

SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

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Photo by Tala Wehbe

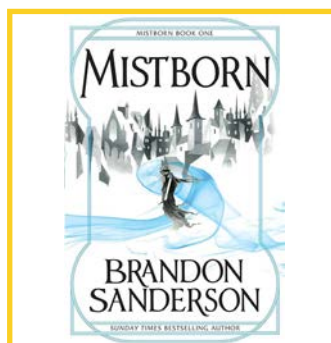
Revving up change

(Left to Right) Students Paul Novak, Brandon Fillenworth, Professor Gerry Lickey and willie Simmons discussing the switch battery building.



**Get to know
Professor
Stansell-Weaver**

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Campus life
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**Is Sanderson's
Mistborn
really
worth
the hype?**

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**A final farewell:
Jess Michael gives
her final goodbye as
Editor-in-Chief**

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NEWS

Schoolcraft powers up with new electric vehicle program

JESS MICHAEL
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Schoolcraft is always discovering new ways to provide new and innovative curriculum for the future, and electric vehicle engineering is not going to be left behind. Through many partnerships with industries and University of Michigan, Schoolcraft is developing a new program named EV Switch.

This program will have a speciality in electric cars. Though credit classes are not available as of yet, the team of several people including Jessica Krueger-Koupal, Project Coordinator Workforce Development, are tirelessly working to make that happen. Along with her is Frank Abkenar, Mobility Sector Liaison (GF) Workforce & Economic Development, who comes from the industry and has worked at Ford for many years. Abkennar evaluates what the program needs and analyzes what programs currently exist and what programs and curriculum may need to be made or updated.

The process of getting a curriculum eligible for students to take for credit is a rigorous process. “The hope is that the course will be put together by the end of Summer 2025,” said Krueger-Koupal. However, it probably won’t be ready for at least a year. Since this is a very new program, that still needs a bit of work. Schoolcraft students will have to wait for it to become a credit course. Krueger-Koupal also mentioned that they are working diligently to make into at least a



(Left to Right) Brandon Fillenworth, Paul Novak, and Professor Gerry Lickey working on wiring on the EV switch car at the Manufacturing and Engineering Center campus. Photos by Tala Wehbe

PPL (Personal, Professional Learning), as soon as possible.

Krueger-Koupal joined the team in May 2024, she specializes in curriculum development and is very tech savvy and is using her skills to organize the curriculum onto Schoolcraft’s blackboard system. There are eight courses total, starting with the building of the electric vehicle, called the SC in the Manufacturing and Engineering Center campus. The remaining courses are currently online. This program has currently been running for about a month, and currently in its

pilot phase.

Though there are several industry partners, Roush Performance is working to have at least 50 employees to go through the EV Switch program. Roush was founded in 1995, by Jack Roush. They mostly work with Ford and have received a couple electric vehicle custom projects. “Many employees are wanting to learn how to safely work on them,” said Krueger-Koupal. Roush began to realize

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cont'd from page 2>

a need to train employees, they partnered with Schoolcraft to be the first to help build a much needed curriculum. Many employees are either very new to electric or have some experience.

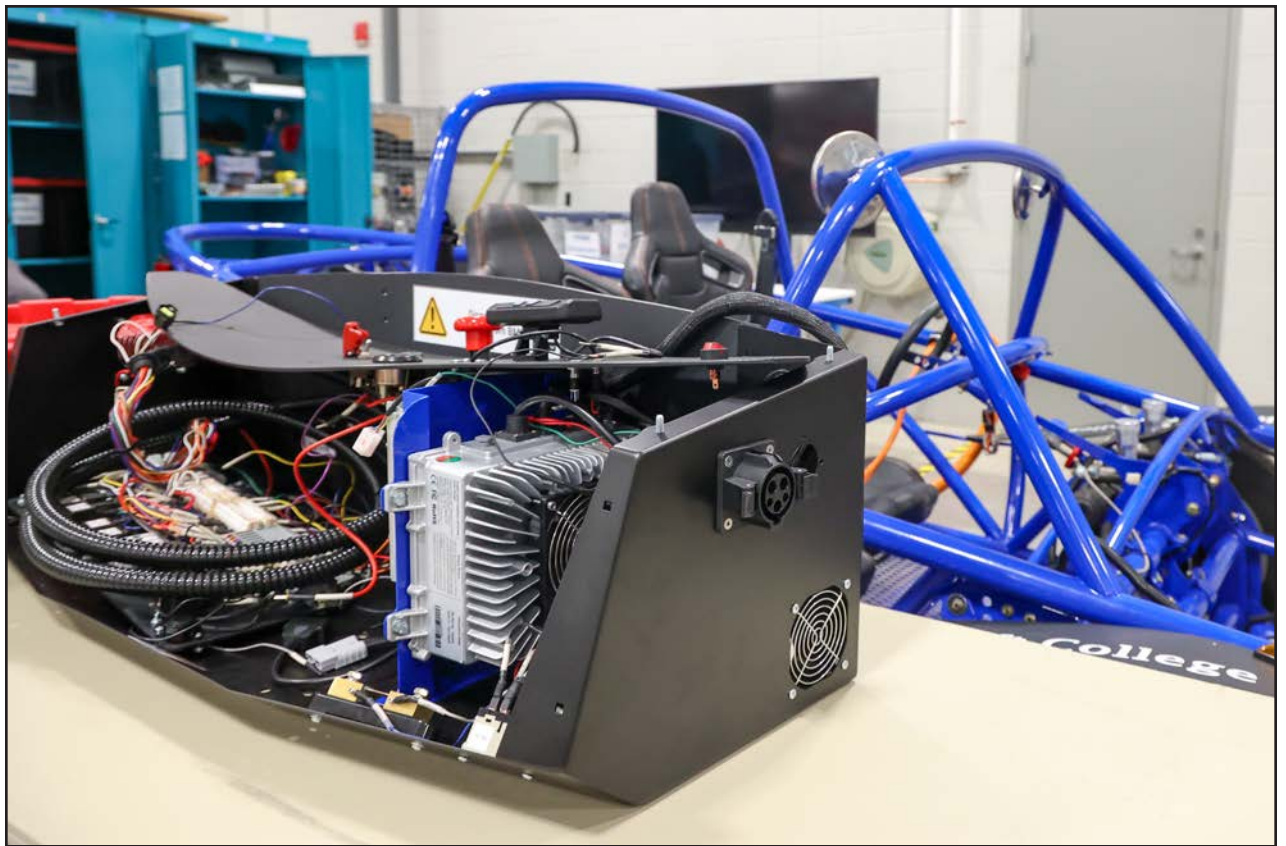
Along with Roush, Schoolcraft is partnering with University of Michigan's Electric Vehicle Center, where they have a team specifically for creating curriculum. Jason Siegel, a professor at UofM, is the main point of contact and is a mechanical engineer. Jesse Kittel is the project coordinator and Bashar Abdunour is the thermal management specialist and newest to the team. "We will have a special focus on thermal management for the program," said Krueger-Koupal. With electric and hybrid vehicles, having a system that cools the battery is essential, thermal runaway can become a huge problem, usually resulting in fires.

