

SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

CONNECTING YOU TO WHAT MATTERS

Vol. 38 | Issue 1 | September 22, 2025 | Follow us on our socials  schoolcraftconnection | schoolcraftconnection.com

Lights, camera, victory

Student filmmakers earn accolades at 48 hour Film Challenge

Jess Michael | Staff Writer

In the Lower Level, Vistatech Center, not many know the office for the Film Club lives inside the Student Activities Office. Students who are dedicated to the art of film meet on a consistent basis to talk over films and upcoming projects. A group who collectively have found a love for film, acting and directing. Among the plethora of other talents this group has, they were invited to participate in Detroit's 48 hour film challenge. This challenge brings together filmmakers who have to write, shoot and edit a short film over the span of 48hrs and include a given character, prop and line within their film.

The 48 hour Film Challenge is currently the largest film competition worldwide, offering the opportunity for

See "Lights, camera, victory"

PAGE 3



Dr. Glenn Cerny participates in the Wish-A-Mile Bike Tour on July 25-27. (Photo courtesy of Make-A-Wish Michigan)

College President pedals 300 miles to grant wishes for children

Olivia Lambert | Editor-In-Chief

As the 300-mile trek spans out in front of him, Schoolcraft College President Dr. Glenn Cerny didn't think about the distance - he thought about the young faces full of hope and wishes waiting at the finish line. For him, the miles were more than a physical challenge; they were a promise to

give children something priceless, the joy that comes from a dream fulfilled.

On July 25-27, Cerny participated in the 39th annual Wish-A-Mile Bike Tour that spanned 300 miles from start to finish. This was his second year participating.

Cerny's journey with the Wish-A-Mile Bike Tour started with a

conversation with President and CEO of Trinity Health Michigan, Rob Casalou, who is close friends with him. Casalou tried to convince him to join the event. At first, Cerny was apprehensive since he only ran marathons in the past, not biking events. However, last year he decided to give it a

Continue "Cycling for a cause"
page 2

Learn about the
College2Career program

SEE NEWS
PAGE 4

The Summer I Turned Pretty
Review

SEE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
PAGE 13

Soccer teams off to
fast start

SEE SPORTS
PAGE 18

NEWS

Cycling for a cause

Continue from page 1>

shot and loved it.

Before riders can even start the ride, they have to fundraise for the event. To participate in the 300-mile ride, bikers needed to raise at least 1,500 dollars for the Make-A-Wish charity. Participants have until the day of check in to raise these funds. This year the program raised 1.5 million dollars.

The first leg of the tour for the riders started in Marshall, Michigan at Marshall High School and bikers rode 105 miles to Holland. Then, on the second day, they continued their ride to Kalamazoo. Finally, on the last stretch of the route on day three, riders biked back to Marshall.

While this is a hard ride to complete, Cerny explains his process for staying in the zone.

“Each person is assigned a child who is receiving treatment at Make-A-Wish. Before the race begins, participants will meet with their kid and be given a bracelet with their name on it. Focus on why you’re there, you know? Look at your bracelet because it has Gina’s name on it,” said Cerny.

Even when it got tough, Cerny kept his mind on Gina.

Another aspect that Cerny found very motivating about this fundraiser was what happened on the second day. Riders would stop

at a set location to eat dinner just like the day before. Instead of going to the hotels to settle in for the night, three to four kids come onto the stage to talk about the wish that they received and what it meant to them. After these kids give their presentations, three more kids are granted wishes that they didn’t know that they were going to get. He explains that this is what really locked him in to continue.

“If you weren’t committed then, you’re going to be totally committed for life,” said Cerny.

On the last day of the tour, instead of riders ending at their own pace they wait at the last checkpoint, six miles out from Marshall. The groups are then escorted to the finish line by motorcycle police.

When riders approached the finish line, the Make-A-Wish kids, their parents and riders’ families were there. The kids were handing out medals to the participants.

“You can see it’s meaningful to them. They are appreciative of what you are doing, and it impacts them in such a positive way.” said Cerny.

For next year, Dr. Cerny is hoping to recruit a team from Schoolcraft to get involved.

“I was the only Schoolcraft person this year and I said, okay, I got to get some others involved,” said Cerny.

He already has some people who have expressed their interest in the ride next year, but he is hoping to get more people to participate with him. He is looking to build



Dr. Cerny high five Gia, his Make-A-Wish sponsor child. (Photo courtesy of Schoolcraft College)

a team of at least 10 individuals from the Schoolcraft community to join him next year.

Cerny plans to continue participating “until he can’t get on a bike anymore.”

For more information on Make-A-Wish go to <https://wish.org/>.



Dr. Cerny (center white shirt) posing with other participants at the Wish-A-Mile Bike Tour. (Photo courtesy of Make-A-Wish Michigan)

Lights, camera, victory

Continue from page 1>

many aspiring filmmakers to network and build their portfolios. The history behind 48 Film Challenge began with Mark Ruppert and Liz Langston in 2001 in Washington D.C. The 48 hour Film Challenge also known as Filmpalooza, is hosted across over 200 cities and 45 countries.

This year the group was challenged to bring to life a toothbrush, which was the required prop to include in their production. Julia Huff, excited to participate, immediately jumped on the chance to film. Given the prop along with the genre they are meant to follow, which for this film titled “End of the DAM World,” they were given the genre’s climate and mockumentary.

Huff contacted Kyle Anderson, a current Schoolcraft student and the writer for the film.

“I told him to go full satire,” said Huff. Huff continued that they pulled inspiration from NBC’s hit show “Parks and Recreation.” Using the show’s satire humor in their film, Anderson began writing, during which it was decided to have the Daniels brothers save their friend who is a beaver named Berry. This led to Huff using the play on words for the title of the film.

Huff’s background is expansive and she was the Director and Line Producer for the film..

“I made three short films and recently graduated from MPI, [Motion Picture Institute] located in Troy, Michigan.” Huff is currently involved in several films and shows that must be kept under wraps until production is completed. Among her directing skills, Huff is also an actress, photographer and many others. She can be found on Instagram, @itsjuleshuff.

Huff then had to find several others to help in the production along with the actors to participate in the film. One contact was Ayven Hunt, a former Schoolcraft student



(Left to right) Jamal Jackson, Evan Allen, Julia Huff and Kyle Anderson pose for a photo with their awards from the Detroit 48 hour Film Challenge. (Photo courtesy of Evan Allen)

who has continued his academic career at University of Michigan. Hunt used his background in film to create the original soundtrack for “End of the DAM World.”

Huff’s next step was finding actors, through connections she was introduced to Evan Allen, a current Schoolcraft student. He was invited to play the part of a twin brother named Vito Daniels. Allen’s passion for acting blossomed ever since he played a skunk for the Royal Oak Stage Crafters when he was eight years old. He decided then he would continue to pursue his passion for acting.

During the filming for “End of the DAM World” Allen found the biggest challenge he faced was there was quite a bit of improvisation.

“There were points in the scenes I felt I was doing nothing, many of the scenes were slapstick,” said Allen.

Trying to figure out what to do with himself at points, he would think what

would be the best thing to do. Allen picking his nose wiping it on his twin brother Tito, played by Jamal Jackson was an example of such acts.

“Many people tell me I am funny but I like serious roles more,” said Allen.

Allen further explains that this was his first comedic role; he tends to be drawn to dramas.

After 48 hours of work, from scripting through post production, “End of the DAM World” was completed and as a result of the crew’s hard work, the team was nominated for several awards and eventually two winnings.

The team won Best Use of Prop and Audience Choice Awards, and the film earned it with its hilarious scenes and great cinematography.

The film was exactly what was promised, filled with improv humor and slapstick humor. To view the film go to Julia Huff’s youtube channel, @JuliaHuffFilms.

Guiding students toward success

College2Career Professional Mentorship Program opens doors beyond Schoolcraft

Hari Patel | Staff Writer

In today's world, transitioning from a college student to a working professional can be a challenging phase in the lives of many students. It is during this time that students need guidance from their professors, and industry professionals to build a successful and fulfilling career. Learning how to tackle real-life jobs is an essential part of this preparation, and Schoolcraft College's College-to-Career Professional Mentorship Program is designed to help students navigate this critical stage.

The program is a voluntary initiative led by dedicated faculty members, with Sharon Christian, as the Director of the program. The program officially started in the winter of 2025 and aims to expand students' opportunities and professional networks. Mentors provide personalized guidance, cultivate relationships within students' areas of interest, and make career development goal-oriented. The program connects students with mentors who can open doors to opportunities beyond Schoolcraft College, helping them gain insight into industries they aspire to join.

This fall semester, students in the following majors are eligible to participate: General Business, Cyber Security, Nursing and Supply Chain Management. Students in these fields are encouraged to take advantage of the program and connect with professionals who can guide them toward their career goals.

