day it remains one of the nicest looking games on the system. The graphics do, however, occasionally make things a little bit more complicated than it should be when unusually large enemies with ridiculously small hit spaces charge players from both sides, thus making it harder to focus on Woody. In the end however, this unique graphical style does give the game a little extra oomph, resulting in the experience being that much more memorable.

Surprisingly, one of the game's best points is the music. Despite being well-known for having lackluster sound quality, the Genesis adds a certain atmosphere to the soundtrack that is mysteriously absent from the SNES port. For example, the battle against Nightmare Buzz features a very enjoyable and almost sinister boss tune on the good ol' blast processor while Nintendo's equivalent is lacking and sounds downright goofy. While the soundtrack won't be dethroning Sonic anytime soon, it is still quite enjoyable and adds to the overall experience.

While later sequels would suffer from lack of difficulty and replay value, the worst thing this game suffers from is lack of length. Regardless, Pixar's animation debut was not only one of the best films in 1995 but the game based on it also turned out to be pretty great. While it may have been overshadowed by some of the Genesis's more successful endeavors, "Toy Story" is still an enjoyable piece of entertainment and is proof that movie-based games can occasionally deliver a little fun alongside their shameless promotion.



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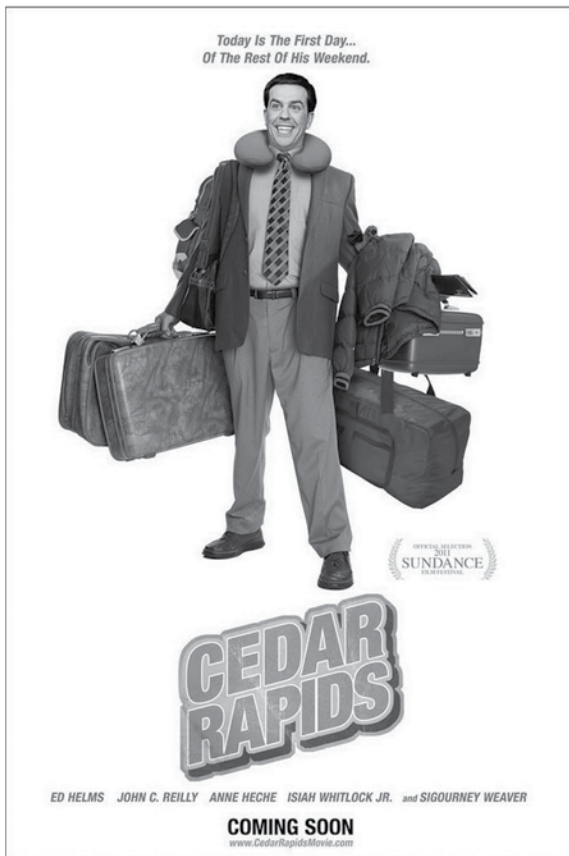
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## Take me home, please

"Take Me Home Tonight"  
attempts to bring viewers back  
to the '80s

By ANITA MISHRA  
STAFF WRITER

High school reunions can be a nightmarish prospect, especially if your career isn't in the most optimal position. When faced with a group of people silently judging you and your life achievements, you're liable to do something silly. This is the theme behind the new comedy "Take Me Home Tonight."

Directed by Michael Dowse, "Take Me Home Tonight" comes out March 4 and stars Topher Grace, Anna Faris, Dan Fogler and Teresa Palmer. Based in the late 1980s, the story surrounds 23-year-old Matt Franklin, who graduated with an engineering degree from MIT but doesn't feel that getting a job is very important. Instead of following the bandwagon, he decides to work at a video rental store until one day he meets up with his high school crush, Tori Fredricking. She invites him to a class reunion but he's too embarrassed to admit what he really does for a living. So he lies to impress her, all the while partying hard with his sidekick friend, who provokes him into misbehaving.

The movie follows a typical teen movie formula: boy meets girl, boy tries to impress girl by lying about himself, hilarity ensues. The girl then gets mad at the boy when he confesses and tries to win her love. And don't forget to add in a wacky sidekick. While the plot might not be revolutionary, Topher Grace hopes the down-to-earth themes will make the movie accessible. According to Grace, "The film focuses on universal themes

about young people trying to figure out their futures. The characters are completely accessible to today's audience. Everyone knows a Kyle or a Barry or a Wendy. People will be able to grab on to recognizable characters and themes that make the film timeless."

This is Topher Grace's first attempt to produce a major motion picture with his long time friend Gordon Kaywin. He based it off his experiences from his high school years. Grace stated, "We wanted to focus on the sort of second puberty that happens when kids get out of college today. Their whole life has been planned for them to this point and then they're suddenly directionless. We decided the best place to set that would be in the go-go '80s."

His intentions and goals for the movie are clear, however, as much as he tries to make this movie based on his experiences, it doesn't quite add up right. It's as though it tries to blend ideas from "Say Something" and "Ferris Bueller's Day Off." These ideas aren't enough. The initial credits show flashbacks of Matt's nightmare days in high school but it isn't enough backstory for his obsession with Tori Fredricking. In the first half of the movie, the dialogues between the characters seem to drag on and on, seeming too forced and awkward. Also, the music doesn't seem to sync well with this plot. Then again, it is nice to reminisce about the past.

The story does pick up in the second half of the movie. At this point, it finally reaches some sort of climax. Characters start bickering and arguing amongst each other at Tori's company party. Everyone tries to impress the

## Music from, inspired by the Motion Picture 8 Mile

Surviving the test of time

By PATRICK WALKER  
STAFF WRITER

Eminem has stormed the hip-hop/rap world with his music for more than a decade. His close-to-home lyrics and creative rhythm set him apart from many artists. Whether it's his controversial lyrics, turbulent personal life or his penchant for disappearing from the spotlight, Eminem continues to be an icon in the music industry. Much of his reputation is based on an album from 2002. The 8 Mile soundtrack is the album that cemented Eminem as an industry juggernaut.

"Music from and Inspired by the Motion Picture 8 Mile," the official title for the soundtrack accompanying the movie that told an emotional and twisting story of his life, featured some of Eminem's best songs. The song "Lose Yourself" immediately became a hit as it motivated people to push themselves beyond their perceived limits. To this day, the song is the most popular song by Eminem on iTunes. "Lose Yourself" was the highest-ranking 21st century song on Rolling Stone's 2004 list of the 500 Greatest Songs of All Time.

The album features other songs like "Rap Game," "Rabbit Run," and "8 Mile," which have become lesser known hits among diehard Eminem fans. Though he didn't sing on every track, the rapper had a hand in producing seven of its 16 songs.

The songs Eminem featured in this 2002 soundtrack are comparable in popularity to his following albums and most recent works. As with

much of his catalog, the songs have a matured expression of struggle and determination with his home life and daughter. His follow-up works continued to express deep feelings about his journey into rap and popularity. Recent albums have portrayed his struggles with hip-hop, drugs, relapses and recovering from a difficult past. Among all his albums, the few songs he had in that soundtrack remain highly recognized nearly a decade later.

On the final Sunday of the NFL season, Eminem was featured in one of the longest commercials during a Super Bowl broadcast. The Chrysler commercial lasted two minutes and emotionally displayed the beauty of the Motor City and its ties to the automobile industry. Eminem was featured driving the car and expressing his connection to Detroit in a few words. Most of all, the song "Lose Yourself" was the background music and took the commercial goosebump-raising levels. The Oscar-winning song effectively gave the commercial drama, which ultimately revved people up and yielded a big response. Local — and national — newspapers were quick to call the commercial a savvy hit and a winner among Super Bowl commercials.

Marshal Mathers has certainly experienced the ups and downs of popularity through-out his career. Many songs he has made come and go in the media mainstream, but Eminem has proven to possess the musical gift necessary to make songs that continue to touch and inspire listeners. For those looking to experience a truly award-winning album, the 8 Mile soundtrack is a can't miss and the song "Lose Yourself" is an iPod essential.



PHOTO BY ANITA MISHRA

Producer and lead actor, Topher Grace, promotes his new movie inspired by his high school memories.



## Whats the BUZZ

COMPILED BY JENAE AMERICA CONLEY  
STAFF WRITER

### Concerts

#### Motörhead

Motörhead is heading to the Royal Oak Music Theatre on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. Motörhead is a British rock band formed in 1975 by bassist, singer and songwriter Lemmy Kilmister who has remained the sole constant member. The band is often considered a precursor to, or one of, the earliest members of the new wave of British heavy metal which re-energized heavy metal in the late 1970s and early '80s.

Tickets are on sale and range from \$64 to \$175.

#### Parkway Drive

Parkway Drive is coming to Clutch Cargo's on Feb. 22 at 5:30 p.m. Parkway Drive is an Australian metalcore band from Byron Bay, New South Wales, formed in 2003. As of 2010, Parkway Drive has released three full-length albums, "Killing with a Smile," "Horizons" and "Deep Blue," a DVD, an EP entitled "Don't Close Your Eyes" and two split

albums. Tickets are on sale and start at \$52.