The car itself does not have doors or windows, however it can run and even be driven on the roads.

Students work on the low and high voltage electrical wiring and balancing the batteries. Roush has sent through three groups of employees thus far.

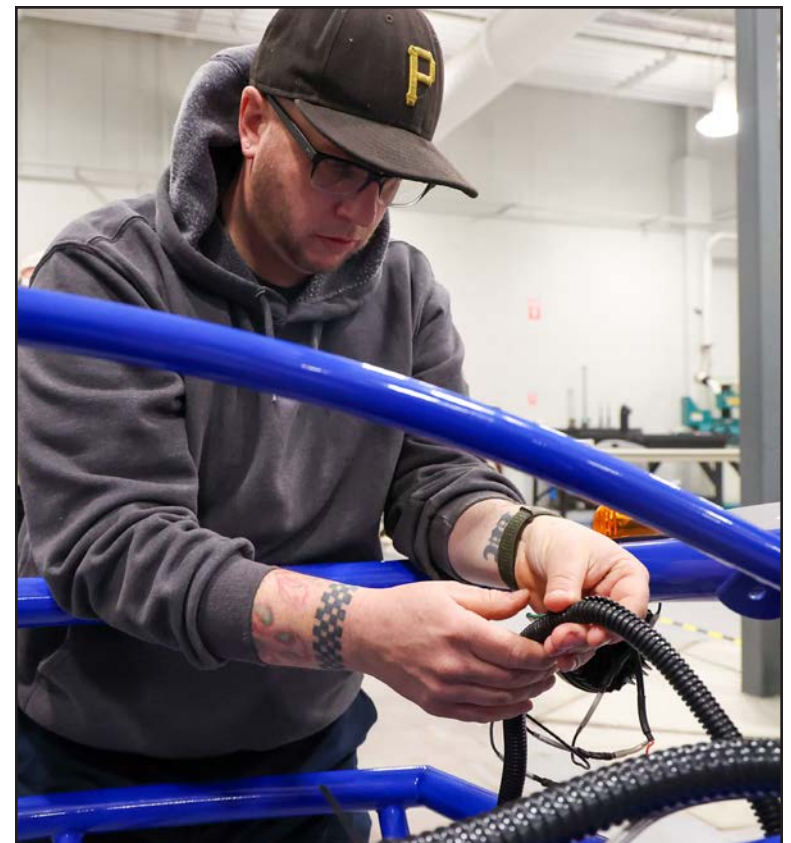
The car itself needed to be built beforehand and Schoolcraft hired three current engineering students. During class engineering students were offered to build the structure for the switch vehicle. Katie Jackson, Christian Hutan and Peter Janisch during the month of October worked together to build the vehicle.

"We had all the components and needed



The EV Battery shown here is being assembled prior to being placed into the switch car.

the students to put them together," said Krueger-Koupal. Jackson took to the building so well and already works at an oil change company. Her having the opportunity to be a part of this really helped her. Future engineering students won't have to wait too long for new classes to come along soon to help them further their careers in this ever growing field.



Student Paul Novak works on the EV switch wiring during his class.

"We will have a special focus on thermal management"

-Krueger-Koupal

CAMPUS LIFE

Speech, STEAM and students

Communications Professor dedicated to elevating campus life and student experience

STEPHANIE POLYS
STAFF WRITER

Throughout her career, Professor Christina Stansell-Weaver has meaningfully reached her students, sparking confidence in public speaking and essential communications skills. With extensive teaching experience and a distinct dedication to student's growth, Stansell-Weaver has found great success at Schoolcraft.

Stansell-Weaver began her career as a freelance business writer. When she decided to become an educator, she set out to "broaden her horizons", accumulating as much teaching background as she could. During the summer, she has taught international students from Dubai and Haiti. Stansell-Weaver was also given the opportunity to teach an interpersonal class within the South-Eastern Michigan prison system.

She had great appreciation that each student truly wanted to be there. Stansell-Weaver describes it as one of the most enriching and rewarding moments of her career. In the short time she had with each class, she gained much insight from the experience.

As a communication's professor, Stansell-Weaver believes that anyone can become a competent and impactful speaker. She emphasizes that effective communication plays a role in almost all aspects of life; from school and job interviews to personal relationships and health.

In her classes, Stansell-Weaver believes in the importance of creating a "safe space"



Communication Professor Christina Stansell- Weaver makes her COMA 103 class fun and engaging.
(Photo by Tala Wehbe)

for students.

"I really try to have students recognize that it is a classroom, nobody wants to see you fail. I hope that by creating an environment like that, students recognize that they are safe, and that they can open up and share ideas. It is all a part of learning in the classroom" said Stansell-Weaver.

Another way she builds students speaking skills and inner confidence is through personal stories.

By connecting a story to the speech, it is

both relatable to the audience and easier for the speaker to share. Even if nervous, Stansell-Weaver explains that it gives students at least one comfortable moment in their speech.

As a Schoolcraft alumni, the Stansell-Weaver has always had a special place in her heart for Schoolcraft.

"I love being a part of this community..."

See **"Speech, STEAM and students"**
page 5>

"Speech, STEAM and students"

cont'd from page 4>

from the faculty to the students, I think community college can be such a great fit for so many students" comments Stansell-Weaver.

This sentiment is visible through her active participation in campus life. One of her most important roles is as Faculty Lead for STEAM at Schoolcraft. STEAM investigates the intersection of arts, humanities and sciences, uplifting Schoolcraft's newest generation of students. Students have the opportunity to participate in an academic research conference, the program's culminating event. This year, the event took place on March 21.

Outside of Schoolcraft, Stansell-Weaver loves to spend time with her family. In her freetime, she enjoys watching her children play sports, reading, cooking, hiking and

relaxing at the beach.

Overall, Stansell-Weaver is dedicated to enriching the lives of her students through communications and is deeply involved in campus life. Her journey as an educator has allowed her to be an invaluable resource to students. As she propels this knowledge forward, she helps those who take her classes build confidence and the skills necessary for effective public speaking.

Currently, Stansell-Weaver teaches Fundamentals of Speech (COMA 103), Introduction to Communications Studies (COMA 105) and Intercultural Communication (COMA 240). In the fall, she is offering a new class; Introduction to Public Relations.



Professor Christina Stansell-Weaver

LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES

Success Starts Here



Alexia is the Service Desk lead. She takes care of the flow of people and keeps the office organized. She is the first and last face you see at the Learning Center.