Program Schedule and Structure

The College2Career Professional Mentorship Program is designed to be flexible while providing meaningful interactions. Each mentor and mentee meet for a minimum of 30 minutes per session. Meetings can take place once a month or once every two months, for a total of six sessions. The schedule is determined together by the

mentor and mentee, choosing days and times that work best for both. Although the program begins on October 13th, the last one or two sessions may extend into winter 2026 depending on the schedules of the participants. The flexibility of the program allows it to adapt to students and mentors' availability, ensuring a comfortable and productive experience.

Who Can Participate

The program is open to all current students of Schoolcraft College. Mentors are faculty members from the same major as the student, so the guidance is tailored and directly relevant to their field of study. Each major has its own team of volunteer faculty who help students navigate opportunities and career goals.

Benefits of the Program

Students participating in the mentorship program enjoy numerous benefits. They have the chance to practice communication skills, build professional networks, gain confidence, meet industry-level professionals and instructors, and include their mentorship experiences on their resumes. Mentors assist students with resume building, goal setting, and provide insights about what to expect in real-world jobs. Students also gain access to professional networks beyond Schoolcraft College, helping them explore career opportunities that may not be visible in the classroom.

Student Experiences

Many students share that the mentorship program boosts their confidence—not just in their professional skills, but in themselves as future professionals. Participants valued having someone outside of their family or regular professors to guide them, someone who understands the industry and can provide honest, personal advice. As one student, TereOnna Moore, shared, “I

especially valued her ability to connect me with opportunities and professionals outside of school. These experiences gave me insight, a strong network, and the confidence to pursue my goals with clarity and purpose.” Similarly, “Many students have told us they found the meetings extremely helpful, and some continue to stay in touch with their mentors even after the program ends.” said Miller. Mentorship allows students to see career paths they might not have considered before, broadening their perspective and opening their eyes to new possibilities.

This program is actually a gem. It is rare for a college to provide a free and voluntary mentorship program like this, so anyone who is interested should definitely contact the College-to-Career Professional Mentorship Program and get in touch. This program can be life-changing, opening a universe of possibilities for a student's career.



MENTEE TESTIMONIAL: TereOnna Moore

Mentored by: Dr. Laurie-Kattuah Snyder, Ed.D

I especially valued her ability to connect me with opportunities and professionals outside of school. These experiences gave me insight, a strong network, and the confidence to pursue my goals with clarity and purpose.

”



College2Career Professional Mentorship Program

Faculty Mentors

Education/Business Focus

- Laurie Kattuah-Snyder, EdD, Chief Student Services Officer
Title IX Coordinator
- Adam Authier, Director of Academic Innovation

Nursing

- Deborah S. Vendittelli, Associate Dean of Nursing
- Dr. Elaine Lloyd, Full time Nursing Faculty
- David S. Kesler, D.C. Assoc. Dean, Health Professions
- Lauren Mele, Nursing Programs Coordinator

Business/Supply Chain

- Tara M. Kane, Associate Dean of Public Safety Programs |
Public Safety Education
- Robert J. Leadley, PhD, MS BME, MBA, Chief Workforce and
Economic Development Officer
- Steve Donovan, Instructor and Supply Chain Management
Program Lead -CPIM - Certified Instructor MSSC
- Matt O'Connor, PhD, MBA Business Faculty
- Amy Jones, Senior Director of Workforce Development Lori
Timmis, Dean of Distance Learning

Information Technology/Cybersecurity

- Jason A. Greifengberg, Information Technology Department
Executive Director of Infrastructure

Questions? careeradvantage@schoolcraft.edu



Schoolcraft College
CAREER MENTORSHIP
& PLACEMENT

CAMPUS LIFE

Embracing Detroit

Summer seminar gives students opportunity to see Detroit with a new perspective

Olivia Lambert | Editor-In-Chief

While most students were relishing the last few weeks of summer, about 15 students took part in a newly created and educationally enriching summer seminar called “Embracing Detroit and its Environments.” Sponsored by the Schoolcraft’s Center of Experiential Learning, this weeklong summer program in August brought together Schoolcraft professors, students and community partners where they learned about Detroit through a combination of lectures and field trips into the city.

To be a part of this program, students needed to apply and be accepted to participate. Spots were limited.

Manager of the Center of Experiential Learning program, Errin Stegich, found the smaller size group to be valuable, “I would like to keep the program small. I think we had just the right amount at 15 because it was a very intimate experience,” said Stegich.

Stegich also added that on top of all of these bonuses it’s a unique experience. “You walk away from the experience, knowing a little bit more about yourself and who you are and what you understand.”

Participants in the program experienced a hybrid of learning in the classroom and in the city, exploring various topics such as urban renewal, poetry and the impact of invasive species on biodiversity.

Throughout the week, professors from various departments across campus gave presentations to the fellows. The first two



Students and faculty who participated in the summer seminar “Embracing Detroit and its Environments” pose for a group photo. (Photo courtesy of Schoolcraft College).

were given by Anthropology Professor Jessica Worden-Jones and English Professor Kimberly Masterson. Worden-Jones gave a demonstration on prejudices. She passed out bags filled with objects and asked students to make assumptions about the person they found. Worden-Jones eventually revealed that the objects all belonged to the same person. This exercise illustrated that everyone has biases and predispositions, but people need to recognize them so they can combat it.

Masterson gave a presentation on Black Bottom and Paradise Valley. It has an unsettling history that is often neglected in today’s education system. It also highlighted the theme of “embracing

Detroit and its environments” by showing a history often overshadowed by Lafayette Park that now stands in its place.

Professors Holly Greiner-Hallman, Melissa Gury and Samer Hariri gave presentations on urban ecology and ecosystem services, conservation biology and Detroit’s river systems. These lectures were centered around the environmental aspects instead of history like the previous in class presentations which focused on history.

After time in the classroom, the fellows travelled the following days to Detroit and

See “Embracing Detroit”

page 7>

"Embracing Detroit"

Continue from page 6>

engaged in active, hands-on experiences.

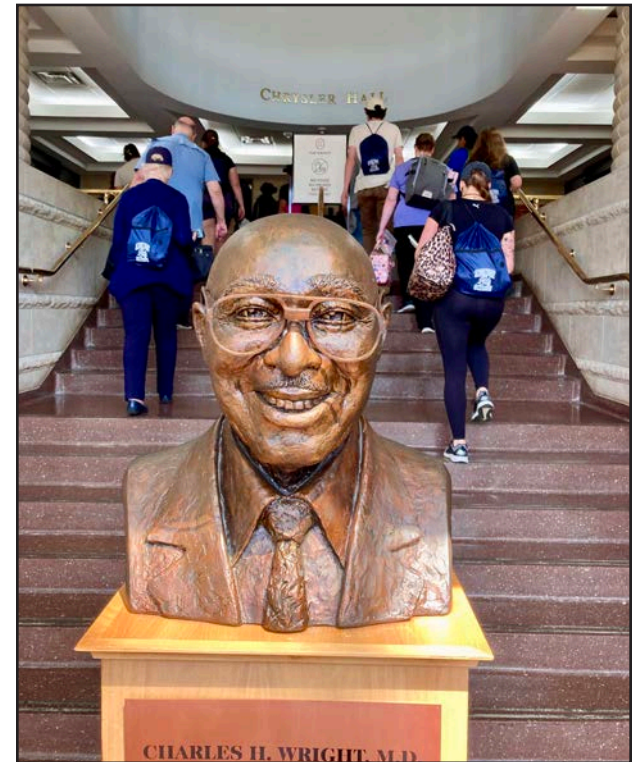
First stop was Lafayette Park where a University of Detroit Mercy professor Virginia Stanard gave a tour of the neighborhood. During the tour, Stanard highlighted the design of the Park, including that there were no roads in the middle of the neighborhood to make it safer for children and the multiple community spots throughout the buildings.

Another stop was the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History where fellows were transported back in time through detailed displays of African American history. Following the theme of environment, the fellows went to Belle Isle where they explored the aquarium, conservatory, and nature center. Here they were able to see the conservation status of many of the aquatic life in the aquarium. The conservatory offered a variety of different plants that students might not normally be exposed to. "The Belle Isle tour was special because within the hustle and bustle of the Motor City, we have our

own little slice of nature to ground us back to our roots," explains Samantha Bliem, a participant in the summer fellowship program.

After the stop at Bell Isle, the fellows visited Keep Growing Detroit. Here students were introduced to two large greenhouses growing a multitude of plants. They were given a small tour of the property, shown to the nursery greenhouse, the outdoor fields, and the small plots for the workers who want to plant some of their more traditional plants. Fellows had the chance to pick cherry tomatoes and beans that were ready while some sorted the crops so that they could be packaged and sold at Eastern Market..

On the final day of the program the fellows were treated to a ferry boat tour around the Detroit River, diving into the rich history of both the Detroit side and the Canadian side. At the conclusion of the tour a luncheon was provided and fellows were asked to give a presentation on their experiences in the seminar. Students were encouraged to journal about their experiences throughout the fellowship, given time during the seminar to write



Students climb the stairs for a tour at Charles H. Wright museum of African American History in Detroit.

how they were feeling and recap what they learned. Some showed off their journals while others just discussed their opinions on what happened during the fellowship.