#### George Strait and Reba McEntire

For some down-home country goodness, check out George Strait and Reba McEntire when they come to the Palace of Auburn Hills on Feb. 19. Strait is referred to as the "King of Country" and critics call him a living legend. He is known for his unique style of western swing music, barroom ballads, honky-tonk style and fresh-yet-traditional country western music. Reba McEntire is an American country music artist and actress. She released her first solo album in 1977 and released five additional studio albums on the same label until 1983. Grab your cowboy hats and enjoy this country duo.

The show begins at 7:00 p.m. and tickets start at \$85.

#### Deerhoof

For any indie fans out there, you'll want to check out Deerhoof when they visit The Crofoot on Feb. 14. Deerhoof is a musical group consisting of Satomi Matsuzaki, John Dieterich, Ed Rodriguez and Greg Saunier. Their unique brand of pop mixes bubblegum melodies with experimental noise creating something totally unique. Their music has influenced such bands as The Flaming Lips and Sleigh Bells. Rush in and get your tickets before it's too late. Tickets start at \$56.

## OSCARS

continued from PAGE 18

it might not be), RottenTomatoes.com ranks "Toy Story 3" as having the most favorable reviews amongst the nominees, at 99%. Behind it is "The Social Network" with 97%, "The King's Speech" with 96% and "True Grit" with 95%. However, most actors seem to

think that "The King's Speech," with its incredible cast and period setting will be the film to beat at this year's Oscars.

The 83rd Annual Academy Awards will take place on Feb. 27.

## GRACE

continued from PAGE 22

other and all of a sudden you are drawn to a character named Carlos. Demetri Martin, who only has a small role, is really the highlight of the film. His sense of humor rolls quite smoothly, just like his stand up bits in real life – he doesn't have to try too hard.

Grace, who is only in his early 30s, is generally remembered as the lanky little kid from "That '70s Show." You have to give him credit ... he went from sitcom star to acting in film to now

producing a major motion picture. Kudos to Topher Grace and his friend Gordon Kaywin. "Take Me Home Tonight" is certainly not bad for first timers. In the end, this movie is about a three-and-a-half out of five. There are too many issues with the plot and it doesn't flow as smoothly as you might anticipate but overall it's not bad. Although you might want to save your popcorn money and wait for it to come out on DVD.

## BOND

continued from PAGE 20

short period of time. This works wonderfully to accentuate the already exciting moments, such as when Bond has to throw on the handbrake to make a quick skid around a corner to pursue an enemy escaping on a train. However, just because these sequences are the best bits of "Blood Stone" doesn't mean they're set apart from the monotony of the stealth action. In the end, these exciting chases still just consist of memorizing the right turns and using trial and error to move from checkpoint to checkpoint.

This title was released the same day as the Wii remake of the N64 classic "Goldeneye." With its unfulfilling story and gameplay, "Blood Stone" is undoubtedly the weaker of the two choices. Of course, the game is far from broken and Bond fans will probably get some enjoyment out of it. If you're not a giant Bond fan, however, you might just want to stick to "Goldeneye" and leave "Blood Stone" for another day.

# Ballin' on a Budget

## Not your ordinary movie theater

BY ASHI ARORA  
STAFF WRITER

Few things are better than a movie on a cold, snowy day. Especially when you don't have class. Hanging out with the boys or having a girls' night out is always a must. A couple drinks and a good show is perfect, even when money is an issue. If in need for something cheap and off the beaten path, there are many popular theaters around that participate in a variety of shows that are cheap and local.

### Magic Bag

22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale  
248-544-3030

Weekends can be the best time to relax with friends. Grab a sodas (or beers, if your ID allows) and watch a few hilarious movies at the Magic Bag regular Brew and Views. The admission for adults and seniors are only \$2. That's a great price for an awesome location. On Wednesday and Thursday nights, the doors open at 8 p.m. and the showing is at 9:30 p.m. The only glitch is that you have to be 21 and up. So grab some buddies and take a ride out to Ferndale where a night of relaxation is in store.

### Maple Art Theatre

4135 W. Maple Rd., Bloomfield Hills  
248-263-2111

The Maple Art Theatre has been Detroit's steadfast home to indepen-

dent film and foreign language cinema for the past 25 years. The theatre is not only known for its shows but its exquisite antique beauty. With three screens that were built in 1974, this theatre has been back in full operation since 1998. Many movies are about romance but they aren't just chick flicks. Guys enjoy a sappy love story once in awhile. Stop by if you want to experience something different and unique.

### Redford Theatre

17360 Lahser Rd., Detroit  
313-537-2560

The Redford Theatre has a historic, original, three manual, ten rank Barton Theatre Pipe Organ which has served as a Metro Detroit entertainment center since it opened in 1928. The nonprofit Motor City Theatre Organ Society owns and operates the Redford Theatre. Enjoy the classic film series, organ concerts or even for a special event, enhanced by this beautifully restored setting. The Redford Theatre is operated by an all-volunteer staff. Proceeds from programs presented at the Redford are used to restore and maintain the theatre building. The tickets for groups of 15 or more will receive 50 cents off each movie ticket and \$1 off each concert ticket when purchased in advance. This deal attracts many people who have large groups.

### West River Theatre

30170 Grand River Ave., Farmington  
248-788-6572

The prices are very surprisingly reasonable here at this Farmington location. The general admission fee is \$8 but for children 11 and younger the price is \$5.50. Matinees are also the same. Even the good ole' senior citizens only have to pay \$5. Missing a good flick can be a drag. That's why a theatre like this is important. They offer a selection of movies and different genres and for younger children. It's a small theater with big movies.

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# Welcome to the City of Comics

Comic shop feeds fans a plethora of geek-goodies

By RAMON RAZO  
STAFF WRITER

Finding comic specialty shops can be somewhat of a challenge as they tend to be few and far between. When comic fans — a.k.a. comic geeks — do find stores like Comic City in Canton, they become well-cherished places.

The store has been at its location for about 18 years now. “I want to say that we’ve been here since 1993,” Comic City employee Stephanie Doran said.

The shop carries a host of varying titles, from classics like the 70-year long running Action Comics and Detective Comics titles to other classics like the Amazing Spiderman and X-Men and a whole host of series that take place in the Ultimate Universe (Marvel’s alternative universe set up to bring in new fans who might be turned away by 50 years of comic continuity). The shop also carries a wide range of more obscure titles.

The shop also always manages to have a large quantity of discount books, ranging in price from around \$4 to \$10. If you look hard enough, you can find some pretty interesting titles, like “President Evil,” a zombie story starring Barack Obama, Sarah “Paladin” and John “McPain.”

The store also carries a wide range of toys, although a proper comic geek would ask that you refer to them as action figures. They range from simple \$15 JLA Batman figures to incredibly articulated \$50, 2-foot tall action figures. They also carry a wide range of plush toys, like Domo and Ugly



PHOTO COURTESY OF COMIC CITY

Doll toys, as well as some very funny “Star Wars”-themed character items. The store receives new stock every Wednesday, supplying it with more comics, graphic novels, action figures and themed t-shirts, among other things.

Comic City is also host to a great collection of graphic novels. The store’s shelves are stocked with titles ranging from Batman and Superman to Spiderman and Hellraiser. They even carry some of the Absolute titles, which are oversized, hardcover graphic

novels that come complete with dust jacket and slip case.

Of course, no comic store would be complete without a host of role-playing equipment, like HeroClix figures, Dungeons & Dragons player books and trading cards.

“We are planning on doing some Magic: The Gathering, HeroClix and other gaming type events starting in Spring,” says Comic City employee, Bob Smethers. “The Pontiac store has HeroClix events,” said Doran.

“Business has actual been really

good over the past few years,” says Doran. “You know, it’s been like any other business — it fluxes up and down but normally it’s been great.” That’s very reassuring for a business that has experienced its own ups and downs throughout the years, dying in the 1970s and resurrecting in the ‘80s and ‘90s. But whatever the fate of the industry, comic fans will never let their cherished medium die.

Comic City is located on Ford Road at 42727, in Canton, and can be contacted at 734-981-3561.