Cayden is the STEM tutor lead. He primarily tutors math, accounting and Spanish.



Emily is the lead writing tutor. She covers writing classes, covering mostly all of the classes at Schoolcraft.

Learning Center Bradner Library L119

734-462-4436

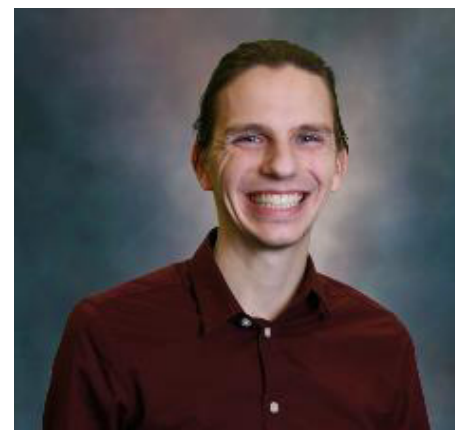
lc@schoolcraft.edu

Hours of Operation: Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. ;
Friday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. ; Saturdays: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Travis Michalak is the Learning Support Services Success Coach for Early Action & Success Strategies. Whether you're coming back to school after a long break, struggling with a class, or want some tips on how to be a better student, Travis will be able to help you with any of those issues and even more! Whatever the issue is, he will always try to find a solution for you no matter how big or small. If you would like to schedule an appointment with Travis, feel free to call or email

him with his information that we have provided:

Tmichala@schoolcraft.edu
734/462-7362



Do you have questions related to the Learning Center or looking for tips from our leads? Complete the QR and they will be answered in the future edition.



***Student Employees
of the year!***



***Congratulations
William Ugorji,
Taylor Johnson and Jess Michael***

On-Campus

**DIGITAL
JOB BOARD**

(734)-462-4477 | STUDENTEMPLOYMENT@SCHOOLCRAFT.EDU



Looking for a job on campus?



SCAN HERE!

Creating Solidarity

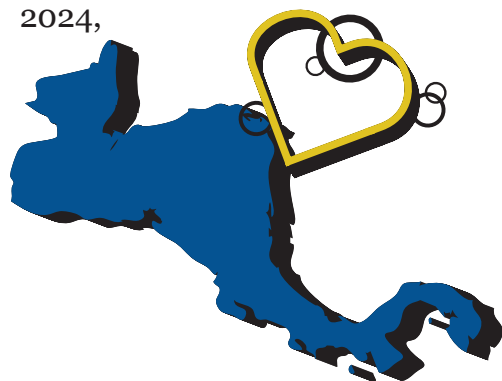
United for a Dream becomes a safe space for Latine and/or Hispanic students

MICHELLE TORRES
STAFF WRITER

As the year drags on, there have been many anxieties about the current socio-economic climate in the country. Some communities have been hit harder than others, but it is during times of fear and crisis that we must come together as people to support, protect, and uplift one another by building a strong community and creating meaningful connections.

United for a Dream, or Unidos por un Sueño, is a new club founded by current Schoolcraft student Karla Hinojosa. It is a kind and open place to learn about and uplift Schoolcraft's vibrant Latine community. All students from Schoolcraft are more than welcome to join regardless of their own personal background and/or history.

Hinojosa originally got the idea to start a club to center Latine students after attending School Daze in Fall 2024,



when she noticed there was no club specifically for Latine and/or Hispanic students.

"I decided to start [United for a Dream] because I wanted to advocate more for the Hispanic and Latine community around campus," said Hinojosa. "We also have a voice, and I wanted to represent the Latine community."

At United for a Dream, members will be able to learn and share about the different cultures and histories that comprise the diverse region Latin America. They will also have the opportunity to further understand the Latine immigrant community as well as the variety of individuals and events that have shaped it throughout American history.



Participants will be able to collaborate with one another through a variety of projects and activities United for a Dream will organize at Schoolcraft.

A typical meeting will

involve discussion to create an educational environment about Latine cultural heritage.

"[We are going to] watch movies, play music, eat traditional foods, etc.," said Hinojosa.

United for a Dream will also be contributing to the upcoming Multicultural Fair on Thursday March 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Vistatech Center.

Students will also be able to directly help out the Latine community through volunteering opportunities.

"Right now, with the flooding in Southwest Detroit, [the city of Detroit and Urban Neighborhood Initiatives are] asking for volunteers. They're looking for bilingual people, [and] they're needing baby formula, diapers, water, canned food, clothing, and hygienic products," said Hinojosa. "I believe about 400 houses were impacted so they're asking for [United for a Dream] to help out and organize."

United for a Dream is a club for students who are passionate about learning and advocacy, and it is open to any Schoolcraft student of any background interested in leaving a positive impact on the overall community.

Meetings will take place every other Monday from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., and students can find United for a Dream in the lower Vista Tech, Conference Room E.



To learn more about United for a Dream, contact the Student Activities Office 734-462-4422, and look out for flyers posted around campus.



Layout by
Andrew
Husken

Campus and Club Events



Illustration by Michelle Edgerton

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

Pageturners Book Discussion: Tin Camp Road:

A Novel by Ellen Airgood

March 25

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

BTC120

Laurel Hill and her daughter Skye have always lived a close-knit life on the shores of Lake Superior, thriving in their isolated world despite their modest means. With only a handful of children in the local school and the nearest hospital far away, they've built a life of love and independence, with Laurel working a variety of jobs to make ends meet. However, when they are unexpectedly evicted by their landlord in favor of a more profitable rental, they are pushed to the brink, facing the harsh reality of their remote existence. When a dangerous incident threatens to tear them apart, Laurel and Skye are forced to choose whether to leave their beloved home for a more connected life or risk everything to remain in the wildness that has defined them.

Dance Party

March 26

5 – 10 p.m.

Lower Level, Vistatech Center

Join the Dance Club for a fun night of dancing. Food and beverages will be provided.

Multicultural Fair

March 27

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

DiPonio Room, Vistatech Center

Take a trip around the World! Join us for the 20th annual Multicultural Fair. Come see Cultural displays, performances, language demonstrations and sample international foods. Students, faculty, staff and the community is welcome!

Up Jumped Spring Concert featuring the Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Improvisation Combo

March 31

7:30 p.m.

Vistatech Center, DiPonio Room

The Schoolcraft Jazz Studies Program under the direction of Dr. Riccardo

Selva presents a concert featuring talented musicians of the Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Improvisation Combo. The eclectic repertoire programmed by the ensembles will unfold into a lively and creative concert that promises to usher in the freshness of spring. Admission is FREE. Donations will be accepted at the door and will be used to fund student scholarships and the Jazz Program.

Snack and Study

Drop-In: April 2

11 to 1 p.m.

Bradner Library 110

Join Learning Support Services and the Bradner Library for some free snacks while you study!