At the completion of the weeklong seminar, those who participated in the fellowship program were given a certificate of completion as well as a stipend and a badge that they can put on their resumes and LinkedIn profiles.

"I enjoyed gathering a better understanding and appreciation for black culture as a result of our classroom adventures, and I hope to utilize the lessons I learned to create a better future for those whose voices are silenced," said fellowship participant Abigail Adams.

Students interested in learning more about this program or other programs offered by the Schoolcraft's Center for Experiential Learning (CEL) should contact Errin Stegich at estegich@schoolcraft.edu.



Fellows had the chance to sort cherry tomatoes at Keep Growing Detroit that were ready to be packaged and sold at Eastern Market. (Photos courtesy of Jessica Worden-Jones)

Student Employee of the Month

Stephen Vafeas

Culinary Operations student brings hard work and passion to all that he does



Sept. Student Employee of The Month Stephen Vafeas. (Photo by Josh Parrinello)

Jessica Staniszewski | Staff Writer

Having been an Ocelot for a year, Culinary Operations student employee Stephen Vafeas hits the ground running with every shift he takes.

“A day typically starts with my co-workers and I getting the pastries ready to go out to the different outlets around campus. After that point, we all work on tasks assigned by Chef Yooyoung,” said Vafeas

Vafeas is all about baking; it is his favorite activity within the Culinary Arts program. Vafeas, specifically, enjoys baking bread because it is such a versatile product to create.

He says he hopes to have more opportunities to maximize his baking skills since he enjoys working with confections.

“I hope to work more with pastries as that is my true passion,” said Vafeas.

Working with pastries may just work in

Vafeas’s favor as he holds a Certified Business Process Associate (CBPA) certification. Vafeas also shared that he has also considered getting certified within the American Culinary Federation, but wants to take things day by day.

“I would like to pursue some levels of ACF certification, but other than that, I’m really going with the flow seeing where my skills take me,” said Vafeas.

Outside of the food world, Vafeas spends his time studying and doing assignments for his courses, taking care of his aunt’s foster cats and being outdoors.. With the Culinary Program, school, outdoors, and cats, Vafeas is a very busy person. Having so little time outside the program, working under such time crunches, and the stress of making sure each dessert is “perfect”, may seem like a difficult task for some, but Vafeas shares that he finds a balance and his schedules are manageable.

“Managing Culinary Arts and being a student employee is surprisingly easy. The Culinary Operations department is incredibly flexible around my class schedule,” said Vafeas.

With Culinary being such a focused and conscientious type of program, Vafeas takes everything day by day and tries not to sweat the small stuff. Vafeas’s resilience and motivation probably come from his piece of advice to Schoolcraft students: “Have a good attitude.” No one can predict how tomorrow will go, but as long as you have a positive attitude, you will be successful.

He also advises students to come prepared, “Cooking and baking are learned skills, so as long as you come ready to learn every day, you will succeed.”

It is the small things that will help you grow. After all, if you do not show up to class with your textbook, how else are you going to learn?

With such optimism, Vafeas must have had some encouragement.

“My mom was my biggest inspiration to begin in Culinary Arts. Overall, my parents have been incredibly supportive in my pursuits,” said Vafeas..

In terms of the future, Vafeas plans on graduating in Winter 2027 with a Culinary Arts Associate Degree. Soon after, he aims to join the workforce. He credits the Schoolcraft Culinary Program in teaching him many lessons, which will, in turn, provide him ample opportunities to advance in his culinary career.

In the words of the infamous author, Roy T. Bennett, “Your hardest times often lead to the greatest moments of your life. Keep going. Tough situations build strong people in the end.” the greatest moments of your life.

Simple, *Tasty*, and Affordable

Rachel's Student-Friendly Recipes



Rachel Calhoun | Staff Writer

What better way to kick off Fall than waking up to the smell of warm sweet spices drifting through that bedroom door. That nostalgic aroma of apple harvest, symbolizing just how colorful mornings can be. French toast, served with butter and maple syrup, is traditionally made with thick slices of bread, soaked in a mixture of beaten eggs.

But what if there was a seasonal twist?

Apple pie stuffed french toast rolls is a tasty, filling breakfast that combines the warm spice flavor of apple pie with the eggy, pan-fried taste of french toast, topped with cinnamon sugar.

Let's get started:

Prep Time: 20 min. Cook Time: 10 min. Servings: 3 people

Ingredients

For the filling:

- 1 tbsp butter
- 3 apples, peeled and cut into small pieces
- ¼ cup brown sugar (or more, to taste)
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp nutmeg
- pinch salt
- splash of vanilla extract
- 1tbsp water
- 1 tbsp cornstarch

For the French Toast:

- 10-12 slices of bread
- 2 large eggs
- ½ cup milk
- 1 tbsp granulated sugar
- ½ tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- pinch of salt (optional, but recommended)

Instructions

For the filling:

Melt butter in a medium pot, then add apples, spices, salt, brown sugar, and a little water (just enough to cover the apples).

Cook on medium/low heat until the apples are soft, usually about 5-20

min. For more flavor, simmer on low for about an hour. Towards the end of cooking, add the vanilla.

In a separate bowl, combine the cornstarch and water and mix until combined. Add to the apple mixture and mix until the mixture thickens. The mixture should be slightly thick. Set apple filling aside in a bowl.

For the french toast:

In a bowl, whisk together the eggs, milk, sugar, cinnamon, vanilla, and a pinch of salt well until combined and smooth.

Remove the bread crusts, and flatten each slice with a rolling pin.

Spread apple filling along one edge of a bread slice and roll it up gently, but tightly into a log. Continue with the remaining bread.

Heat a pan over medium heat and melt about 1 tbsp of butter. Coat the rolls in the egg mixture and place seam side down. Cook 3-4 rolls at a time.

When browned, turn a quarter turn and continue until all sides are cooked and browned nicely. Continue until all rolls are cooked.

Roll or top with cinnamon sugar. Serve warm and dip in maple syrup or caramel if desired.



School Daze Fall Festival

September 22 and 23

10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Trinity Elite Sports Center

The Student Activities Office presents School Daze 2025! Join an organization at the club section, Learn about campus departments, Gain knowledge at the Wellness and Resource Fair, Get offers from local businesses in the Marketplace and Map out your next steps in the Transfer College Section. Stay tuned for more information to come!

Cultural Coffee Connection

September 25

11:30 a.m.. - 1:30 p.m.

Bradner Library, Room 110

Join the Learning Support Services for Cultural Coffee Connections. Students, faculty, staff and community members are invited to attend our upcoming events. Join us for coffee, tea, and snacks. Enjoy an educational presentation at the beginning of each event and informal conversation with peers from various cultures around the world. For every event you attend, you will be entered into a drawing for prizes at the end of the semester.

Pageturners Book Discussion:

Ubu Roi

September 23

2:30-3:30 p.m.

BTC120

Join Pageturners for their September book discussion on Ubu Roi. All are welcome.

Skilled Trades Career Fair – hosted by BBB and Schoolcraft College

September 25

4 -6:30 p.m.

VT500CD – DiPonio Room

Job seekers: connect directly with employers in the Skilled Trades professions to learn more about available job opportunities.

Phi Theta Kappa Orientation

September 25

7 p.m.

Kehrl Auditorium

If you have a 3.5 GPA and are interested in joining the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, please join us to find out how the organization can benefit you. You can graduate with honors, gain leadership skills, get involved on campus, build your resume, transfer scholarships and create friendships.

Cider and Donuts

October 1

12pm – 2 p.m.

Lower Level, Vistatech Center

Join the Student Activities Board for some FREE Cider and Donuts while supplies last!

Blood Drive

October 1

10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Lower Level, Vistatech Center

Give Blood. Save Lives. One pint could be someone's second chance. Join Versiti Blood Center of Michigan and give blood. Appointments preferred. Call 866-642-5663 or visit versiti.org/mi. Walk-ins are welcome, as scheduled allows. As a thank you for your donation, all college donors are automatically entered for a chance to win a \$750 e-gift card.

Karaoke

October 1

12 – 2 p.m.

Lower Level, Vistatech Center

Your stage, your spotlight, your moment! Warm up those vocal cords... and maybe your courage and join the Student Activities Board for an afternoon of Karaoke.

GAYme Night

October 2

4 - 6 p.m.

Student Activities, Lower Level, Vistatech Center

Join the Pride Team for a night full of fun board games, video games, and camaraderie. We will have some games available, but feel free to bring your favorite!

Navatri Garba

October 4

7 p.m. – midnight.

Vistatech Center

This event is hosted by the Schoolcraft Asian Student Association and will feature dancing with live music and an Indian catered dinner. There will also be vendors selling clothing, jewelry, accessories and home décor.

Tailgate Party: Schoolcraft Soccer vs Lake Michigan College

October 5

12 - 5 p.m.