## What's your sign? Wait, are you sure?

New astrological changes cause people to see stars

By PRINCESS GABBARA  
STAFF WRITER

People tend to know their star sign by heart, however that’s all changed now. Thanks to the moon’s gravitational pull on the Earth over centuries, the planet alignment with the stars has shifted ever-so-slightly, resulting in a whole new zodiac. Here are the new dates for zodiac signs:

Capricorn: Jan. 20-Feb.16  
Aquarius: Feb. 16-March 11  
Pisces: March 11-April 18  
Aries: April 18-May 13  
Taurus: May 13-June 21  
Gemini: June 21-July 20  
Cancer: July 20-Aug. 10  
Leo: Aug. 10-Sept. 16  
Virgo: Sept. 16-Oct. 30  
Libra: Oct. 30-Nov. 23  
Scorpio: Nov. 23-29

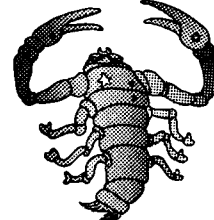
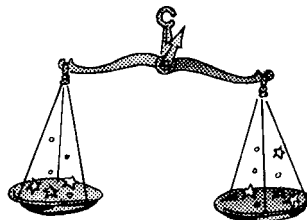
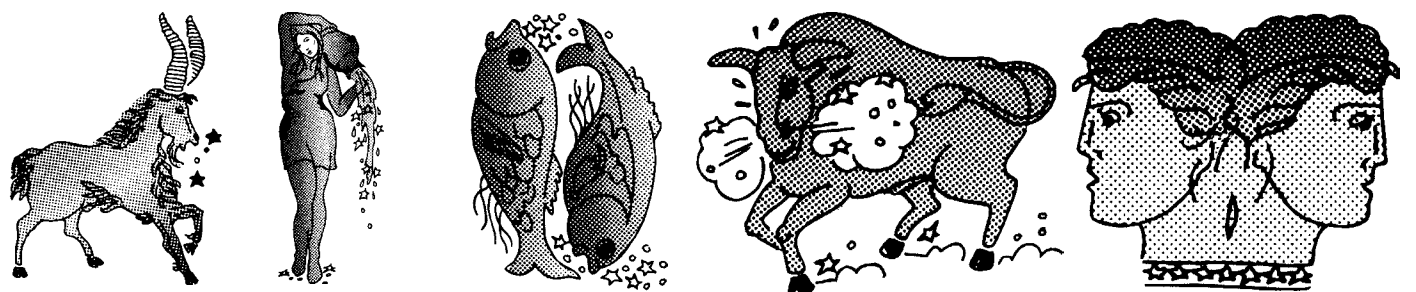
Ophiuchus: Nov. 29-Dec. 17  
Sagittarius: Dec. 17-Jan. 20

If you were reading carefully, you may have noticed that a new sign has been added: Ophiuchus. Yep, there are now 13 signs. Now, you may be wondering what the heck an Ophiuchus is. In the Greek language, Ophiuchus means “serpent-bearer,” which explains why the sign is represented by a man holding a snake. The myth is Ophiuchus became a healer after killing a snake. Afterwards, another snake emerged with an herb in his mouth, reviving the dead one.

When the news first hit that zodiac signs had changed, the response was

overwhelming. Thousands of people voiced their opinions on Facebook and Twitter. The idea of identifying with one sign for years and then suddenly being told that you’re something else didn’t sit well with many people. Apparently, people are more attached to their sign than they thought. However, astrologists are advising people not to worry. Yes, it’s true that a tilt in the earth’s axis has shifted the stars by about a month but this is irrelevant for those who follow Western astrology. Just to be clear, Western cultures (North America, Europe, etc.) usually follow Western astrology while Eastern cultures (India,

Eastern Asia, etc.) tend to follow Eastern astrology. Western astrology uses the tropical zodiac that’s based on the seasons, which hasn’t changed. On the other hand, Eastern astrology uses a sidereal zodiac that’s based on the constellation of the stars, which has indeed changed. Astrologists have known about this for years and say that it’s really no big deal. According to top experts, there is no change. It all depends on the type of astrology you choose to follow. Bottom line, the choice is yours. So, there is a happy ending after all, for those people with zodiac sign tattoos and all of you avid horoscope readers out there.







## Watch This, Not That: Controversial Television

### "Teen Mom" vs. "Skins"

By PRINCESS GABBARA  
STAFF WRITER

"Teen Mom" and "Skins" are two of MTV's hottest television shows. Each program has sparked a lot of debate on the influence it has on teens and whether that influence is good or bad. At a glance, both programs may seem similar but in fact the opposite is true. "Skins" is a show about teens having sex, getting high and binge drinking, as if it's no big deal. Meanwhile, "Teen Mom" shows the consequences of having unprotected sex and acting irresponsibly, clearly making it the better program to watch.

Both shows air on MTV, targeting teens as their audience. "Teen Mom" follows

four to six teenage mothers, capturing every moment from the painful decision of having to drop out of high school to not having enough money for diapers when the boyfriend decides to walk out for good. On the other hand, "Skins" depicts the lives of the average teen. The show follows nine high school friends who continuously make poor choices by engaging in rebellious and possibly deadly behavior, such as drinking and using drugs.

So, what's the difference between these two MTV shows? Well, "Skins" is scripted and "Teen Mom" is not. The girls on "Teen Mom" are not characters. They're real-life girls dealing with actual issues. "Teen Mom" demonstrates the consequences of making poor deci-

sions, while "Skins" sends the message that being promiscuous, drinking excessively and engaging in other wild acts is cool and completely normal, rarely showing the aftermath. "Skins" fails to show young viewers the affects of living carelessly. It doesn't show the teen that drank so much, they passed out and died from choking on their own vomit or the teen who has unprotected sex and contracts a STD. Critics point out that "Skins" could possibly be illegal, since most of the cast is under the age of 18. The high level of sexual content along with the fact that minors are involved could call for further investigation questioning if this is a case of child pornography. The truth is that "Skins" is a show about teens being rebel-

lious and breaking the rules, without consequences. "Skins" doesn't leave viewers with any real life lessons.

The girls in "Teen Mom" at least learn from their mistakes and try to better themselves, whether it's getting their GED, going to college part time or simply growing up and taking responsibility for their actions. "Teen Mom" has been criticized for glamorizing teen pregnancy because in a way, the girls on the show have become celebrities by appearing on the covers of many well-known magazines. However, in a recent report, teen pregnancies have actually decreased. Many believe that "Teen Mom" could possibly be responsible because it shows the harsh reality of being a teen mother. It shows young

girls everywhere that having a baby at the wrong time can get in the way of everything. Nothing is sugar coated. After watching "Teen Mom," young girls will hopefully realize that having a baby is not exactly like a Huggies commercial.

Although most television shows on MTV are more or less purposeless, "Teen Mom" is worth recommending because it shows how difficult raising a baby is. The show helps motivate girls, who are on the right path, to stay on that road while offering hope and encouragement for those girls who find themselves in similar situations as the girls on "Teen Mom." Sorry "Skins," but "Teen Mom" wins.

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# Puppy power

Nickelodeon barks up the right tree with new comedy "T.U.F.F. Puppy"

BY COLIN HICKSON  
STAFF WRITER

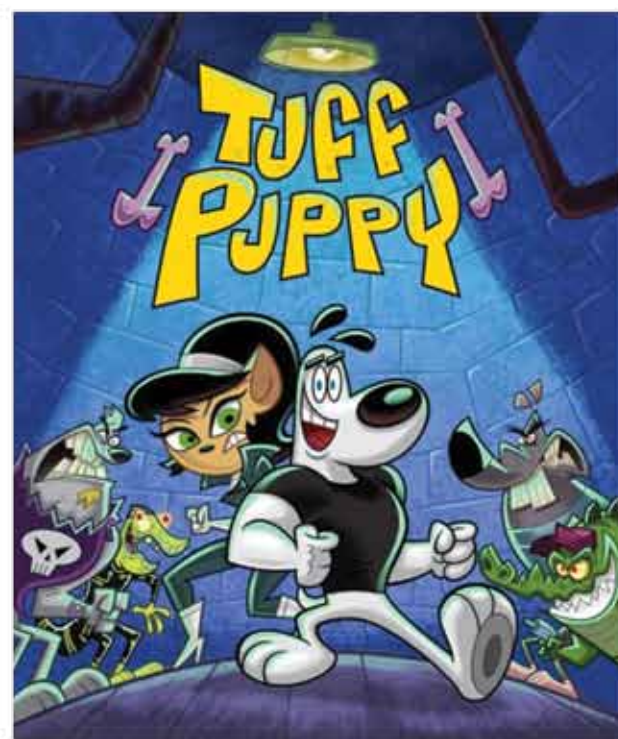


Let's face it – for the past two years, Nickelodeon has been nothing but garbage. After canceling great shows "Wayside" and "El Tigre," Nick has been filled with less-than-spectacular shows like "Back at the Barnyard" and "Tak and the Power of Juju," which have been declining in popularity. However, there's a shining light of hope for the channel in the form of Butch Hartman's new series, "T.U.F.F. Puppy." Hartman, a Michigan native, is better known as the creator of the "Fairly Oddparents" and "Danny Phantom." "T.U.F.F. Puppy" is the animation ace's third animated series and thus far it has been a ratings success, due mostly to its very humorous take on the spy genre.

Set in the all-animal town of Petropolis, the series focuses on Dudley Puppy: a dog with the appearance of Snoopy, the physique and strength of Captain America, the personality of Goku and the intellect of Peter Griffin. Dudley is immediately made an agent of T.U.F.F. (Turbo Undercover Fighting Force) after bungling a crime by T.U.F.F.'s archenemies D.O.O.M. (Diabolical Order Of Mayhem). He later discovers that he has the abilities of every breed of dog there is. Dudley is paired with T.U.F.F.'s number one agent, Kitty Katswell, a cat who knows every fighting move there is and who often questions Dudley's competency.