Drop in, do your homework, meet friends for a study group, or chat with one of our Academic Success Coaches. Food available while supplies last; first come first served.

For more information contact:

learningsupport@schoolcraft.edu or call 734-462-7330.

Wednesday Noon Jazz and Classical Concerts: featuring Bayberry String Quartet

April 2

12.p.m

Kehrl Auditorium, VT 550

Join the Music Department for its Wednesday Noon Jazz and Classical Concert. This event is free and open to the public.

Plants and Pride

April 3

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

LA 200

Celebrate spring with the Pride Team. Drop-in, decorate a terracotta pot and pick a plant all while learning about the queer history and symbolism behind various plants! Take home your creation and watch it grow. Allies welcome.

Vision to Venture: Schoolcraft Business Pitch Competition

April 4

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Kehrl Auditorium

Compete, win and sharpen your entrepreneurial skills! Show us your business idea and win up to \$1000. Open to all enrolled Schoolcraft Students.

The Schoolcraft College Theatre Department proudly presents: Clarkston

April 4 & 5 at 7:30 p.m.

April 6 at 2 p.m.

James R. Hartman Theatre, LA500

\$20 General Admission (\$15 students)

CLARKSTON examines the lives of two young men who meet working in a

Costco in Clarkston, Washington. Jake is from the East Coast and attended an elite liberal arts college, but suffered from a fatal illness. He is on his way to see the ocean when his illness slows him down. Chris is a local Clarkston boy with a meth-addict mother and a dead-end life. The young men form an awkward bond. Both are gay, but they have led vastly different lives. Can they learn to help each other?

Worship Night

April 9

7-8 p.m.

Lower Level, Vistatech Center

Join Christian Challenge for Worship Night. Pizza Provided.

Basant Bahaar Mela Spring Celebration Fair 2025

April 19

11 a.m.- 7 p.m.

Vistatech Center, DiPonio Room

The Schoolcraft College Asian Student Association presents Basant Bahaar Mela Spring Celebration Fair. Bring friends and family and join us for a fun and immersive cultural experience! Pop in for a minute or stay the whole day! Clothing, jewelry, home decor, refreshment and food, henna painting and more. This event is free and open to the public.

Middle School College Night Open House

April 21

5.- 7 p.m.

Vistatech Center

Learn the steps to take in high school to prepare for college! Speak with high school counselors, meet with representatives from a wide range of

colleges and universities, learn about scholarships and financial aid, explore a variety of college majors and learn how to start earning college credits in high school through Dual Enrollment. No cost required to attend.

Grad Fair

April 23

9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

April 24

12-6 p.m.

Main Campus Bookstore

Mark your calendars for the 2025 Grad Fair! Attend the Grad Fair to purchase your cap and pressed gown, receive guest tickets and order announcements. Just a reminder be prepared to pay a \$50 graduation fee. Grad images will be at the Grad Fair to take professional headshots of each graduate. They will also be at the Commencement Ceremony taking photos available for purchase after the ceremony.

Thayers Park Volunteer Cleanup

April 25

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.

Volunteers should meet at the park which is located at 8250 Napier Road, Northville, MI 48168. Looking for 10-20 volunteers. RSVP by email at sc.sao@apps.schoolcraft.edu or call 734-462-4422 before April 24 at 5 p.m. Pizza and refreshments will be provided at noon. Participants will want to bring gloves. Tools and directions on jobs will be provided on site.



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[schoolcraftconnection](https://www.instagram.com/schoolcraftconnection)



The Schoolcraft Connection

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Ann Arbor African American Festival

June 7th

The 28th annual African American Festival of Ann Arbor brings the community together for a day of rich culture and creativity. Multiple genres of music will be performed by live bands, and a market of hand-made artistry and goods are offered for guests to browse. Non-profit organizations come together to share their mission-sand services, as well as fostering community. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.



Mackinac Island Lilac Festival

June 6 - 15

Enjoy a historical annual event on Mackinac Island, celebrating the history of the island and the lilac flowers that were planted over a hundred years ago. Activities include a 10K run, tours and live music. Witness the coronation of the Lilac Festival Queen and her court. The festival ends with a grand parade featuring marching bands, floats, clowns and horse-drawn carriages.



Motor City Pride June 7th and 8th

Motor City Pride has historical roots, where in 1972, a march was held on Woodward Ave in Detroit to protest homophobic laws and advocate for equal rights. Hart Plaza will host several live performances, including musical acts, drag performances and the Pride Parade on Sunday the 8th at noon. Admission is \$5 per person, and free for anyone under 12 years of age.



Canton Liberty Fest June 12, 13 and 14

Canton Township hosts its 32nd annual Liberty Fest in June, located in Heritage Park. The festival will have carnival rides, games with prizes, as well as food trucks and live entertainment. The nights finish off with a dazzling firework display.





Livonia Spree

June 24 - 29

The Livonia Spree is back, bringing with it food, games, and live entertainment. The event will have a 5k run, a carshow, and an amusement park. For the children, the kids' tent hosts a petting farm, as well as pig and duck races. For the adults, a beer tent with band performances will be available. The event ends with a dazzling display of fireworks.



Art in the Park Plymouth

July 11, 12 and 13

Downtown Plymouth will be holding its annual Art in the Park event in July. With over 400 artists showcasing their work for sale, live music and live art demonstrations, you're sure to find something that speaks to you. There is also a family friendly theatre performing multiple shows each day, as well as a children's mural for kids to draw and paint on



Michigan Renaissance Festival

Weekends Aug. 16 - Sept. 28

Starting August 16, Michigan's annual Renaissance Festival will be held each weekend in Holland. Students of all ages who have achieved "Academic Excellence" qualify for a free ticket, including K-12 and college students. (The student must be enrolled at the time.)



Written by Kayden Lumley
Graphics and layout by Megan
Edgerton



A superpowered showdown or just another hero brawler?

Does Marvel Rivals live up to the hype of a hero shooter?