SC Outdoor Soccer Field**Game times: Women - 1 p.m. • Men - 3 p.m.****\$20 Advance purchase*****\$25 after Sept 26****\$15 Kids ages 6-12****Free Kids ages 5 and under**

Tickets include hospitality tent access and admission to the games. Join us for Mission BBQ dinner and more as the Ocelot soccer teams take on the Red Hawks! All paid tickets include a Schoolcraft College T-Shirt and special swag item. First 50 registrants get a Schoolcraft Scarf.

Career Resources Informational Session

October 7

9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Library, L105

Learn more about the Career Mentorship and Placement office and the services provided to students in collaboration with the Bradner Library.

CareerSpring Informational Session

October 8

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Zoom

CareerSpring is a free tool available to qualifying students that facilitates mentorship and placement.

Pool Shark Tournament

October 8

3-5 p.m.

Lower Level, Vistatech Center

Join the Student Activities Board for its Pool Shark Tournament. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Pre register for the event in the Student Activities Office. 16 spots available.

Cultural Coffee Connection

October 13

3 - 5 p.m.

Bradner Library, Room 110

Join the Learning Support Services for Cultural Coffee Connections. Students, faculty, staff and community members are invited to attend our upcoming events. Join us for coffee, tea, and snacks. Enjoy an educational presentation at the beginning of each event and informal conversation with peers from various cultures around the world. For every event you attend, you will be entered into a drawing for prizes at the end of the semester.

Culture, Civility, and Career Success

October 15

11:30 a.m - 1 p.m.

Kehrl Auditorium

This workshop contains a panel of professionals that discuss the importance of cultivating interpersonal civility for long-term career success.

Bubble Soccer

October 16

9-11 p.m.

Trinity Elite Sports Center

Are you ready to battle? Join the Schoolcraft College Recreation Services and the Student Activities Office for Bubble Soccer-full contact soccer in a bubble. Signup begins at 8:30 p.m.

Accounting for YOUR Future

October 17

11 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.

Vistatech Center, Room VT 425

Join us for an exciting event designed specifically for college students in business and accounting programs. Whether you're just starting your journey or looking to take the next step in your academic and professional career, this event is for you. Dress attire is business casual. Enjoy a free pizza lunch while you engage in meaningful discussions, expand your knowledge and connect with peers and professionals in the field. Register now to secure your spot and join us for a day of learning, networking and great food.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

From Personal to Historical Consequences that ripple through time

Fasiha Mudassar | Staff Writer

Love, secrets, and the passage of time, Patrick Ryan's "Buckeye" is a novel that you'd pick up expecting a slow-burn slice of Americana and end up completely swept away.

Set in the fictional town of Bonhomie, Ohio that traces the lives of two families, specifically, two couples—Cal and Becky Jenkins, and Margaret and Felix Salt—whose paths intertwine due to a pivotal moment on V-E Day in 1945, leading to a saga filled with passion, clandestine whispers, and the quiet intensity of an ashen family life that spans into the 1970s.

What makes "Buckeye" an exceptionally captivating read is Ryan's ability to breathe life into his complex characters. Cal, navigating the world with a disability, is a mix of inherent vulnerability and humor which provides the reader with a sense of sincere authenticity. At the same time, Becky, his wife, brings a fantastical yet grounding charm to the story. Margaret and Felix Salt put forth a myriad of fascinating depths. Readers can ascertain that Margaret is the emotional core of the novel, being stunning yet elusive, as she carries the weight of her past and a deep longing.

Felix, on the other hand, is steady and reserved, shaped by his experiences on a navy cargo ship during World War II.

As readers, we see these characters' relationships unravel with a deafening intensity, which may ultimately reveal the tension between desire, duty, and the moral compasses that define each of them.

What really hooks readers is Ryan's attention to small details of everyday life, which, for readers, gives space to better understand the rhythms of habits and their ability to coexist with moments of intense drama.

The novel does not shy away from the challenges of infidelity and love, or the overbearing shadow of war, but rather readers encounter it and handle these themes with compassion and subtlety. The reader is invited to witness the choices that shape lives and the quiet ways through which forgiveness and understanding emerge over time.

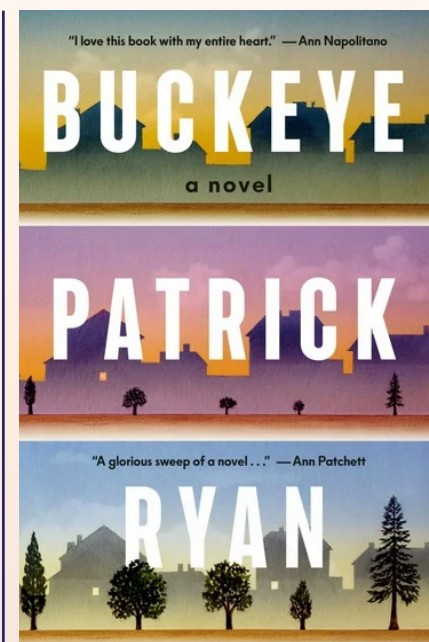
The novel's scope can be described as both intimate and epic. Ryan moves from the personal—love, secrecy, and family dynamics—to the historical, showing how World War Two, postwar reconstruction, and cultural shifts in the 1960s and 1970s shape lives in subtle and profound ways. He explores the emotional toll of choices, the quiet burdens of loyalty and betrayal, and the nuanced reality of human attraction. Children in both families grow up under a heavy weight, illustrating how the decisions taken and ones lost of one generation may or may not affect the next.

Furthermore, readers can identify that the setting of Bonhomie—the texture of homes, streets, and routines with warmth, humor, and attention to detail—itsself and various historical events become autonomous characters, reflecting the ebb and flow of small-town life, which can be found to be most fitting to the storyline; that being said, it is also valid to say that during the later part of the novel the pace may become rather overstimulating for some readers to keep up with the historical context, and readers may occasionally wish that Ryan had slowed down to let these decades breathe.

Ultimately, readers will discover this is a novel to savor—a story where the small details of daily life are as important as the grand events that shape the era. Through richly drawn characters, a vividly depicted small-town America, and a narrative that spans through generations, Patrick Ryan has created a work that feels both timeless and profoundly affecting.

"Buckeye" is a story of love, consequence, and the slow, often complicated paths towards understanding and forgiveness.

Overall, this novel was a great read that lost half a point from me due to its slightly rushed final act. So if you enjoy character-driven, generational stories that blend the personal and historical, this novel will have you hooked until the last word.



"Buckeye"

Author: Patrick Ryan

Genre: historical and literary fiction

Trigger Warning: wartime trauma/mild violence, grief, family tension/infidelity, substance abuse

Available: hardcover, paperback, and e-book

First Published: 09/02/2025

Rating: 4.5/5

THE SUMMER I SAID GOODBYE TO COUSINS BEACH

Popular TV show comes to an end after three heartfelt seasons

PILI ESTEVEZ | MANAGING & LAYOUT EDITOR

The end of “The Summer I Turned Pretty” feels like the end of an era for fans who have been following these amazing summers tangled with love triangles, family drama and heartfelt moments.

Adapted from Jenny Han’s beloved novels, this series starring Lola Tung as Belly, Christopher Briney as Conrad, and Gavin Casalegno as Jeremiah, has brought the books to life in a way that few adaptations ever manage.

This show follows Belly’s journey, a girl whose summers at Cousins Beach always have been filled with laughter, traditions and the comfort of family friends. But, as she grows older, those dreamy summers evolve into a time of self discovery, where she starts to see Conrad and Jeremiah, the brothers she has known forever, into a new light. Over the seasons, Belly’s heart is

is torn in different directions, and the series captures her journey through love, friendship, family while showing how these relationships shape who she’s becoming.

What makes “The Summer I Turned Pretty” so entertaining is how perfectly Jenny Han’s direction brings her own books to life. The series stays true to the heart of the story while adding extra storylines that viewers didn’t know they needed. Her characters feel real, relatable and full of emotional depth. Han proves herself to be a mastermind by dropping subtle easter eggs for fans and pairing the perfect soundtrack with every scene, making each episode captivating for all ages.

Another highlight is the casting. The chemistry between Lola, Christopher and Gavin was magnetic, making the romantic

tension and heartfelt feel authentic. Fans have fallen just as hard for the show and have gone viral on social media with viewers sharing how emotionally invested they have become in the characters’ lives, often joking that they have to remind themselves that these are just characters, not real people.

The only downside of “The Summer I Turned Pretty” is that throughout the seasons, the episodes came out weekly instead of all at once.

These days, that seems to be the new norm for a lot of streaming shows, and it can be frustrating for fans who prefer to binge the entire season in a few days and immerse themselves in the story. Waiting week after week after each cliffhanger finale can be exciting, but also agonizing because at some point it makes you lose interest in the whole show.

Some viewers try to wait until the full season is available before watching, but in today’s social media world, it’s impossible to avoid spoilers as they appear everywhere. This format

builds suspense, but it also takes away from fully experiencing the story after waiting two years for this final season.