While the two may not get along at times, they prove to be quite the crime fighting team, foiling the plans of D.O.O.M. and its leader, Vermicious Snaptrap, a sarcastic and sadistic rat with a lisp and a long, long list of problems, chief among them being an allergy to cheese. Other recurring villains include the Chameleon, a shape-shifting psychopath, and Bird Brain, an evil blue-bottomed boobie with a massive noggin and an evil intellect to go with it.

The series is actually hilarious in some aspects, such as the scenes where Dudley accidentally hurts someone in comedic manner. Humor also arises



from the fact that several of the villains are completely incompetent, coming up with the some of the most ridiculous plans that could have only stemmed from the '60s "Batman" series. One such plan is when Snaptrap creates a giant "cheese magnet" to rid the world of the stuff, just so he won't have to suffer from his allergy. There are also some great running gags, such as Kitty being the one who gets injured by Dudley's antics and Snaptrap eating something that has cheese in it, then finding out too late what he's done. This gives the show great comedic value, especially if you're a fan of "Jackass"-style humor and idiotic arch villains.

There aren't any major downsides to this series except that it can be a bit juvenile in some aspects and that the whole "Kitty getting hurt in some way" might bring about controversy amongst overly concerned parents. But overall the show has great humor, excellent voice acting and perfect animation. "T.U.F.F. Puppy" airs Saturdays at 10 or 11:30 a.m.

# In the name of the moon

Sailor Moon is Japan's number one super heroine

BY COLIN HICKSON  
STAFF WRITER

Many superheroes started off their careers as teenagers. Spider-Man, Nightwing, Shadowhawk, Firestorm, Static and Nova are all prime examples. Of course, Japan has some of their own teenage superheroes. The most famous of those is none other than Sailor Moon.

Based on a popular manga series, this long running anime was dubbed in Canada and aired on Toonami and UPN in the late '90s and early '00s. As the anime opens, we are introduced to Serna Tsukino: a clumsy, gluttonous, less-than-average high school student who finds out from a talking cat named Luna that she is, in fact, the chosen warrior Sailor Moon. She now must protect our world from the evil Negaverse, a dark realm that lives on stolen life energy. Guided by Luna, Serna is helped by the mysterious Tuxedo Mask. She is later joined by the Sailor Scouts, which consist of super smart Sailor Mercury, hot-tempered Sailor Mars, tall tomboy Sailor Jupiter and lovelorn Sailor Venus who has her own talking cat Artemis. Together with her friends, Sailor Moon battles the forces of the wicked Queen Beryl and the Negaverse.

Following the Negaverse arc, the Scouts later battle enemies like the Dark Moon Empire. Along with the Heart snatchers they are joined by the more aggressive Sailors Uranus, Neptune and Pluto – back when it was still considered a planet – as well as the powerful and cute Sailor Mini Moon.

The series is surprisingly good, if not spectacular. The storylines for each season are filled with a great combo of comedy, romance, drama and some great character development episodes. This allows for powerful storylines a la "X-Men: the Animated Series." Best of all, this show doesn't rely on typical female stereotypes like most TV shows do, thus giving way to strong female characters.

But the English dub is somewhat controversial amongst fans of the original Japanese dub, due to the constant changes that were made. In the original Japanese version, there are more religious themes in the episodes, mentions of hell and major sexual themes, especially in the case of Sailor Uranus and Sailor Neptune, who were lovers in that version. There's also the case



of the fact that some fans feel that the show was deliberately Americanized just for the audiences to better understand it. These are pretty understandable, considering how many hardcore anime fans there are in America.

Another problem with the show is that it can be a little too overdramatic at times. While it is good to have some drama in a cartoon, this show kind of pushes the envelope when it comes to that, mostly when characters are

killed. (Don't worry, some of them come back.)

But when one overlooks that flaw and ignores what other fans think of it, they'll see that Sailor Moon is one of the more perfect anime shows ever created. It's got great comedy, drama and characters that viewers can relate to on some topics. So if it happens to return to American airwaves, watch at least the first eleven episodes and you'll be hooked.



# Red carpet fashion

## What to expect on Oscar night

By **NATALIE BURNS**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

With the Academy Awards just around the corner, movie buffs and celebrity-lovers will be glued to their television sets looking to see who will be wearing what down the red carpet. Magazines and tabloids all across the country will be posting pictures of what was hot ... or not. Of course, half the fun is looking at who has the craziest outfit out of everybody. As we all know, Lady Gaga tends to make a big impression in this area with her extreme and fanatical outfits. (The infamous meat dress will undoubtedly be talked about for years to come.) But that's just one celeb to be focused on. When thinking about the red carpet, there are many predictions that come to mind. Here's some insights on what the future may hold.

Mermaid Dresses have been getting bigger and bolder over the past few years. With a curve-fitting upper half and a flawless tail on the bottom, these dresses give a woman of any size a curvy, yet glamorous appeal. They come in a varieties of colors, although white, silver and gold have been the three that stand out the most.

Sleek and silky has been a constant hit throughout the decades. Yet fashion designers such as Calvin Klein, Christian Dior and Chanel are constantly on the lookout for ways to improve this classic look, covering

every inch to make an outfit look more fabulous every year. From every color, lavender, red and black give any girl the classy yet sassy look. If the dress is backless or has one shoulder that gives the sleekness that much more character.

As for men, there isn't as much variety in terms of outfits. However, many stud celebs take what they have and make it better. The new look that appeals to the red carpet: pink and grey. Many men also pull off all white suits or even more outrageous colors. However, keeping it classy and simple is always the ultimate look. Adding a pair of shades can also be a good touch. Grey matters? Absolutely. There's nothing better than a good-looking guy (Brad Pitt, anyone?) dressed in a classy grey, shiny suit with a sexy wild hairdo. The skinny tie or even a refined bow tie wraps the outfit up all in one.

Predictions of outfits, dresses and suits can be difficult because in actuality, we never really know who's going to be wearing what. It may come down to that one celebrity who surprises us with an outfit that blows us out of the water. The classic example is J-lo with her Versace green dress. You know, the one with the slit in the front that revealed, well, just about everything? Sometimes, we can just never envisage what is to come for the fabulous red carpet fashion. So keep you're fingers crossed and hope we all get to see some pretty sizzling fashion this year for 2011.



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# Effort ultimately plays off

## SC men finally on a roll

By **BRANDON KARSTEN**  
STAFF WRITER

For many games throughout the season, the Ocelots have tried to stay in the game with an aggressive style of play, only to come up short in the end on the scoreboard. But after coming up short five times in a row, SC men's basketball can finally celebrate a victory after wins over Alpena and Macomb.

After a close loss to Henry Ford, SC's next focus was on the game against visiting Alpena. The game was delayed when the Lumberjacks arrived late for both the women's and men's games. Alpena took an early lead but lost it when Karl Moore dunked and drew a foul. After making his free throw, SC led by one point. Alpena got into foul trouble, increasing the Ocelot's lead that they would take into halftime, a 41-35 score. SC never looked back and won by an 87-72 score.

SC then traveled to Macomb CC where the Ocelots won in large part due to double-digit-point efforts from Karl Moore, Lydell Mason, Ron Pummill and newly added Anthony Nash. The wins pushed SC's record to 8-11 overall and 2-4 in the MCCA Eastern Conference. A tough loss on the road in St. Clair followed for the Ocelots.

With the season past the midway point, the time comes when players start suffering nagging injuries from the grind of a long regular season of a tough and physical sport like basketball. But like every team, SC still has one goal in mind: reaching the playoffs and contend for the championship. With the current injuries the

team faces, Coach Henry asked his players to dig deep and find another gear to get to the post-season.

"Some are going to have to play hurt," said Henry. "Everyone is going to play."

Injury could not have come at a more inconvenient time as the visiting Mott Bears came in ranked fourth nationally. The Bears entered with a player that should have his dunks on the highlight reels in sophomore Doug Anderson. Coach Henry encouraged his players to get in Anderson's face to prevent his trademark electrifying dunks.

"[They had to] face guard him because he wants to crash [and score]," stated Henry.

Mott took immediate control of the game but SC remained physical in the first half trying to stay close in the early going. Doug Anderson still managed to maneuver and fight his way through the Ocelot defense to the basket for three exhilarating dunks. Mott maintained control of the game entering halftime and throughout the next half, ending with the final score of 91-60.

"[Mott] was quick and was very strong," said Henry of facing the Bears.

For the next home game, SC will host Macomb on Saturday, Feb. 19 with a 3 p.m. tipoff. The Home Season Finale will be the last home game played this season against rival St. Clair on 2-21 at 7:30 p.m. followed by the final game away against Mott. SC needs to win more than half of their remaining games in order to see the postseason.



PHOTO BY BRIAN CAMILLERI

SC's Karl Moore drives up the lane looking to score vs. Delta

## Have you seen the gun show?

### Triceps exclusive

By **WILLIAM ALBERT**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Ever found yourself standing in front of the mirror, flexing your mighty guns ... and nothing really happens? You go to the gym and hit the weights hard but the measuring tape and the mirror tells the same old story despite your efforts. Don't be discouraged. Some people aren't genetically blessed with freaky-thick arms but there are plenty of things you can do to make the most of the cards you were dealt.