NOAH MOORE
STAFF WRITER

"MARVEL RIVALS"

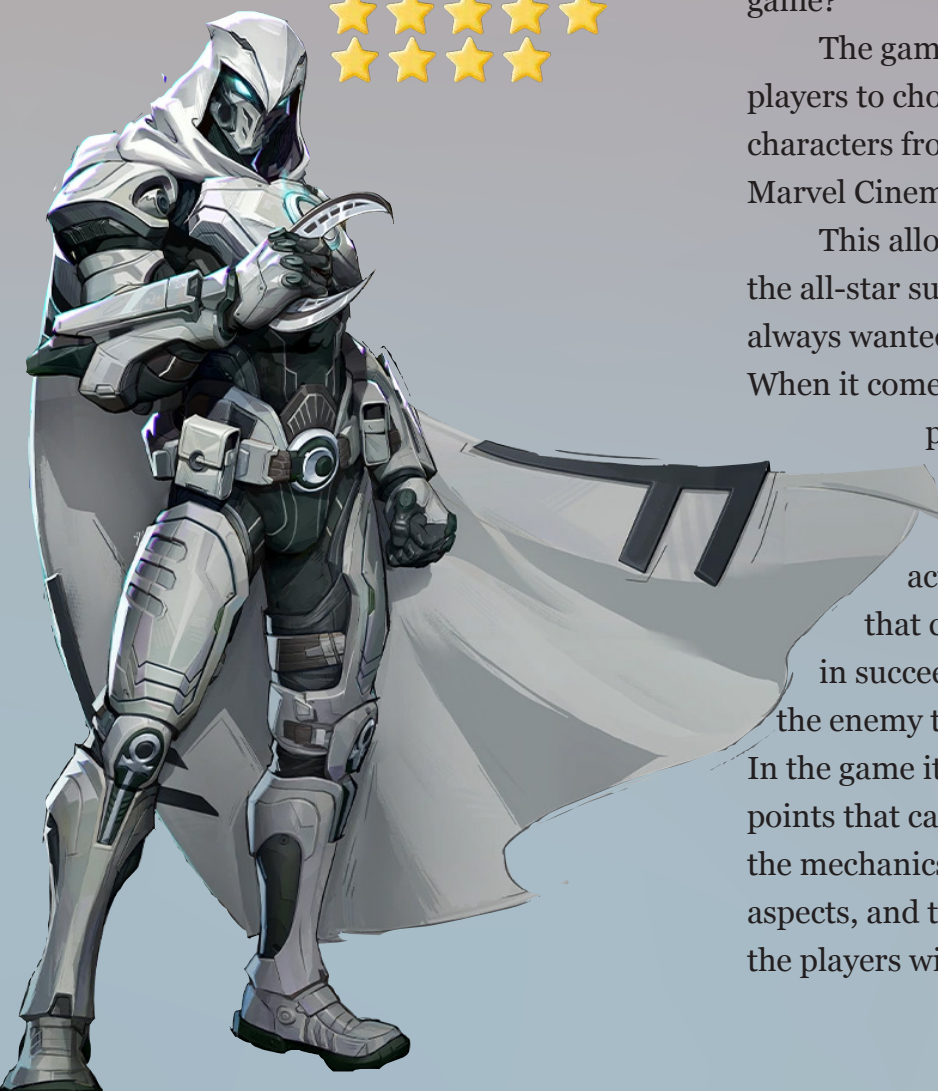
Initial release date: December 6, 2024

Platforms: Windows, PlayStation 5 & Xbox Series X/S

Mode: Singleplayer, Third Person & Survival

Genres: PvP, Competitive, Multiplayer & Hero Shooter

Rating: 9 out of 10



If any players ever wanted to battle against their favorite Marvel characters then this game is sure to make their hopes and dreams come true!

Marvel Rivals, released on Dec. 6, 2024, was a highly anticipated game that had players asking the age-old question about hero shooter games: "Is this a true hero shooter or just another showdown game?"

The game is a PvP shooter, allowing players to choose from 33 unique characters from Marvel Comics and the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

This allows the players to choose the all-star super hero squad they have always wanted to see on the battlefield. When it comes to choosing characters, the players can use an ultimate which is an ability when fully charged players can activate a very powerful move that can either help out the team in succeeding the win or eliminate the enemy team.

In the game itself, some of the main points that can be broken down are the mechanics, art style, gameplay aspects, and the overall experience that the players will have the opportunity



to practice while playing. To start, the mechanics are straightforward. Players are thrown into a team of six players allowing them to choose 1 of the 33 heroes and having a task that can vary. This can be moving an item from point A to point B or another game could be a game of King of the Hill, this is when which has both teams battling each other to secure the point before time runs out.

These game modes could get pretty repetitive after a couple of tries, which is why the developers of NetEase Games give the players a comparative option for those players who want a challenge. While in competitive mode the game will put the players into lobbies of other players that are based on their skills.

See 'Marvel Rivals'"
page 13>

'Marvel Rivals' cont'd from page 12>

The higher the rank, the tougher the opponents players will face. While this may sound intimidating, the game allows both teams to ban two characters for the duration of the match.

This means teams can remove characters they don't want to face, giving them a better chance of winning. The game has received many positive reviews for its engaging gameplay, but that's not the only reason for its popularity. The art style is something most players can't ignore. The characters and environments feature a sleek, comic book-inspired design, which serves as the backbone of the game's visual appeal.

Some of the other mechanics used in the game are when players request a team-up. Team-ups are a mechanic that allows the players to gain an extra move or ability that both players will gain if both players want to use the team-up. This could change the whole outcome of the game if the player is losing then a team-up could allow them to gain the upper edge in the game.

When it comes to these team-ups the player may need to select one of the three main roles. These are as follows: Vanguard's often called the tanks are characters that are the main defense and the front line of the team who push the other team. Duelists or Damage per second (DPS) are characters who help by dealing damage while also helping out the tanks if they are struggling against the enemy team.

The last role is the Strategists who are supporting characters who are healers and help out their DPS and tank players whether it could be healing them or increasing the base damage the team is dealing with.



Overall, Marvel Rival is a game that has the potential to revive the hero shooter genre that most players are known to play. If you ever wanted to fight against some of your favorite Marvel characters then this is the game for you.

Layout by Michelle Edgerton



Michigan Orchid Society Show

Location: Local 98 Plumbers Union in Madison Heights

The Michigan Orchid Society has been around for 50 years. The organization does an orchid show once every year. They feature Orchid's from other societies from all around Michigan, this year they feature Ann Arbor Orchid Society and Lansing Orchid Society. All the orchids are grown by society members and are judged at the

show. The American Orchid Society certifies judges and then they judge the orchids off of their rubric.

Alongside all the orchids being shown for competition, there are vendors who come to each show selling anything from artwork to fully grown orchids to starters



I spoke with Kristen Uthus who runs New World Orchids and sells miniature orchids from all over the world. Kristen states that "most people are familiar with phalaenopsis and miniatures are like phalaenopsis in that they are very easy to take care of and they take more range in temperature and light." This is typically what draws people to these types of orchids because they are similar to succulents and do not need to be watched over constantly.

Kristen said that "The thing that sets phalaenopsis and miniature orchids apart is that instead of just having a pretty flower that blooms once in a while, miniatures are also beautiful plants in general and are typically interesting looking so that the person can enjoy them all year around." She loves the intricacies of the plants and shows off how even when these orchids are not in bloom they are still very beautiful and interesting.



Yvonne Whiteley, who is an Orchardist, spoke with me and said that "all the orchid societies all around Michigan invite us to their shows and vice versa to be able to share orchids around the state." Yvonne is very passionate

about the Michigan Orchid Show and stated that "The show is slowly getting smaller and smaller, we are hoping to engage younger folks into coming to our event and learning more about orchid growing."