In the end, “The Summer I Turned Pretty” is more than just a story about summer love or coming of age drama, it’s about growing up, learning who you are and cherishing the people around you. Watching Belly navigate her feelings for Conrad and Jeremiah, and seeing how much all of her relationships grow and shift makes the story real and relatable for all ages.

Sure, waiting week by week for episodes have been frustrating, but it also gave fans more time to say goodbye to Cousins Beach and these characters that have been part of our lives the past three years.

As this final season comes to an end, it’s hard not to feel nostalgic and a little emotional for a show that made us laugh, cry and see summers in a different way.



A Diamond in the Rough, or A Piece of Coal?

“Weapons” misses the mark

“Weapons”

Genre: Horror/Mystery

Rated: (R)

Released: August 8, 2025

Trigger Warning: Graphic violence/gore, self harm, drug use, explicit language, and some sexual content

Rating: 3/10

Abigail M. Jacobs | Staff Writer

Despite having an incredibly suspenseful trailer, the movie “Weapons,” a so-called horror/mystery movie, did not hit the mark it intended.

Released in theaters on Aug. 8, 2025 the film features some A-list stars including Julia Garner and Josh Brolin. Its primary pull is the question of where and why all these kids left their houses in the middle of the night. The premise of the movie is that in this town, at 2:17 a.m., 17 of the 18 children in one third-grade class all get up and run out of their houses. The teacher, Justine Gandy, is put under fire because it was her class that went missing. However, no evidence was found to

prove she did anything. The teacher and the father of one of the missing kids, Archer Graff, team up to find them and save the day, despite him initially being suspicious of Gandy being the perpetrator.

The initial problem presented was interesting in its own right. The odd way the children ran, the ambience of it being at night, all added to the mystique the movie had. The narrator is a little girl who went to school where the missing children went, but is not a character in the plot. She didn’t take up a lot of time, but the times she did were much better than if she had been involved in the plot or affected by the incident at all. Adding a personal connection to the

See “Weapons”
page 15>



"Weapons"

Continue from page 14>

narrator can make them unreliable due to their bias and potentially convolute the story.

Visually, the cinematography of the movie was beautiful. The shots were lined up well and smooth. The saturation of color wasn't too much, and the film stuck with a more realistic color grading than a movie like "Twilight," where it's more blue.

The actors obviously had to depict some complicated emotions, which were well executed, especially with the previously mentioned actors who played Gandy and Graff, respectively. The gore, despite there only being a handful of incidents, was grotesque and a tad more reasonable than in other movies I've seen, such as The Terrifier movies. A good chunk of the dialogue was humorous, as well as a few of the scenes, in terms of what was happening. In one scene, Graff has a nightmare about his son, where at the end the son turns into the

main antagonist. Freaked out, Graff wakes up and screams "What the f***?!", breaking that jumpscare from the nightmare with a comedic moment.

Though the narrator wasn't terrible, it was clear in many parts that it was a bad imitation of childlike speech. The narrator is prevalent for 5 minutes at the beginning and end of the movie, but is practically absent in the middle.

She starts by telling the audience the sequence of events that happened like a story, but then drops it as soon as the rising action starts. To preface, the movie is a little over two hours long, and moviegoers can figure out who the main antagonist is and what happened about a half an hour in.

"Weapons" tries to build tension, but diminishes it through comedic moments and relies on jump scares. To classify such a film as being horror is to discredit what it means.

The film would've been better off embracing the mystery aspect more than trying to do both and be funny. Movies have to walk a fine line

between being sensible and being predictable.

"Weapons" stumbles from one side to the other in a drunken stupor. On one hand, some parts of the plot and character decisions are indubitably mindless. On the other hand, not 60 minutes in, the movie is predictable down to the last plot point. Two of the more prominent side characters could've been nixed since they didn't help move the plot forward. They felt like fillers in between action scenes, trying to pace the movie slower and keep the mystery, but it didn't work. The movie might've been a better, more fleshed-out 90 minutes than the two useless hours it occupied.

All the good aspects of horror movies are lost in the humor and lack of tension in the setting of "Weapons," leaving it unsalvageable by the good acting or aesthetics. The plot was like every generic horror movie about a witch eating kids. A tale as old as time, not to mention that "Hocus Pocus" did it better.

This movie is a 3/10 overall.

Photo illustrations by Rachel Husken



A WORLD DIVIDED

The true definition of a sinner and their connection to the blues.



"Sinners"

Release date: April 18, 2025

Rated: R

Horror/Mystery & Thriller/Drama

Running time: 2h 17m

8/10

LaTonya Copeland | Staff Writer

Renowned producer and director Ryan Coogler strikes again with the long-awaited film "Sinners," starring Miles Caton and Michael B. Jordan, which hit theaters on April 18, 2025.

Set in 1932 during a period of deep racial segregation and inequality in the United States, "Sinners" revolves around a violent, spiritual journey entwined with soulful melodies that attract the most unexpected guest.

Caton's performance stands out for its understated strength starring as a young man named Sammie, known in town as "Preacher Boy". It's clear early on that Sammie feels torn between honoring his father's faith-driven expectations and chasing the freedom he finds in the blues. Jordan's acting shines through in dual roles as Sammie's cousins Smoke and Stack. Smoke plays as the strict, no-nonsense brother who takes his business very seriously and respect to him is everything.

Throughout the film we can see that when it comes to Stack, Smoke's character as the 'oldest' brother takes center stage, and he is willing to do anything in order to protect Stack even from their own family members. Stack, on the other hand, is more easygoing and less 'cutthroat' than Smoke. Jordan's acting skills are truly revealed as he accurately portrays both characters with distinct feelings, thoughts, and experiences. Acting as two separate people and not blurring the lines between both is a true strength Jordan shows throughout his performance.

Together the trio travels around the town as they bargain and reacquaint themselves with people from their past who they hope to enlist for the opening of the twins' new juke joint. They enlist several old friends, including blues player Delta Slim played by Delroy

Lindo, Cook and bartender Annie, a former lover of Smoke, played by Wunmi Mosaku. The married couple Bo Chow and Grace Chow, played by Thomas Pang and Li Jun Li, together, they work much like floor managers of the juke joint.

The film begins to take an interesting journey through Sammie as he takes the floor in his debut performance with a display of his own interpretation of the blues through a song he dedicated to his father, "I lied to you". The performance itself transcends the screen, joining the future, past and present Black artistry with visuals in a way that feels both intimate and grand. It is the heartbeat of the film, and Coogler frames it as something "sacred and big".

Aside from the underlying theme of finding one's place, this part of the film truly pulled me in. In this moment, it becomes clear that Sammie has found his place and the environment he truly belongs in.

What shifts the story, initially about racial divide and a journey to find belonging, is an unexpected turn into supernatural territory. The arrival of three strangers, led by a very unique White man named Remmick, pushes the film into darker and more unsettling territory. Remmick introduces a twist that is bold and terrifying, providing the audience with plot twists and turns they never expected. It also leaves the story with an edge that lingers long after the credits.

Overall, this masterpiece is full of rich symbolic storytelling. It takes the audience on a journey of cultural exploration through music while also appealing to an original Southern Gothic horror. The cast was amazing, and the music was soul resonating. This movie is an 8/10.

Graphic by Luke Miller



Spooky Spirits

October 3

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

The Detroit Zoo 8450 W 10 Mile Rd, Royal Oak, MI 48067

Tickets: \$55 General | \$95 VIP | \$35

Designated Driver | \$75 VIP DD

The Detroit Zoo hosts Spooky Spirits, a 21+ event. Enjoy live music, illuminated décor, craft drinks, and devilish food. Highlights include a multi-category costume contest, a 20-minute Panic House 4D Theater experience, and a stroll through the Reptile Conservation Center.

Adam Sandler: You're My Best Friend Tour

October 14

7:30 p.m.

Little Caesars Arena 2645 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48201

Tickets: \$87

Comedy legend Adam Sandler is hitting the road again with his You're My Best Friend Tour! Expect hilarious stories and classic comedy.

Scarecrows in Kellogg Park

September 26 – November 3

Downtown Plymouth W Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 48170

Take a stroll through charming Downtown Plymouth and enjoy the whimsical

Scarecrows in Kellogg Park! This free, family tradition fills the town square with scarecrows crafted by local businesses.

Hallowe'en

October 2–5, 9–12, 16–19, 23–26

6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Greenfield Village 20900 Oakwood Blvd, Dearborn, MI 48124

Tickets: \$27–\$38 (non-members)

Step back in time at Greenfield Village's legendary Hallowe'en event. With glowing jack-o'-lantern paths, costumed characters, and classic tales brought to life, it's a spellbinding experience for all ages. NEW for 2025: a 1950s/60s Hallowe'en Hop with a Werewolf DJ and Zombie Teenagers at Town Hall!

Star Wars in Anishinaabemowin

October 4 - 5

11 a.m.

Detroit Film Theater 5200 John R St, Detroit, MI 48202

Tickets: \$13 | \$11 for students

Experience Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope like never before—dubbed in Anishinaabemowin, one of the original languages of the Great Lakes region. This groundbreaking screening is part of a cultural effort to preserve the Ojibwe language for future generations.