After a sufficient warm-up and stretching period is done (essential for minimizing injuries) start with some close reverse-grip bench presses. Grasp the bar about 12 inches apart — it may help to have someone assist on the lift off since it's an awkward lift. Lower the bar to just below your pecs, elbows in, and then press straight up. None of that "J" movement tuff like Coach Iwanna B. Strong taught you in high school. Keep your forearms 90 degrees to the floor. Sound simple? Do three sets of eight, with progressive weight increases.

Next, move to lying floor extensions. These are

very similar to skull crushers, except you do them lying on the floor. Start by putting a plate on each side of a preacher bar and set it on the ground. Lie down on the floor in front of the bar. The top of your head should almost be touching the bar. Reach over and grab the bar with a medium grip. With an explosive movement, lift the weight over your head using only the triceps. Keep your upper arms at 90 degrees to the floor. Now you really have to focus on these, making sure you only lift with your triceps and nothing else. (In other words, don't cheat and turn this into a pullover!) Stop the lift when your elbows are almost locked out and then lower the weight all the way to down where the plates touch the floor. Once the stress is taken off your triceps, explode upward again. When you're done, drop a smaller plate on to the bar and repeat. Do this three times. The benefit of using this technique off the floor and with different size plates is that with each plate, the bar starts at a lower level, thereby hitting your triceps at three different angles. Pretty ingenious, eh?

Ready to hurl yet? One last exercise and this one should put the nails into your arms' proverbial coffin. Real dips on a parallel bar, super-setted with light rope cable extensions (V-grip attachment). This is basically done to saturate your muscles with blood

and get them healing. Nothing with heavy tons here, just focus on the burn. Hop on the bar and dip to parallel with perfect form. Do as many you can. Jump over to the extensions and burn out some high reps with these. Take a breather and repeat again, three times each total, dropping the weight on the extensions each time.

If you don't feel like you're dying, you didn't train like a true bodybuilder. As a result, you'll never see growth happen to your arms. Try this routine once a week for four weeks but definitely no more than six. This is a real intense "shock and awe" regimen for the arms, so it's strongly suggested that you don't do any other triceps lifting during these weeks. Only do this routine on a day when any other lifts you do won't affect your triceps, such as doing it with back day. Better yet, do your triceps on a day all by themselves.

After the four weeks are up, take a week off from any triceps training whatsoever and evaluate your arms condition. If they haven't fallen off yet, you can start a more "normal" arm regimen on your next cycle and know that you're on your way to triceps heaven ... or hell, as the case may be.





PHOTO BY MANDY GETSCHMAN

**Center Robbie Czarnik fights with Brampton defenseman Carment Wind (8) for possession of the puck.**

# Battling for position

## Whalers continue working hard

BY BRANDON KARSTEN  
STAFF WRITER

With almost two months left to play in the season, the Plymouth Whalers, at this point, are in a fight with cross-river rival Windsor for the fourth seed in the OHL Western Conference and for second in the West Division. Using the cliché of “if the playoffs were to begin right now,” it would be Plymouth heading to Windsor for the first round of the playoffs. But there are still plenty of games yet to be played before making any postseason travel plans.

Recently, the Whalers have been on a roll with three wins in a row. Two of those wins saw the Whalers having to overcome deficits in order to win. In Sarnia on Jan. 14, Plymouth was trailing the Sting 3-2 after one period. Rickard Rakell won it for Plymouth 14 seconds into overtime with a goal, ending in a 6-5 victory. Sarnia and Plymouth played in Compuware Arena the following day and the Whalers beat the Sting handily with an 8-2 victory. The rival Saginaw Spirit arrived on Jan. 17, this time Saginaw was ahead 3-1 after 40 minutes of play. Plymouth scored three goals in the final period to win 4-3.

The Brampton Battalion and the Erie Otters were in town on the weekend

of Jan. 21-22 to play the Whalers. Brampton was making a brief Western Conference trip with a visit to Windsor in the itinerary. Brampton lost to Windsor in the shootout but won over Plymouth in a game that went to a shootout. The Battalion had to come back from a 2-1 deficit, scored in the third period to tie the game and scored only one goal in the shootout period. Plymouth rookie goalie Matt Mahalak got to start the game and faced 17 Brampton shots in the first period.

For the next game, the Whalers dropped the puck with the visiting Erie Otters. Stefan Noesen got the opening point for the Whalers in the first period. James Livingston and Garrett Meurs added more goals to make it a 3-0 in the first period. Mitchell Heard scored the only goal in the second period and made it a 4-0 score for Plymouth. Scott Wedgewood was working on a shutout until Phil Varone scored for Erie in the third. The final score was the Whalers winning 6-2.

“Everyone wanted [a shutout] for [Wedgewood],” said Coach Mike Vellucci of Wedgewood’s near-shutout

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## Pandemonium in the Palace

### Detroit Pistons looking to right the ship

BY BRANDON KARSTEN  
STAFF WRITER

A team with a winning tradition and a losing record, 17th in the NBA in attendance this season, playing with no owner in place and a handful of disgruntled players. This is what has defined the 2010-11 season for the Detroit Pistons. Things are not going well for the Pistons as they are 4th in the Central Division of the Eastern Conference while sitting in 11th in the conference overall. The only teams that are doing a lot worse in the league are Washington, Sacramento, Memphis, Toronto and Cleveland.

For a while there was talk of trading long-time Piston guard Rip Hamilton. This involved a three way trade with Detroit, Denver and New Jersey. The deal would have sent Hamilton, former Pistons star Chauncey Billups and Carmelo Anthony to play in New Jersey with the Pistons getting Troy Murphy and Johan Petro in return. Meanwhile, Coach John Kuester has benched Hamilton with the trade talks that are swirling around him and Kuester did not let Hamilton have significant playing time since January 10 versus Chicago. Hamilton has not been penciled into the starting lineup since Dec. 17 against the L.A. Clippers. The trade talks involving Hamilton and Anthony eventually fell through the cracks after the New Jersey Owner pulled the plug after he felt the negotiations were too public. As for other transactions, forward Austin Daye, the Detroit 2009 first round draft pick from Gonzaga, had his contract extended for another year.

The Pistons have been without an interested owner throughout the season after Karen Davidson put the team up for sale last offseason. Before the season began,

Mike Ilitch and several others were in the running to purchase the Pistons. If Ilitch were to buy the team, he would add it along with the Red Wings and Tigers and hold three quarters of the Detroit sports teams. It was reported that Ilitch was planning of relocating the Pistons to a downtown Detroit arena that would be shared with the Red Wings. Ilitch was given 30 days to close the deal but failed to do so. Now billionaire Tom Gores is the new favorite to claim ownership of the NBA franchise. Davidson has given Gores the same 30-day window to buy the team. Gores, a Michigan State graduate, is currently the CEO of Platinum Equity and has personal assets of \$2.2 billion according to the Detroit Free Press.

There are positives that may come out of this season. The team leader in scoring is guard Rodney Stuckey with 15 PPG. Stuckey moved from point guard to shooting guard to allow Tracy McGrady, who was signed in August as a free agent, to lead the offensive attack. McGrady is looking to put some life back into his 13-year NBA career in Detroit after bouncing in between Houston and New York last season. Another positive is there are fewer injuries compared with last season with forward Jonas Jerebko out with an injured Achilles tendon. Forward Charlie Villanueva injured his ankle against New Jersey.

Getting into the playoffs is almost out of the question at this point in the season. All that Detroit can do is to get someone to claim ownership, make some trades and have the goal of rebuilding in mind to look competitive for next year.

## Stars in their own right

### Athletes that turned to acting

BY BRANDON KARSTEN  
STAFF WRITER

Hollywood’s biggest names will be coming out soon for the Academy Awards. Although they may not win an Oscar along with any championship trophies, there have been athletes that have put their cleats aside to get onto the big screen. Here is a look at some of the athletes that tried their hand at acting and other forms of entertainment.

Emmitt Smith had to show some good footwork to win the third season of “Dancing with the Stars.” Smith, a three-time Super Bowl champion with the Dallas Cowboys, the NFL’s all-time leading rusher and 2010 Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee, danced his way to victory with professional dancer Cheryl Burke. Other athletes that competed on “Dancing with the Stars” included Apolo Ohno, Chad Ochocinco, Jerry Rice, Helio Castroneves, Warren Sapp and Kurt Warner.

There have been stars that have tried to crank out a beat instead of dribbling a ball or catching footballs. When he was not returning punts or swinging bats, Deion “Prime Time” Sanders released his own album called “Prime Time” in December of 1994 through Bust It Records, the same label as MC Hammer. The album found very little success on the charts. But in 2005, every song in “Prime Time” would also be retouched as “The Encore Remix.” Sanders

also appeared in two MC Hammer music videos. Then there was Shaquille O’Neal. O’Neal has tried to get a rapping career since he started playing in the NBA. His album, “Shaq Diesel,” made its debut in 1993 but found little in the way of positive reception. O’Neal also had a chance to demonstrate his rapping skills — or lack thereof — in the movie “Kazaam.”