Natt runs Natt's Orchids, he is located in Illinois. He and his wife grow and propagate Orchids to sell at pop ups and also through his business. He started his business as a hobby and said "35 years ago he had 2 plants and made a hybrid of those to create a new species." He enjoys seeing what new plants he can create and what interesting color and patterns that would emerge.



Layout by Andrew Husken



Tonsofvendorstopurchaseyour favorite orchid!



Customer admiring terrarium of orchids that was entered into competition by vendor and won multiple awards

Photos by Mia Finley



MICHIGAN ORCHID SOCIETY

Promoting awareness, conservation and culture of orchids



You're Invited.
Our meetings are open to the public.
They are held at 2:30 on the third Sunday of the month from September thru May.

Meeting Location:
Sanctuary Birmingham
300 Willits Street
Birmingham, MI

Website
miorchidsociety.com



MEETING LOCATION

General Meeting Schedule

February 16, 2025	September 21, 2025
April 13, 2025	October 19, 2025
May 18, 2025	November 16, 2025

SPECIAL MOS MEMBERSHIP OFFER
Become a new member of MOS by June 28, 2025 and get a five dollar discount on your first year dues

Next Michigan Orchid Society Meeting information

Out of the Mist

A tale of revolutionaries and romance

SARAH MALLORY
STAFF WRITER

Genre: High fantasy, Romance

Available in: Paperback, eBook, Google Play Books and Audio-book

Published: July 17, 2006

Trigger Warnings: War, abuse, genocide, gore, murder, prostitution, rape (mentioned), slavery, torture

Rating: 7 / 10 Stars

In a world blighted with ash, an immortal Lord Ruler governs with an iron fist. A Skaa (slave) named Kelsier has put together the most masterful criminals of the underworld to target the unthinkable and untargetable, the Divine Deposit. But even with the best crew ever assembled, his plan is far off from working. Until he meets Vin, a half-Skaa orphan, a mistborn like him who has never dreamed she can be more than just gutter trash. With their powers combined, will they be able to pull off the heist of the century? Can Vin overcome her checkered past and trust in others once more?

“Mistborn” is a must read for high fantasy enjoyers, but it’s conflicting on a metapersonal level. This is author Brandon Sanderson’s first standout novel and the novel that skyrocketed him to fame. In certain areas of the book, it is a well-written

and an engaging read but other areas of the book drag and fall behind. The language choice of the book is simple and to the point. Nothing too flowery and over the top but that can hinder the narrative and novel as a whole.

What uplifts this sentiment is the “Mistborn” magic system. The entire thing is based upon metallurgy which is incredibly compelling and inventive. Every ability encountered is unique to the worldbuilding of the novel and expressive in the way it’s described in working. It makes a reader appreciate the time in thought put into every word.

Outside of the heist plot, Mistborn feels unoriginal—but that’s not necessarily a bad thing. It serves as a great entry point for readers new to high fantasy and the expansive worlds author Brandon Sanderson has created, though he has written stronger works. However, skipping Mistborn may lead to confusion with later plots, as it is the first book in a trilogy and ties into adjacent series like “The Stormlight Archive” which is set in the same Cosmere universe. Outside of the heist plot, “Mistborn” feels unoriginal. But that’s not necessarily a bad thing. It is a great starting point for readers being introduced to high fantasy and the worlds that the author Brandon Sanderson has cultivated, but he has better. Yet, without reading “Mistborn”, readers will be confused about later plots as this book is one of a trilogy, and

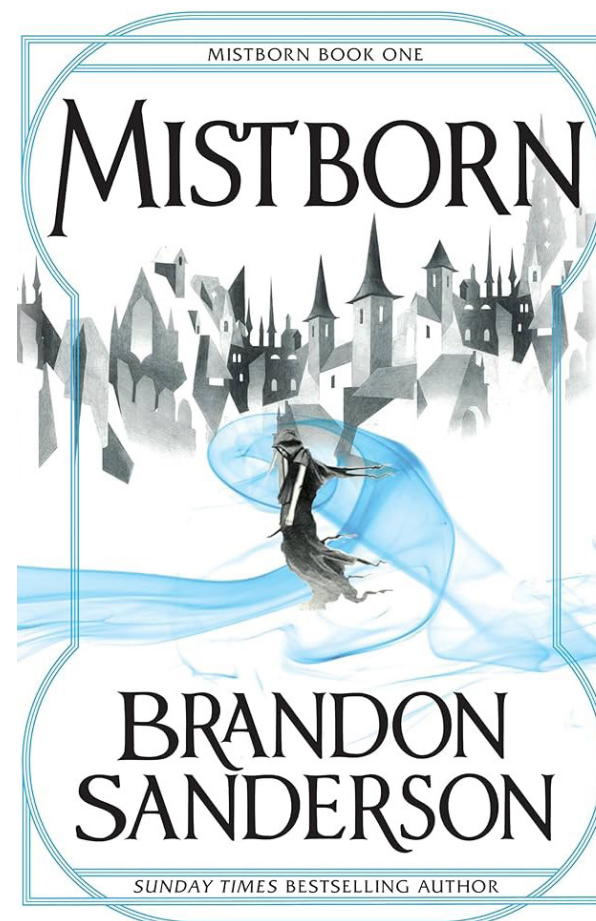


Photo courtesy of Amazon.com

might be confused in some stories told in adjacent series like the “Stormlight Archive” which is set in the same world of Cosmere.

Additionally, the triggers may seem excessive but they are done tastefully in the context of the story.

Overall, this novel earned a 7/10 and should be a must read for anyone wanting to be introduced to high fantasy reads.

Layout by Catie Cherry

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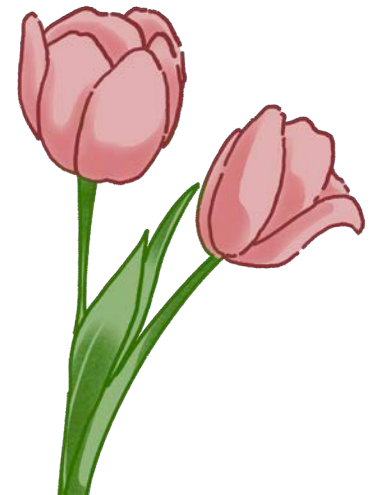
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on page 24
to brighten
your day and
cure your
boredom!



Sara's Corner

Mindfulness:

The treacherous storm
A never-ending sea of blues
Never have I known a calm mind
But hope is a small seedling
in a vast forest
Ripe and ready to bloom

Rebirth:

Everyday the dark hour passes
The sun rises
And each day is a day
To be born
A new

Renewal

Renewal to the song
Is renewal to the world
As no matter which way
the pendulum swings
No matter the hardship, tune
or scepter
We are still here
And we won't be leaving
Anytime soon

SARAH MALLORY
STAFF WRITER



ARE YOU IN NEED OF FOOD ASSISTANCE?