The film will be shown with English subtitles and is paired with the Contemporary Anishinaabe Art.

Stardew Valley Symphony of Seasons

October 15

8 p.m.

Fisher Theatre, Detroit 3011 W Grand Blvd, Detroit, MI 48202

Tickets: \$93.72 – \$351.63

Calling all gamers and music lovers—Stardew Valley comes to life in a breathtaking new concert tour! Symphony of Seasons features a 35-piece orchestra performing beloved tracks from the game. With game-play visuals projected on a big screen and exclusive new content, this concert is a love letter to fans of the cozy farming sim. Cosplay is encouraged, and exclusive merch will be available.

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

October 1 - 12

Tickets: \$46.80 – \$239.85

Fisher Theatre, Detroit 3011 W Grand Blvd, Detroit, MI 48202

Be our guest at the triumphant return of Disney's Beauty and the Beast—the first North American touring production in over 25 years! With dazzling sets, stunning costumes, and all your favorite songs, this magical musical is a must-see for Disney fans young and old.

SPORTS

Ocelots start season with a 3-2 record, eyeing Conference run

Eduardo Niehues | Sports Editor

To open the season, the Ocelots traveled to Westfield, Indiana, to participate in a showcase and defend their 8th position in the NJCAA DII rankings. On Aug. 22 the Ocelots played against the Neosho County Panthers, who play in the KJCCC conference in Kansas. Currently, Neosho is not ranked among the top 20 in NJCAA DII.

The Ocelots demonstrated a solid performance, dictating the pace of the match, maintaining possession, and commanding the offensive actions. The team's first goal was scored at the 32 minute mark by Sophia Maldonado assisted by Ella Vandemergel and Brianna Murphy, who found the back of the net after a cross into the box, with the midfielder coming in with a shot that displaced the goalkeeper.

In a game marked by a collective performance, freshmen forward Briana Murphy stole the show by scoring two goals in her collegiate soccer debut. Her first goal, coming 37 minutes into the first half, was a beautiful strike from outside the box that found the top-left corner, giving the Panthers' goalkeeper no chance.

Murphy's second goal of the game, came in the second half, at the 80th minute. Murphy stole the ball from one of the center-backs and, catching the Neosho defense off guard, chipped the goalkeeper with a precise shot.

According to Murphy, scoring a goal feels like a job well done.

"It always feels great to score a goal" said Murphy. "But the way I see it, it's my job as a forward to score, so I always feel a sense of accomplishment after scoring as well. It also gives the team more cushion to fall back on in case of a defensive breakdown and also allows for more rotation in the line up." The Ocelots grabbed their first win of the season, 3-0.



Photo by Josh Parrinello

The first setback

After the match against Neosho, the celebrations didn't last long, as the next day the Ocelots knew they would face a strong Jones team, which was ranked 10th in the NJCAA, who play in the MACCC conference in Mississippi.

The game, which seemed quite balanced in the first half with the Ocelots creating scoring opportunities, changed course in the second half.

Jones managed to open the scoring in the initial minutes of the second half and, in the final minutes, suddenly scored two quick goals, extending their lead and sealing the win. Thus, the Ocelots faced their first major challenge in a game that ended in a 3-0 defeat.

The loss, however, served as an important lesson for the team. According to team co-captain, sophomore Jessica Clyde, the experience was a learning opportunity for

the group. "Preseason is a great opportunity to determine what areas we excel at but also areas for potential improvement," said Clyde. "The loss to Jones was just that, it was a hard-fought game but it was also insightful as it demonstrated ways we could change for the better. To me, the best motivation comes from the greatest disappointments. Although the loss was disappointing, it's just fueling our desire to get better as a team."

A winning streak solidifies the season's opening games

With no time for lamenting, the Ocelots hosted the Jets of Jackson Community College at home on August 27 for a friendly match.

The team was once again able to build on its playing style and correct mistakes from the previous game. The scoring was opened just 10 minutes in by Ella Vandemergel, who scored the first goal of her career in college.

See "Women's Soccer"

page 19>

Women's Soccer

Continue from page 18>

Maintaining their intensity and looking to extend the lead, the Ocelots were awarded a penalty kick after a handball in the box. Briana Murphy scored on the kick, making it 2-0 and marking her third goal in three games.

Before the end of the first half, Jackson's Claudia Allen scored, bringing a sense of relief to the Jets that was at a disadvantage but now closer to a tie.

Midway through the second half, after a corner kick by Vandemergel, the ball found Kaiyah Gromadzki, who sent it into the back of the net at the 68th minute, securing the victory for the Ocelots.

Following this series of games, the Ocelots had another test along the way and hosted South Suburban College, based in South Holland, Illinois. In a game where five different Ocelots found the back of the net, Head Coach Ken Shingledecker took the opportunity to rotate more players. They did not disappoint and secured another victory.

The scoring was opened early in the game, at 6 minutes, by Briana Murphy, her 4th goal of the season. At 10 minutes, Jessica Clyde scored her first goal of the season.

At the beginning of the second half, defender



Photo by Josh Parrinello

Raina Lutz extended the lead to 3-0, which was also her first goal. In the final ten minutes, Belen Ibanez made it four and Ana Sledonik scored the fifth to close out the match, solidifying the team's victory. The goals by Ibanez and Sledonik were their first goals in their college career.

With the win over South Suburban, the Ocelots moved their record to 3-1-0, and they demonstrated that they had a versatile and concise team. Even with the substitutions made by the coaching staff, the Ocelots maintained the tactical plan and a good level of play.

Coach Shingledecker highlights a key strength for the upcoming conference season.

"We have an excellent mix of top-end talent and overall team depth. We feel very comfortable playing 20-22 players in every game. We haven't been able to say that the past four seasons we have been here."

A hard-fought loss to Central Iowa

Schoolcraft faced one more challenge at home on Sept. 5 against Central Iowa, which was ranked 12th in the NJCAA.

The Ocelots had an extremely offensive game, with 22 shots, but none of them found the back of the net. On the other side, doing their defensive part, Central Iowa, in two attacking opportunities, managed to score twice, setting the final score at 2-0.

This match highlighted a crucial area for improvement, as Coach Shingledecker noted. "Seems like if we score a goal, we win the game. Unfortunately, in our two losses, we have failed to score. We need to become more consistent in front of goal."

Conference expectations

After the first five games with a record of 3-2-0 and maintaining their 8th-place national ranking in the NJCAA, the Ocelots are ready for the start of the MCCA (Michigan Community College Athletic Association) conference matches.

These initial games have already given a spoiler about the team's new identity and synergy. According to Jessica Clyde, the team spirit is "genuinely incredible." Clyde describes the team as having adapted quickly, finding a good balance between fun and hard work.

Team unity, according to the captain, is a fundamental factor for success. "The best soccer is played when we're having the most fun, which is what we try to maintain throughout the season, said Clyde."

For captain Jessica Clyde, last season's experience is a motivator and a benchmark for the current team.

"Learning from last year's mistakes and also building on what we achieved last year is very important for this team," said Clyde. "After last year, we clearly have high expectations and hopes to reach regionals, districts, and nationals again and come away with better results, but also to grow as a team. There's always room for improvement, and that desire to improve is clearly present in this group."

The Ocelots look to build momentum as conference play begins. As for the ultimate ambition for the season is clear, as Coach Shingledecker succinctly puts it: "Our goal is to win our last game. Only one team in the country gets to do that." we try to maintain throughout the season."

Leading scorer Briana also agrees on the importance of teamwork. She tells us that her preparation is based on her physical conditioning, which helps her always be in the "right position", helping her teammates with a good positioning. For her, the trip to Boyne in the preseason helped the group "connect as a team," and that camaraderie is reflected in the way they connect on the field.

For captain Jessica Clyde, last season's experience is a motivator and a benchmark for the current team. "Learning from last year's mistakes and also building on what we achieved last year is very important for this team," says Jessica. "After last year, we clearly have high expectations and hopes to reach regionals, districts, and nationals again and come away with better results, but also to grow as a team. There's always room for improvement, and that desire to improve is clearly present in this group."

Confirming that this ambition is shared throughout the team, Briana comments on the team's goals. "Our goal as a team is definitely to reach the postseason and go as far as possible in the tournament," says the forward. "Personally, I want to win the national championship, but I won't be too disappointed if I don't. Having winning the championship as my main goal makes me work hard in every game leading up to the season, which ultimately results in more positive results."

The ultimate ambition for the season is clear, as Coach Ken succinctly puts it: "Our goal is to win our last game. Only one team in the country gets to do that."

Mercy me

Ocelots score 17 goals, capture back-to-back mercy wins



Schoolcraft freshman Luis Maldonado attacks the ball as a Lakeland CC player defends. (Photo by David Grant)

Jean Leonne Isidoro Leal | Staff writer

The Men's Soccer team went on an offensive tear on Sept. 10 and 13, recording two consecutive clean sheets and scoring 17 goals against Lakeland CC and Alpena CC combined. The team demonstrated its superiority on the field, leaving no doubt in opponents' minds why the Ocelots are on the rise..