Some athletes are particularly famous for their cameo appearances throughout some movies. Take former NHL player Cam Neely for example. In “Dumb and Dumber,” he appeared as a truck driver that gets a salt shaker thrown at him by Jim Carrey. Neely then proceeded to spit a loogie onto Harry’s hamburger. Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter made a cameo in “The Other Guys,” where Mark Wahlberg’s character ends up shooting Jeter by accident, costing the Yankees a World Series. And who can forget Michael Jordan helping out the Looney Tunes in “Space Jam?” Besides Jordan, the film also featured cameos of NBA superstars like Charles Barkley and Patrick Ewing.

Some actors were athletes at one point in their lives but had no other choice but to be an actor after injury derailed their careers. Before he was called “The Rock,” Dwayne Johnson played college

SEE STARS PAGE 30





PHOTOS BY ANITA MISHRA

Carlee Klein shows us why the in-and-out style of bowling is so effective.

## Green, Yellow vs. Black, Yellow

### Super Bowl XLV wrap-up

BY ANDREW BENJAMIN  
STAFF WRITER

On Sunday Feb. 6, two preseason favorites the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Green Bay Packers met in Arlington Texas to battle it out for the coveted Lombardi Trophy. Both teams were met with obstructions during the season. The Steelers were impaired for a little bit at the beginning of the season when they had to play without their starting quarterback. On the flipside the Packers struggled a lot through the season almost missing the playoffs.

This year's Super Bowl showcased two of the league's youngest and most talented quarterbacks, Aaron Rodgers with the Packers and Ben Roethlisberger for the Steelers. Roethlisberger is only 28 and had guided the Steelers to two Super Bowl victories in the past five years. The first victory came about in only his second year of playing in the league and as a result he planted his name in NFL history as the youngest quarterback ever to win a Super Bowl. Rodgers, however, had once been in the shadow of the great Brett Favre for the first few years of his NFL career but since then has averaged more than 263 passing yards a game and has never thrown for fewer than 28 touchdowns in a season while being Green Bay's full time starting quarterback.

The following is a watered down quarter by quarter summary of the game. Late into the first quarter the Packers took control of the scoreboard with a touchdown pass from Aaron Rodgers to Jordy Nelson. This was followed later by one of the key plays of the quarter – an interception as a result of an underthrown pass by Roethlisberger was accomplished

by Green Bay safety Nick Collins for another gain of six points leaving the score at Packers 14, Steelers 0. At the beginning of the second quarter, with a 21-yard touchdown pass from Rodgers to wide receiver Greg Jennings, it looked as if maybe the Packers were going to turn this into a one-sided game. However, the Steelers responded on their last drive before the half when wide receiver Hines Ward caught three catches from Ben Roethlisberger for 39 yards and a short 8 yard touchdown putting the score at 21-10 before half-time.

During the third quarter the Steelers slashed the point difference to four with a touchdown run by Rashard Mendenhall. The Packers did all they could to keep their lead despite injuries to defensive backs Charles Woodson and Sam Shields. With two backup DB's the Packers managed to hold off the Steelers keeping the score at 21-17. To start off the fourth quarter, Green Bay's Clay Matthews hit Mendenhall behind the line on the first play, forcing a fumble which was recovered by Green Bay. With the Packers offense now in control again Rodgers accomplished a successful drive with a pass to Jennings for a touchdown ultimately sealing his MVP title. The Steelers had their chances but couldn't execute efficiently resulting in a Super Bowl victory for Green Bay. The final score was Packers 31, Steelers 25.

Unfortunately, for a Super Bowl that had the potential of being very memorable it didn't really live up to the hype everyone had anticipated. Although some people may say that it was a close game, at the end of the day the Steelers regrettably compromised a chance at victory with terrible performances by their key players and Aaron Rodgers and the Packers capitalized on their flaw to pull out a win for the city of Green Bay.

# The next "Queen Pin"

## Spending a few frames with SC's Carlee Klein

BY WILLIAM ALBERT  
SPORTS EDITOR

When it comes to a sport that provides lots of family fun, few can match a quick trip to a local bowling alley. Although it might take years to reach "pro" status, almost anyone of any age can play this game. It's a sport that lends well to sharing between generations.

It's one thing to go bowling with friends or your family once in awhile to just have a good time and it's a completely different ball game when you grow up as a child immersed in the sport on a daily basis, seven days a week. For SC's Carlee Klein, bowling has been a constant in her life since age seven.

As far back as she can remember, her father has owned snack shops in more than a dozen local bowling alleys. His desire has always been to manage his own alley with the help of his family. "The sport of bowling has always been an influential factor in my life since I was a boy" said the elder Klein. The dream became a reality when Carlee was around the age of eight; the Klein's purchased Vision Lanes in Westland, Michigan.

Imagine being an impressionable child and helping out with the family business with the bonus of bowling for pleasure in your free time. Everyday you're around the constant excitement of clashing pins and the laughter of people having a good. One couldn't help growing tired of the game or embracing it entirely.

Carlee has always been an individual who has a passion for bowling, the people and overall the life lessons picked up through it. A contributing factor that really makes her feel like she grew up in a great place is receiving compliments from people on how they enjoy the game. Bowling seen firsthand has shown her how so many different people can come together by just meeting at a local alley.

For years, bowling was simply a

pastime for Carlee. It wasn't until her junior year of high school that she began taking the game seriously. The transition from bowling with her friends to competing was when she realized she wanted more out of the game. With the support and help from her father, she grew to become a dominant figure over her peers. Carlee has involved herself in leagues for money, matching up against other elite bowlers to hone her skills. She also jumped at the opportunity to compete for her college team.

"I always have been competitive which led me to the decision to really pursue my dream of becoming a great bowler," said Carlee.

As with any sport, there are many types of player. Carlee's game is that of a down-and-in bowler, much like Walter Ray Williams Jr., her idol. In layman's terms, a slight hook to get the ball where it needs to go by angling oneself toward the head pin.

Currently she uses a 15-pound ball, boasts an average of 190 and is the captain of SC's bowling team.

Always looking for new ways to improve, Carlee is already making plans to transfer to Eastern Michigan University where she will be one

of the first bowlers on the Eagles brand new team. Prior to applying at EMU, there was no bowling team. Carlee's father stepped forward and worked with the athletic director to establish a program in time for the coming fall semester.

"It wasn't a huge deal not to bowl for a team after SC, but my father helped me convince the athletic department that a team would be a great idea," Carlee said.

Though bowling will continue to be a part of her life, taking over the family business is not necessarily in her plans. "My passion for the game runs throughout my whole body but I have always wanted to teach special education."

The future looks bright for SC bowling team this season and for Carlee's future in and out of the sport. Time will tell whether she makes the leap from amateur bowler into the professional ranks. Regardless of Carlee's decision, her family and the game she loves so much will always be there for her.



## WHALERS

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performance. "But we let one sneak by him."

Rickard Rakell has certainly been busy the past few weeks with the World Junior Championships. Rakell had another competition to be a part of in the CHL/NHL Top Prospects Game. Team Orr beat Team Cherry with a 7-1 score in front of the many NHL scouts and General Managers in attendance in the Air Canada Centre in Toronto. The Swedish rookie

forward represented Plymouth on Team Cherry, which had Don Cherry as the coach.

The next home game for the Whalers would be a second meeting against Owen Sound. Plymouth will travel to face the first place Mississauga St. Michael's Majors on Friday, Feb. 11, before returning home to face the Attack the following day on Feb. 12. The opening face-off will be at 7:05 p.m.

## STARS

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football for the University of Miami as a defensive tackle. Johnson, along with future NFL Pro Bowler Warren Sapp, won the national championship in 1991 with the Hurricanes. After graduating and going undrafted, Johnson later signed with the Calgary Stampeders of the Canadian Football League but was later cut after two months with the team. From then on, he went on to

a career in professional wrestling and then quit to focus on acting.

Athletes are probably not the ones to look to for an Academy Award-winning performance. But that certainly doesn't stop them from trying. Who will be the next athlete trying their hand at the acting game? Only time will tell.



# One step closer

## SC's Bee getting serious looks

By **BRANDON KARSTEN**  
STAFF WRITER

Junior college athletes often have the shortest careers in collegiate athletics. They are in school for only two years and need to impress so they can transfer to a four-year university and continue their career. Once the career of a junior college athlete starts to wind down, there will be some difficult decisions on where to go to for the rest of their college eligibility. Only a small group of athletes get looked at by a handful of schools. However, on SC's campus there is one special athlete drawing attention of nearly two dozen different schools, all with the hope she will continue her collegiate career on their campus. That athlete is Kimberly Bee.