Register to use the Student Food Pantry to pick up
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Either scan the QR Code to the left and fill out the "intake form" or stop by the Student Activities Office in the Lower Level of the Vistatech Center and fill out an "intake form" in person for use of the SC Student Food Pantry.

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THE COLLECTIVE PEN



We all hope that throughout our time on this earth we will find what inspires us. Muses are what fills our hearts with hope and sparks the creativity within ourselves. The Connection editors came together for our very last issue to collectively speak on how our muses, professors, have influenced us. At the Connection many of us are graduating with the help of Schoolcraft professors and we want to let them know how much appreciation we have for them. We may call them professors, however they are teachers. They are the teachers who have chosen to give the gift of learning to their students. Giving us the opportunity to expand our minds and broaden our knowledge to make our lives better. The backgrounds of our professors vary from being from a different country to not even having a plan to be a teacher in the first place. However, they found themselves on Schoolcraft's campus and hope to inspire their

students everyday. An inspiring professor goes beyond teaching; they ignite curiosity, motivate students to push their limits, and make learning meaningful. They genuinely care about their students, offering support and encouragement both academically and personally. More than just educators, they lead by example, embodying professionalism, resilience, and a love for lifelong learning. Their influence extends beyond the classroom, inspiring their students to pursue their passions and make a difference in the world. Although they have pushed us to be the best we can be, for some they have been there for us during our darkest moments. Taking our hands and guiding their students to the light at the end of the tunnel. Reminding us that this is all worth it in the end and to keep going.

See 'The collective pen'"
page 21>

EDITORIAL POLICY:

Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board. Signed columns solely reflect the opinion of the writer. The Schoolcraft Connection abstains from criticism of, or discrimination against any person on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, age, marital status, handicap, national origin, or sexual orientation.

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'The collective pen'

cont'd from page 20>

Professor Julie Langdon has inspired me in many ways. She has years of experience in the digital graphic and printing field, and with that knowledge, she really goes all out to help her students understand the material through the real-life experiences she has gone through. She does care for the students outside of the classroom as well; if you have any issues, she will help you and guide you in the right direction, and I think that's really important. With the dedication and success she has for the industry and her students, it inspires me to hopefully be like her someday.

Andrew



Professor Sophie Neslund Through thick and thin, literally, in clay/dirt speaking. Sophie (she prefers) has been there inspiring students who don't always believe in themselves. Her "Okay... but here me out," has inspired many of her students to continue on ceramic projects; they would have given up on. With her wit and humor there is never a dull moment in the ceramic cave. She is a professor that is always there to listen and will have your back. It's never about perfection in her classroom, it's about being present and enjoying the learning process.

Jess

Professor Salo is a wonderful professor who has incredible passion for teaching and his department. He is not afraid to be himself and is always cracking jokes and making class as fun as it can. He is a very hands-on professor and likes to be able to share experiences with students. I really enjoy that he has been in the media industries and knows how it is to work in them and not just how to teach. I like that he encourages students to connect and to give feedback on work. His light heartedness is a breath of fresh air for me, he is not stuck up or very critical and genuinely just enjoys the art and seeing others create. I have a hard time connecting with art teachers because they stick you in a box and Salo very much just wants to see you create and use techniques that help you do so. I also really enjoy that he is such a big part of campus. I swear I see him everywhere and I appreciate how dedicated he is to Schoolcraft.

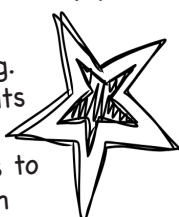
Mia



MVP!!!

Professor Christina Stansell-Weaver I've always been shy and anxious about public speaking, so when I had to take COMA 103 this semester, I was incredibly nervous. Fortunately, I ended up in Professor Stansell-Weaver's class. She creates a safe and supportive environment where students can learn and build confidence. I love her sense of humor and how she's always willing to help her students whenever they need it. Her passion for teaching is out of this world. Now, I genuinely enjoy attending her classes. I'm so grateful for her help and patience. Thanks to her guidance, I've grown more confident in my public speaking skills, and what once felt terrifying now feels like an exciting challenge.

Pili



#1

Shout out to Professor Michael Alan Herman!

Kayden



Professor Salo is always looking for opportunities that benefit his students, going above and beyond to support their growth. His witty humor and understanding make his classes both engaging and enjoyable. Beyond the classroom, I've had the chance to know him personally, and his unwavering dedication to his students is truly admirable. He not only cares about our academic success but also about our personal and professional development. His passion for teaching is undeniable, and he has a unique way of making even the most complex topics easy to grasp. What I find both amusing and inspiring is just how much he genuinely loves to teach.

Tala



Professor Michael Thompson has been one of my most influential teachers due to his open mindedness and encouragement. He creates a safe space where students can freely express themselves and explore topics they care about, making learning more meaningful. What I admire most is his balance of providing clear guidance while encouraging independence and creative processes. He holds us accountable, pushing us to take ownership of our work. Beyond academics, he genuinely cares about his students' well being. His humor, approachability, and passion for teaching make his classes enjoyable, and his belief in us has had a lasting impact. Professor Thompson's support and dedication make him more than just a great professor - he makes students feel valued and capable of achieving their goals.

Consuelo



We will never forget

how you made us feel, and we see the love you put into your effort. Thank you

Schoolcraft professors!



OPINIONS

Beauty in a goodbye

JESS MICHAEL
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I remember the first time I walked through the liberal arts doors to wander to my first class. To many this is just a simple transition since many students are freshly graduated from high school. However, for a 34 year old mother of three, this was quite a scary life change. I never thought that my life would be changed forever. My goal was just to refresh my basic English and grammar skills so I could begin writing my novels. Sitting in class, Professor King announced that Schoolcraft's newspaper was hiring. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would have the most humblest of honor to be the Editor in Chief for Schoolcraft's newspaper.

This hasn't only been a resume builder

or just a job, this has been a safe place, a second home. A place where I found family and lifelong friends, and with those people I have found my purpose in life. I have been astounded by the growth I have been able to witness within myself and those who have been a part of this team.

I want to thank everyone who has given me the privilege to be a part of their lives; allowing me to mentor them along with them mentoring me. For a great leader is always open to being taught more life lessons, an old crone can learn new tricks. I have learned a tremendous amount from those in the student activity office and those who are a part of the Connection.