On Wednesday, Sept. 10, against Lakeland Community College the Ocelots cruised to a 9-0 victory. The scoring opened in the 14th minute by Devlin McGinnis, after a move created on the right side of the field, in which Giovanni Ivezaj found him making a run at the back post.

Sophomore defenseman Niko

Demopolis also scored after a combination of passes with Derik Trinklein at the 20th minute putting the Ocelots up 2-0..

The team continued to put pressure on Lakelands defense and McGinnis found the net three more times (29th, 30th, and 31st minute) to make the lead 5-0. McGinnis contributed four goals total in the game..

"Scoring a hat-trick is very important and gives me confidence for the team's next challenges." said McGinnis. His comments underline how individual performances are fueling the Ocelots' collective success.

Luis Maldonado came off the bench to score a goal at the 44th minute in the match, putting the Ocelots up 6-0 at the half. To start the second half Maldonado picked up where he left off and scored two more goals (47th and 61st minute) for the Ocelots, putting Schoolcraft ahead by 8.

To close the game, Ivezaj scored the ninth goal and the game ended in the 75th minute, following the new mercy rule established by the NJCAA.

With no time to rest and after two days of training, the Ocelots hit the road on Saturday, Sept. 13, to face the Lumberjacks of Alpena Community College and secured an 8-0 victory.

The Lumberjacks tried to create some unfavorable conditions for the Ocelots. The field was smaller than usual, and Alpena's team tried to set up a defensive system that could stop Schoolcraft's strong attack.

Fortunately, it didn't take long for the Ocelots to open the scoring with Amar Selmic in the 15th minute. After receiving the ball from Ivezaj, and only having to push the ball into the back of the net without a goalkeeper Selmic scored his first goal of the season, making it 1-0.

In the 32nd minute, Norwegian freshman Jacob Fjellas doubled the Ocelots lead with a goal, making it 2-0.

To close the first half, Rani El Hajj Ajmad scored twice (34th and 43rd minute), for the third and fourth goals of the match. An excellent team play worked from the defense line, passing through the midfield and finding Kellen Larson running in the gap that assisted Rani who arrived shooting the ball in the goal.

In the second half, Niko Demopolis (48th minute), Kellen Larson (61st minute), Devlin McGinnis (63rd minute) extended the lead to 7-0.

Ali El-Habbab scored the ninth goal to seal the victory and end the game in the 75th minute again with the mercy rule in place.

In these last two games, the Ocelots were able to showcase their offensive prowess and achieved key victories. Defensively, the team wasn't much tested, but their defensive players were on point and helped build-out the game plays.

With these recent results, the team now holds a 5-1 record as of Sept 16, scoring a total of 25 goals and conceding only six in six matches. Regarding these two games, Head Coach Rick Larson said, "The last few games were brilliant and speak well about what this team will be this season. We expect to reach high goals."

Schoolcraft will play host on Friday, Sept. 19, to Muskegon Community College and head to Cuyahoga CC on Sept 27 to continue their push for a successful season.

For game schedules and up to date stats and standings, go to www.schoolcraftocelots.com.



ARE YOU READY TO BATTLE?

BUBBLE SOCCER

Full contact soccer in a bubble

OCTOBER 16 9 - 11 P.M.
TRINITY ELITE SPORTS CENTER TURF
 8:30 P.M. SIGN UP BEGINS

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE AT 734-462-4422.



THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD PRESENTS:

THE POOL SHARK TOURNAMENT

OCTOBER 8
 3 - 5 P.M.
 LOWER LEVEL,
 VISTATECH CENTER

PRIZES!
 1ST PLACE: \$50 SC gift card
 2ND PLACE: \$20 SC Card
 3RD PLACE: \$10 SC Gift Card

PRE REGISTER FOR TOURNAMENT IN THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE
 16 SPOTS AVAILABLE

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



FLAG FOOTBALL CLUB

SUNDAYS, 8/31 THROUGH 11/23
 7-10 P.M.
 OUTDOOR SOCCER FIELD
 EXCEPTION OF OCTOBER 5 WHICH IS INSIDE THE DOME

*Liability waivers must be signed before playing.

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



We know how to make your day better.

Join us for **FREE Cider and Donuts**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1
 12 P.M. TO 2 P.M.
 LOWER LEVEL,
 VISTATECH CENTER

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE AT 734-462-4422.

SPONSORED BY THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD

★ — SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE ATHLETICS — ★ FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES



VOLLEYBALL

Sep
22 VS JACKSON COLLEGE
7:00 PM

Oct
01 VS MOTT CC
7:00 PM

Oct
06 VS OAKLAND CC
7:00 PM

Oct
20 VS MACOMB CC
7:00 PM

Oct
22 VS ST. CLAIR COUNTY CC
7:00 PM



MEN'S SOCCER

Oct
05 VS LAKE MICHIGAN COLLEGE
3:00 PM

Oct
08 VS GRAND RAPIDS CC
1:00 PM

Oct
10 VS TERRA STATE
12:00 PM

Oct
22 VS ST. CLAIR CC
3:00PM



WOMEN'S SOCCER

Sep
24 VS (RV) KELLOGG CC
1:00 PM

Oct
05 VS LAKE MICHIGAN COLLEGE
1:00 PM

Oct
08 VS GRAND RAPIDS CC
12:00 PM

Oct
22 VS ST. CLAIR COUNTY CC
1:00PM

ALL HOME GAMES

DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE
FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION GO ON SCHOOLCRAFTCELOTS.COM



ICE HOCKEY

Games will be held at Farmington Hills Ice Arena

Sep
27 VS OAKLAND
5:15 PM

Oct
10 VS TRINE
8:00 PM

Oct
24 VS PURDUE NORTHWEST
8:00 PM

Oct
31 VS DAVENPORT
8:00 PM

Nov
21 VS UM - FLINT
8:00 PM

JOIN US FOR REC NIGHT



Pickleball
Volleyball
Basketball
Racquetball
Fitness Floor
Bubble Soccer

OCT. 16TH
9-11PM

Open to all. Bring your friends
for free food and free fun!

ARE YOU A FITNESS CENTER MEMBER?

Schoolcraft Credit Students get a free Fitness Center membership. Sign up at the Front Desk today!



 **SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE**
RECREATION SERVICES
FITNESS CENTER

EDITORIAL

SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

Editorial Staff

Olivia Lambert
Editor-in-Chief

Pili Estevez
Managing & Layout Editor

Andrew Husken
Design Editor

Josh Parrinello
Multimedia Editor

Mia Finley
Photo Editor

Eduardo Niehues
Sports Editor

Rachel Husken
Production Assistant

Matthew Wilder
Content Manager

Staff

Luke Miller
Marzi Jacobsen
Andrew Mullen
Mohammad Abu-Zahra
David Grant
Rachel Calhoun
Jean Leonne Isidoro Leal
Joao Paulo Kushino Borges
Hari Patel
Fashida Mudassar
Jessica Staniszewski
LaTonya Copeland
Abigail Jacobs
Jess Michael
Isaac Choraszewski
Jake Bolstrum

Rena Laverty
Connection Adviser

Todd Stowell
Advertising Adviser

Social Media Information

Instagram

@schoolcraftconnection

Facebook

@The Schoolcraft Connection

Twitter

@connectionsao

App

Search "Schoolcraft Connection" on college news source

The Collective Pen



Photo by David Grant

As summer comes to a close, temperatures start to drop and our professors pass out the dreaded syllabus, students can sometimes feel a little overwhelmed. Whether students are returning, ready to juggle their schedule again, or a newbie who just wants to find out where their class is, there are resources on campus that can help you during this hectic time.

From the Fitness Center to the Career Office, Schoolcraft offers a variety of resources to Schoolcraft students. There are even some resources that seasoned students may not know about.

Here at the Schoolcraft Connection, we know all about how chaotic the start of the new semester can be. So, to welcome students back for another year, we are highlighting our most helpful resources available on campus. Whether you are looking for some career guidance, a quiet place to study or someone to talk to, we are here to help get the year started off right.

Welcome back Ocelots! Here's to making new friends and catching up with old ones.

See "The Collective Pen"
page 25>

EDITORIAL POLICY:

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

The Schoolcraft Connection is a student forum and is self-monitored. We reject censorship and support a free student press. Material in The Schoolcraft Connection may not be reproduced in any form without prior written consent.

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

Board of Trustees

Carol M. Strom
Chair

Brett M. Gierak
Vice Chair

Brian D. Broderick
Secretary

Terry Gilligan
Treasurer

Dillion E. Breen
Trustee

Angela Jaafar
Trustee

Candy R. Little
Trustee

Dr. Glenn R. Cerny, Ed.D.
President

Location Information

Schoolcraft College
18600 Haggerty Road
Livonia, Michigan, 48152-2696

Connection Editorial Offices

Student Activities Office
Lower level of Waterman

"The Collective Pen"

Continue from page 24>

Fitness Center

A resource on campus that students should definitely take advantage of is the Fitness Center. The Fitness Center is located right in the Physical Education building and is free to all registered students. This is a great way to deal with the stress of school and everyday life. Just moving your body for at least 30 minutes a day is beneficial. Take advantage of the indoor track and all of the state of the art machines. You won't be disappointed.