Bee, a sophomore out of Detroit Communication & Media Arts High School, is in her last year at Schoolcraft and has 22 different colleges contacting her to join their women's basketball team. Some are ranging from NCAA Division I down to Division III, and even one NAIA school. A variety of NCAA intercollegiate conferences are well represented such as the Mid-American Conference, the Big East, Atlantic 10, Conference-USA, and Ohio Valley Conference. Some are close in proximity to Schoolcraft such as University of Detroit Mercy and Eastern Michigan while there are schools as far away as the University of North Colorado. Coach Karen Lafata sees all this attention as a great thing for SC basketball.

"I'm proud of her and proud of the program," Lafata simply stated.

Bee has definitely made her presence felt as a freshman on last year's team. She made a great contribution to the SC defense as she finished a close second in team rebounds, was the team leader in blocks and blocks

per game, and was one of the instrumental players in the Lady Ocelots only allowing 54.7 PPG. This rapid defensive contribution helped Bee break some individual school records along the way this season. She has set new school records in a variety of offensive and defensive categories. The new school marks set were total rebounds in a season, offensive rebounds in a season, career blocks and career offensive rebounds, which all of these milestones were eclipsed in a game against Delta College on Feb. 5.

As her sophomore season began, Bee was only one of two players that were returning from last season that ended with a third-place finish in the National Tournament. Coach Lafata made her the leader of the team for her experience and expected her to set a strong example for everyone in the group. Bee has definitely taken that expectation of leadership and stepped up her game on offense, as she is the team leader in points per game without missing a beat on defense.

"She had to feel like the lone senior," said Lafata. "It was challenging but she is a great leader."

It is often a forgotten fact that most great college athletes are disciplined off the court. The stats that Bee is showing on the court are certainly impressive but she is an excellent student in the classroom. Coach Lafata takes great pride in Bee's accomplishments at SC.

"[Kimberly] is very outstanding and deserves everything she has," stated Lafata.



PHOTO BY MANDY GETSCHMAN

**Kimberly Bee continues to lead her team by example with her play.**

Bee will certainly have some tough choices to make before this coming fall. Wherever she chooses to go, everyone on the team knows that she

will be the best representative of the great winning tradition that has been established at Schoolcraft.

# The most dominate conferences in the NHL

## Central tops the chart every year

By **ANDREW BENJAMIN**  
STAFF WRITER

With the end of the NFL season, sports fans are left wanting for a sport to fill their lonely, winter hours. Luckily, February is the month when the NHL season starts to pick up again. Even though only a little over a half of the season has been played, hockey fans are starting to imagine what the postseason has in store. To get a better understanding the league has been broken down into its divisions.

Starting in the Northeast is a division with two contenders and not much else. With a winning percentage below .500, it doesn't make for a strong top-to-bottom division. On the other hand, Boston and Montreal are showing

signs of developing into considerable Cup contenders.

Last year the Northwest division looked pretty dismal and this year it looks like they may be on the verge of becoming the weakest in the league. Even though it boasts the Vancouver Canucks, one of the elite teams in the league, the next three teams (Minnesota, Calgary and Colorado) are struggling with mediocrity while the Edmonton Oilers are simply trying to avoid the league's worst record. As a division, they are surrendering more goals than they score. Fans in Vancouver can expect a long playoff run while whichever of the middling three qualify for the postseason should expect a first-round exit.

The Southeast made a little improvement last year when they beat out the Northwest division to avoid being the weakest in the league. This year they have made

even more improvement. Washington is once more a Cup contender, Tampa Bay has become the bolt from the blue divisional leaders since new GM Steve Yzerman took over the teams operations, Carolina has been in a steady incline, Atlanta had their run early on but as of now they've fallen short and Florida — while fifth — could qualify for a playoff spot. For the most part the Southeast does better against non-divisional opponents then they do against teams in their division. With players like Alex Ovechkin, Steve Stamkos and Evander Kane, it's little wonder why the Southeast is the highest-scoring division.

The Atlantic division consists of two high-caliber teams: the Philadelphia Flyers, who are currently the best team in the league, and the Pittsburgh Penguins. Following in third place are the New York Rangers, a team above

.500 but boasting a strong goal differential. On the lower end of division, the New York Islanders are a fairly decent but highly inconsistent team while the New Jersey Devils might be the worst team in the league. Both teams' low percentages have managed to drag the Atlantic average down in quality. Overall, the Atlantic division falls right in the middle of the league standings.

The division that has the greatest probability of all five teams qualifying for the playoffs, the Pacific Division, has an outstanding record against teams outside of their division. Dallas currently has the best winning record of any team in the league against non-divisional teams and all the teams play touch hockey when on the road. Collectively with the second fewest goals allowed in the league, there are no easy games in this division.

The Central division still might be the strongest in hockey, but cracks are beginning to show. Four of the five teams in the Central can potentially qualify for playoff spot. Without a doubt, Detroit is a considerable Cup competitor, Nashville is doing extremely well even with very little talk about them. It's hard to imagine the Chicago Blackhawks not correcting the ship and qualifying for the postseason to defend their Stanley Cup victory last year. Having produced two of the past three Stanley Cup champions, it is a no-brainer that the Central Division is the best division in hockey right now and will more than likely send a team to the Stanley Cup Finals.



# Horoscopes

By ANITA MISHRA  
STAFF WRITER

## Aries

3/21 – 4/19

You will be feeling particularly charming and smooth this morning, don't be surprised. At night your emotions will mess with you, so straighten your head and focus on the positive. By the end of the week, you will want to run into a wall but don't worry ... your confidence will rise like a skyscraper before you know it!

## Taurus

4/20 – 5/20

You need to stop spending so much money this morning. You're broke, remember? Wait until midweek and keep an eye on your bank account. By the end of the week you might want to mind your own manners – say “please and thank you” to show you care. By the weekend you can look forward to a mix of fun and romance!

## Gemini

5/21 – 6/21

Believe in yourself, even if it seems hard. Your gears are turning slowly this morning and you have that “a-ha!” moment about romance. By midweek, you will forget all that and focus on reality, boring stuff such as finance and work. Catch up with old friends and family and have a great time.

## Cancer

6/22 – 7/22

In your head is a list of everything you need to get done. You have a lot on your plate this morning but don't worry, you will get it done. Over the next two or three days you'll solve problems left and right. By the end of the week, don't spend so much money; you'll need it for a rainy day. By the weekend you'll have more time to finish everything on your to-do list and relax. Finally!

## Leo

7/23 – 8/22

This morning finds you pretty carefree and happy-go-lucky but at night you'll be the opposite. Put a “do not disturb” sign on your door and think about why you're so emotional and where it's coming from. You'll be out on the prowl in fact. Once you're done with work, you will be ready for some hot romance. Try not to flirt too much, you might scare people away.

## Virgo

8/23 – 9/22

Stupidity will be your greatest enemy this week. Your brain is working fine this morning but watch your emotions ... they can hinder your thought process and throw you out to left field. When the weekend comes your mood will change entirely and you'll be charming and witty, enjoy it with your friends.

## Libra

9/23 – 10/22

You have got some choices to make this week. Would you like an apple or an orange? Better decide what you want because there are plenty of new ideas out there. By the next few days put the fruit aside and focus on projects that you haven't finished yet. Let your dreams come true, and let your creative side run free while others watch from the sidelines.

## Scorpio

10/23 – 11/21

Have a good look at your surroundings. Something looks fishy at work this morning but you can't put your finger on it. You'll also find yourself in deep conversation about your future. With all the good karma you have built up, rewards are likely to pop up over the weekend.

## Sagittarius

11/22 – 12/21

Stay alert Monday morning so you don't miss an opportunity. Get to cups of coffee if you have to. By the middle of the week your relationship with another person will be either good or bad depending on how you handle it. Stay positive though. Your sense of humor will be highlighted; you might even turn into a clown. Enjoy this with your friends because it's not coming back.

## Capricorn

12/22 – 1/19

Balance your emotions at work and at home. Grow up and make sure to understand the situation first rather than screaming at the top of your lungs. Get your planner ready ... Where do you see yourself in five years? Get some advice about this too from your friends and co-workers. A lot is in store for your future.

## Aquarius

1/20 – 2/18

Remember that you are different and unique, even eccentric at times. This will pay off at with your work environment. But make sure not to slack with your to-do list. By end of the week you'll run into obstacles but will fight it off with your charming personality. Your true personality shines through and people will want to be around your positive energy.

## Pisces

2/19 – 3/20

You may be feeling indecisive as Monday morning rolls around, but make sure you choose wisely this week. Go with the option that has more positive outcomes or else you'll end up paying in the end. By the end of the week, you're an emotional roller coaster so get some advice from a mentor, family member or best friend. Share some hot tea with them – it'll calm you down.