The Connection team has brightened my life in astronomical ways, for they have

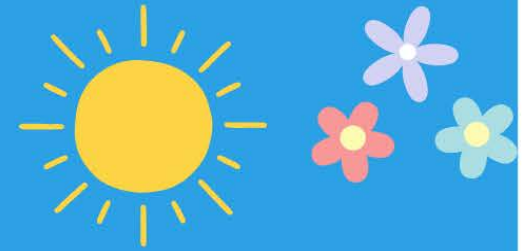
seen me cry and laugh till I can no longer breathe. They have held my hand during my gloomiest days and brought me to the sunshine; and like a sunflower I graciously turned to their rays and took in every bit I could. I don't think a thank you could ever suffice for the gratitude I have for my Schoolcraft family.

Writing my goodbye letter has been the one story I have been dreading since the beginning of the 2025 winter semester. Writing this means that my Schoolcraft journey is coming to a bittersweet end. Goodbye isn't ugly though, it means a particular chapter is over and it is time to continue growing in another chapter of our lives; and that is quite beautiful! Salud!



Ocelot Opinions

What are students/faculty doing this summer?



Layout by Caitlin Cherry

INTERVIEW BY JESS MICHAEL
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Welcome back to Ocelot Opinions as we ask students and faculty what luck is in their lives right now. Let's see what they had to share!



Samer Hariri
Professor

"The mineralogy class will be going on their yearly trip, it's a geological expedition to Marquette Michigan."



Kristin Keyes
Reference Librarian

"My husband and I are traveling to TN to see our families there."



Leelon Witherspoon
Computer Graphics Tech

"I can't wait to see the new Fantastic 4 and Superman movies."



Clint Tagarel
General Studies

"I am going to see GHOST with my dad, I'm so excited."



Fatima Almaweri
Science Major

"Ozzypolooza, tie dying the t-shirts was so fun!"



Katie Jackson
Mechanical Engineering

"I am going skydiving in Tecumseh."

DIVERSIONS

Find Answers on Page 26!



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

- FUTURE
- HONOR
- DIPLOMA
- CAP
- GRADUATE
- CELEBRATION
- CEREMONY
- GOWN
- SUCCESS
- ACHIEVEMENT

The final test

Sudoku

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

Color me in

By Andrew Husken

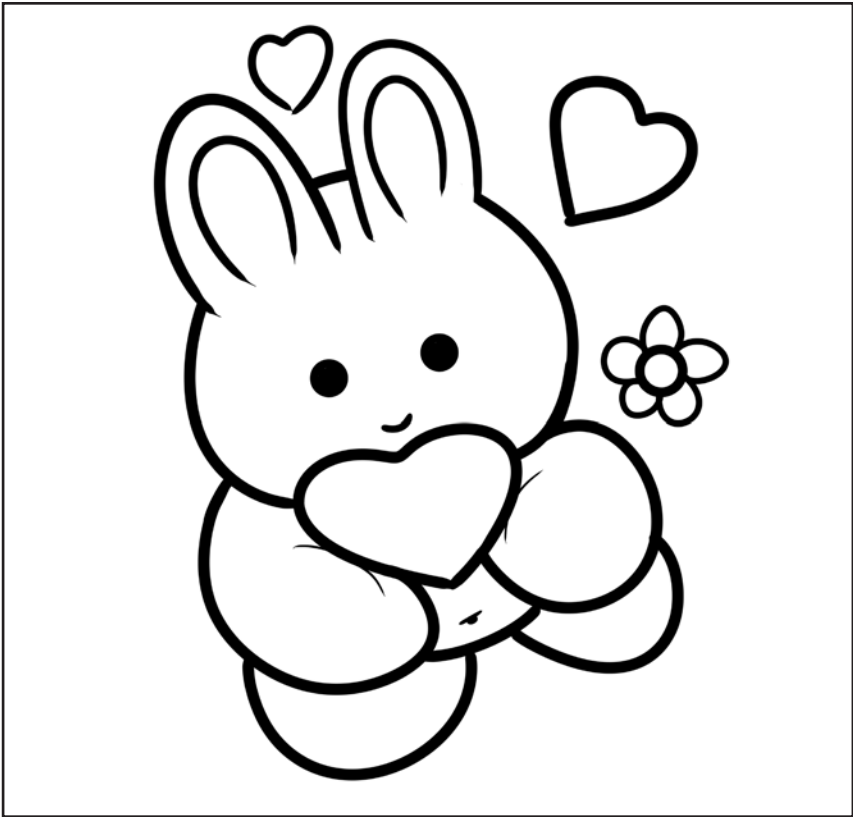
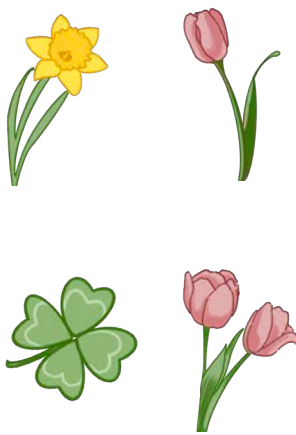


Illustration Hunt



Your mission is to find all four of these illustrations that have been scattered throughout the newspaper. Once you've found them all, circle them and head over to the Student Activities office. The first 20 students to bring down their evidence will win a \$10 gift card! To get your prize, ask for the Connection Editor-in-Chief Jess or Student Activities Associate Elizabeth Machniak upon your arrival.

Design by Megan Edgerton

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ANSWER KEY FROM PAGE 24

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

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

Aries March 21 – April 19:

Your confidence is your superpower, and you have everything you need to make your dreams a reality.

Taurus April 20 – May 20:

Remember, your determination and steady approach are your greatest assets.

Gemini May 21 – June 20:

Embrace the flow of inspiration, and trust that your versatility will guide you toward exciting adventures and success.

Cancer June 21 – July 22:

You'll find that the energy you put into your relationships will return to you in unexpected and beautiful ways, leaving you feeling loved and supported.

Horoscopes

Leo July 23 – Aug 22:

Your radiant energy will inspire others, and opportunities to shine are right around the corner.

Virgo Aug 23 – Sept 22:

Trust that the path you've been on is taking you to something wonderful. Keep your focus, and know that everything is aligning in your favor.

Libra Sept 23 – Oct 22:

The universe is sending you positive, calm energy, and it's the perfect time to nurture your well-being and enjoy the simple joys in life.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 21:

Trust your intuition, and let your inner strength guide you toward success.

Sagittarius Nov 22 – Dec 21:

You'll find joy in the journey, and the lessons you learn along the way will open up even more exciting opportunities for your future.

Capricorn Dec 22 – Jan 19:

Keep pushing forward with confidence—you're on the right track.

Aquarius Dec 22 – Jan 19:

Your unique perspective will help you discover new solutions and creative paths forward. Trust in your ability to make a difference and shine your light brightly.

Pisces Feb. 19 – March 20:

You're being supported by the universe, and the inspiration you need to take the next step will flow to you effortlessly. Keep following your inner compass.

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