# Crossword Companion

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12				13						14		
15				16				17		18		
		19				20		21				
22	23				24		25		26		27	28
29				30		31		32		33		
34			35		36		37		38		39	
40		41		42		43		44		45		
46			47		48		49		50			
		51		52		53		54				
55	56				57		58				59	60
61				62		63				64		
65				66						67		

## ACROSS

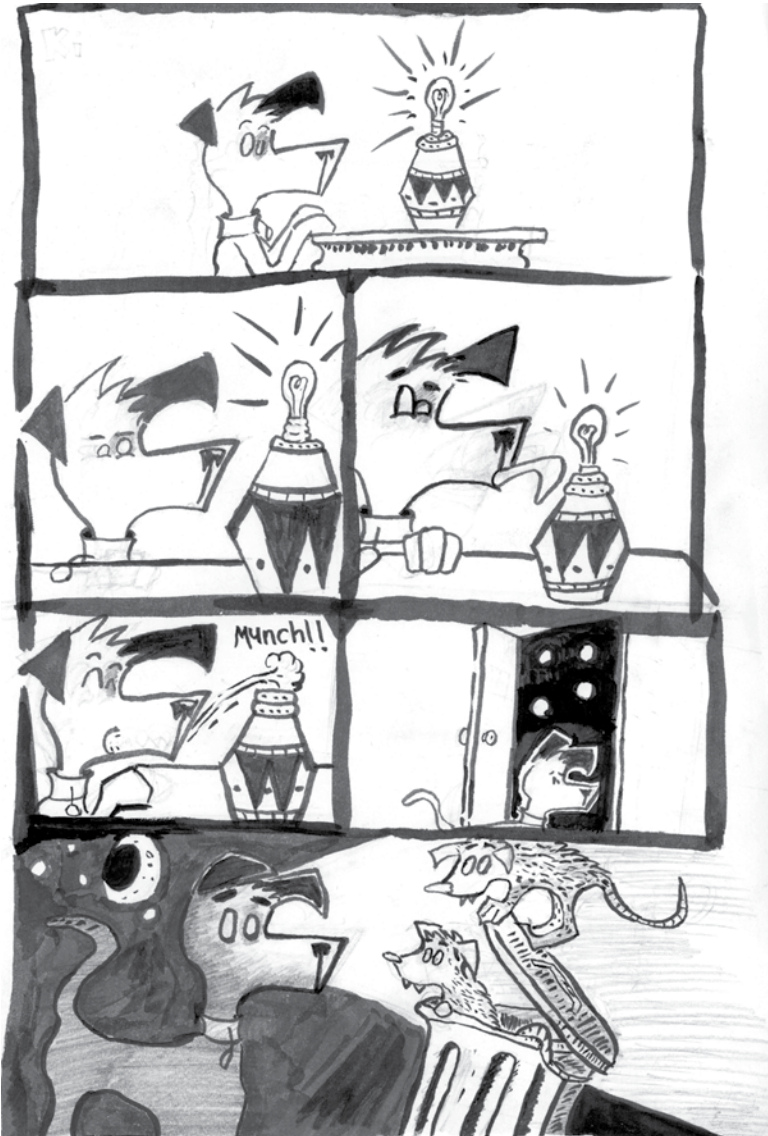
1. Lifeless at emergency entrance (abbr.)
4. Ways
9. African (abbr.)
12. Officeholders
13. Start
14. Inkling
15. Oppose
17. Bets
19. Beyond
21. Obtain
22. Identical
24. But
26. Coin
29. Ahead of
31. Tin
33. Dog
34. New York district (abbr.)
35. Explore
37. Muscular contraction
39. Concerning
40. Action (suffix)
42. Small boy
44. Iron
46. Administer evenly
48. Meadow
50. Lifetimes
51. Mouth
53. Oblivion
55. Unmarried woman
58. Live
61. Bow
62. Lassoed
64. Father's boy
65. Golf need
66. Sell
67. Medium (abbr.)

## DOWN

1. Director (abbr.)
2. Unit
3. Take for granted
4. Greatest in number
5. Passageway
6. For
7. Fresh
8. Male deer
9. Containing vinegar
10. Animal hair
11. Reserve (abbr.)
16. Portion of small intestine
18. Ruby
20. Atomic Energy Commission (abbr.)
22. Hard
23. Plant with licorice-flavored seeds
25. Make tatting
27. Doctor's helper
28. Oaks
30. Lightly tap
32. Small bite
36. Friend
38. Crustaceans
41. Desire to hurt others
43. Second smallest state (abbr.)
45. Acting within one's own interest
47. Bottle top
49. Exposed to atmosphere
52. Saucy
54. Ancient Median
55. Cushion
56. Verb
57. Neither
59. Female deer
60. Finish
63. Mid-Atlantic state (abbr.)

# Brite Light

ILLUSTRATION BY ERIC BROOKS



# Sudoku

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

For Answers see PAGE 33





DU students: Shontea, Matt, Elona, Donna, Alyssa and Mike.

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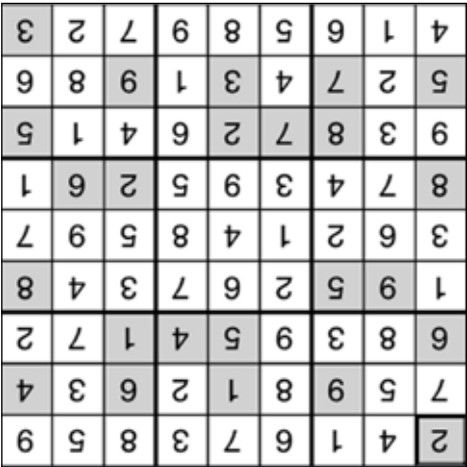
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# ANSWERS

continued from PAGE 32



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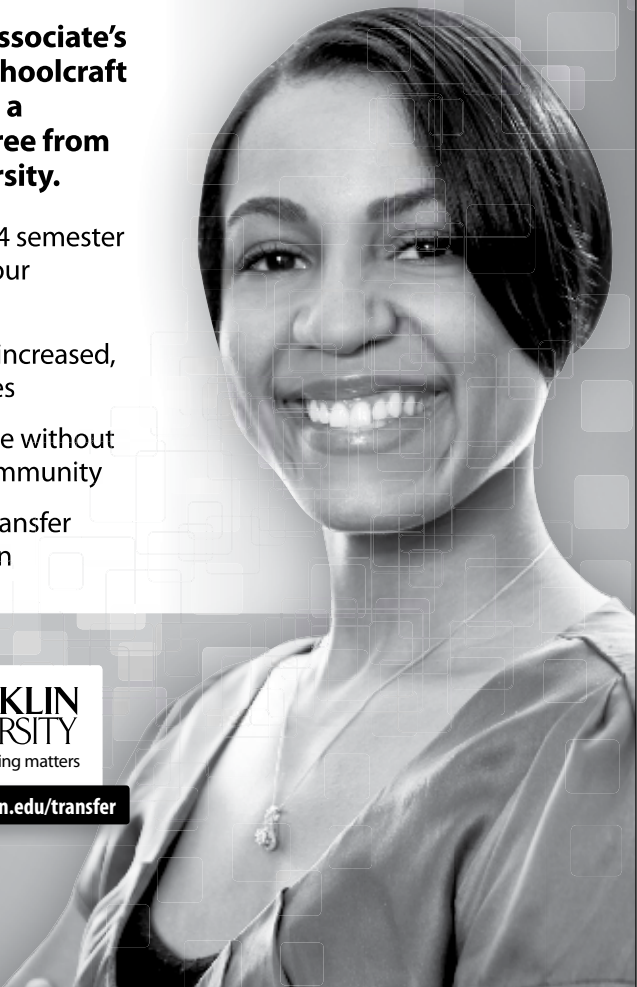
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Jarren was looking for a career with constant challenges he could be passionate about. He was also looking for a way to get a top-notch degree without spending top dollar. He needed a plan—a smart one. The solution: start at a community college; finish at a top 100 public university. Jarren got his general education credits out of the way for less money, allowing him to spend his time at Western Michigan University focusing on his major. On top of that, WMU has one of the most affordable undergraduate programs in Michigan.

*"The WMU counselors helped me figure out what to do. The friendly personnel and quality of the program both make for a really good experience at WMU."*

— Jarren Saucedo

## JARREN SAUCEDA'S

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY'S CLASS OF '12, TRANSFER STUDENT, COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS MAJOR

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Photos and Layout by Eric Matchette  
Photo by Brian Camilleri



(above) Media Services coordinating the show from their production truck. (left) Pete Krupsy interviews Joyce Galindo for the live broadcast during the pre-game show.

The size of Pink Zone's production and everything involved is an awesome sight to witness. The performance involves many different groups working together to create awe-inspiring spectacle. Media Services tapes the game and broadcasts the entire event live to local Livonia cable. SC's Dance Team and Break Dance Team entertain during half time and let us not forget the two basketball games taking place as well. All of this is done for the support of breast cancer awareness and fund raising for breast cancer research endeavors.



(above) Media Services get ready for Pink Zone action. (left) SC Dance Team perform during half-time show. (below) Mohamaed Elhaj finds an opening in the defense and surges to the hoop.



(left) Diamond Tolliver looks cross-court as the ladies set up for the scoring opportunity. (below) Shanequa Braggs finds the angle for her shot in the paint.



(right) One of several cameras poised for the exciting game that was broadcasted live in Livonia. (bottom) SC's Break Dance Team thanks the crowd after busting their moves.