Student Support Services

Student support services located in Room 175 in the McDowell building is another great resource for students. They offer help for mental well-being. It has limited in person sessions to students for free and they can also recommend students to low to no cost community-based support. Along with in person sessions, they also have 24/7 virtual counseling for teletherapy and crisis support. The office also offers on campus support group sessions that can assist students with a variety of different things that they might be experiencing. You can also pick who you talk with depending on their focus area, gender, language, or ethnicity. The only requirement for this is being a credit student, whether that be online or in person

Food Court

Our campus has a wide variety of food options for students to take advantage of. One spot is Henry's food court. Anyone interested in eating something affordable at lunchtime should visit Henry's. They have a few main courses and salads, plus they always have a daily special. If you need a quick grab and go meal, this is the place.

Learning Center

The Learning Center is the best place to go, even if you are not yet struggling with your classes. This tutoring center is a valuable resource that many students don't know about. They can help you with STEM, Accounting, Business, and even assist you with writing an essay. What I love about this resource is that it's free, and the tutors are fellow students who have already taken the class and have strong knowledge of the subjects. Their hours vary, and you can even set up an online tutoring session. This service is located in the Bradner Library.

Testing Center

The Testing Center is a great place to check out for all your test-taking needs. Whether you're just someone who needs a little more time on their exams, they offer a proper space for taking tricky exams. In addition to offering extended test-taking accommodations, the staff can also help you with make-up exams and provide a variety of placement tests. These placement tests are designed to give you a better idea of which classes are the best fit for your skills and goals.

Career Mentorship and Placement office

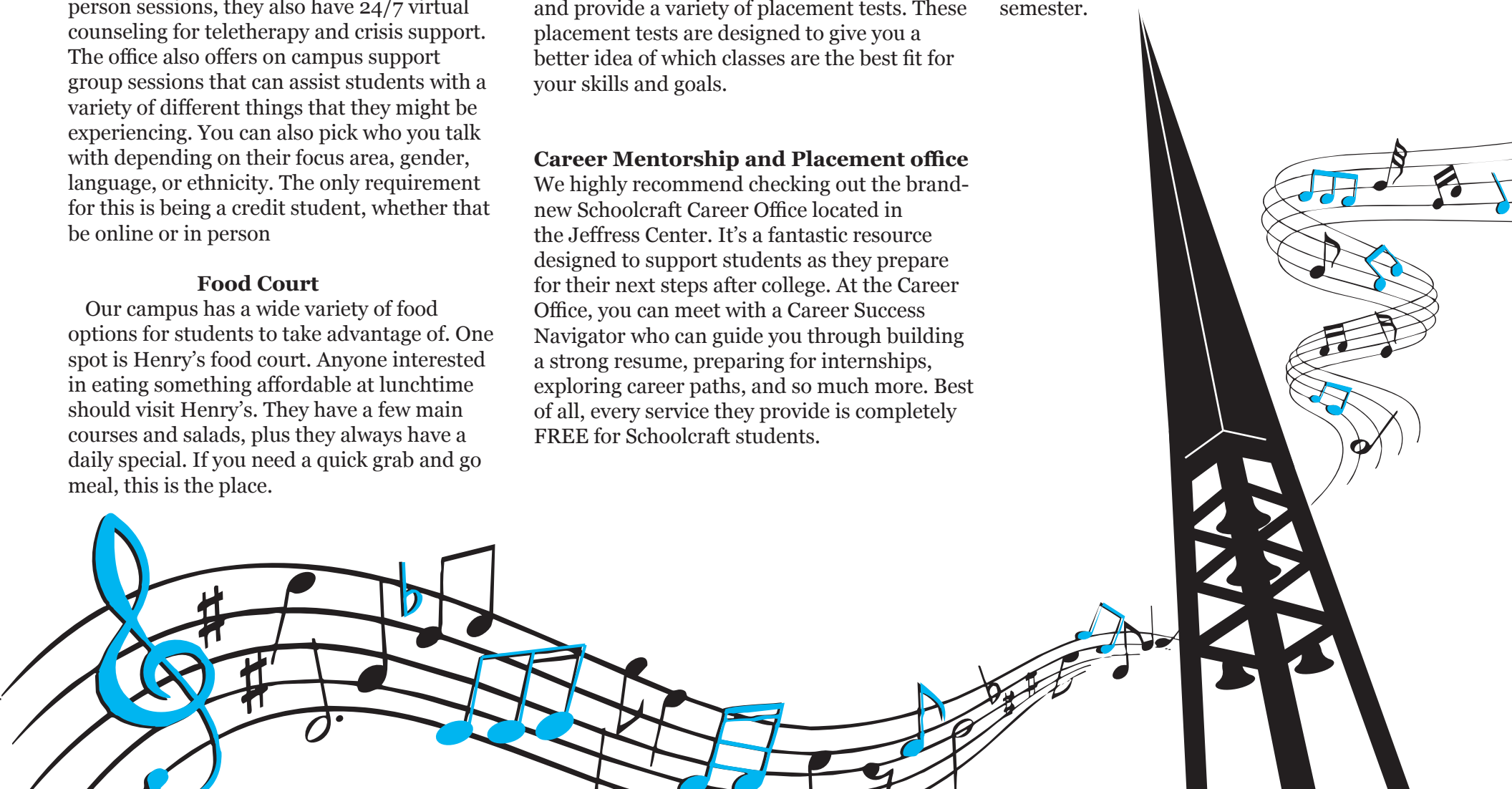
We highly recommend checking out the brand-new Schoolcraft Career Office located in the Jeffress Center. It's a fantastic resource designed to support students as they prepare for their next steps after college. At the Career Office, you can meet with a Career Success Navigator who can guide you through building a strong resume, preparing for internships, exploring career paths, and so much more. Best of all, every service they provide is completely FREE for Schoolcraft students.

Student Activities

I encourage new students to leverage the Student Activities Area in the Lower Level, Vistatech Center. If you are looking to hangout, want to socialize with others and make new friends this is a great spot to do so. You can find a video game area, watch movies, play ping pong or pool and grab a quick snack with some free popcorn.

Veteran Center

Any veterans on campus should check out the Veterans and Military Services Center located in the McDowell Student Services Center. This is a space dedicated to Veterans and Military students on campus. Veterans should visit the resource center and take advantage of the computer stations for completing homework. You can also find a lounge for relaxing between classes which I find myself in quite often. The resource center also provides a "lending library" that is stocked with donated textbooks to utilize throughout the semester.



OPINIONS



Ocelot Opinions

What's Your Hidden Talent!



Welcome back Ocelots! Thanks for checking back in for this week's Ocelot Opinions. For this issue, we asked students/Staff about what their hidden talents. Let's hear their responses!




Name: Tyler Ramsey
Major: Business Major

"I'm strong, my bench is 340lbs, my deadlift is 500lbs"



Name: Qiqi Deogracias
Major: Undecided

(Enjoying environmental anthropology) - Playing Piano for 10 years, skilled at the thumb piano. "I grew up playing piano for the past 10 years."



Name: Mohammad Abu-Zahra
Major: Undecided

I can memorize the release dates of movies really well." I tested him and he memorized the date of Superman on the spot, July 11th



Name: David Bilson
Major: Art Major

Can do impressions like Walter White and Emperor Palpatine

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY RIW HOBBIES & GAMES



AGENTS OF ANIME OPERATION GRADUATION ACTIVATED!



SCAN TO
PURCHASE
YOUR TICKETS NOW!
WWW.OTAKUU.ORG

JOIN US FOR THE SENIOR YEAR
OF SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE'S

ALL AGES ANIME CONVENTION

November 22, 2025
10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Schoolcraft College • Vistatech Center
18600 Haggerty Rd.
Livonia, MI 48152

Registration Badge Prices:

Pre Registration online is \$7

At the Door is \$10

\$5 for Chibi (anyone 10 & Under)

(Presales will end at 11:59 p.m. on November 21, 2025)

Otaku U T-shirt Price: \$15 At Door

ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE:

- Vendor Hall
- Cosplay Contest
- Food Demo
- Luminous Stage Idol Fest
- Manga Library
- RIW Hobbies & Games
- Tabletop Gaming Area & Tournaments
- Anime AMV Viewings
- The Ribbon Game
- Evening Karaoke
- VIP Voice Actor Guest:
Natalie Van Sistine
- Panels and much more!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! If you are interested in purchasing Otaku U Badges, please scan the QR Code above. Alternatively, you may also contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422 or email sc.sao@apps.schoolcraft.edu to purchase Otaku U Badges as well or if you need an additional questions.

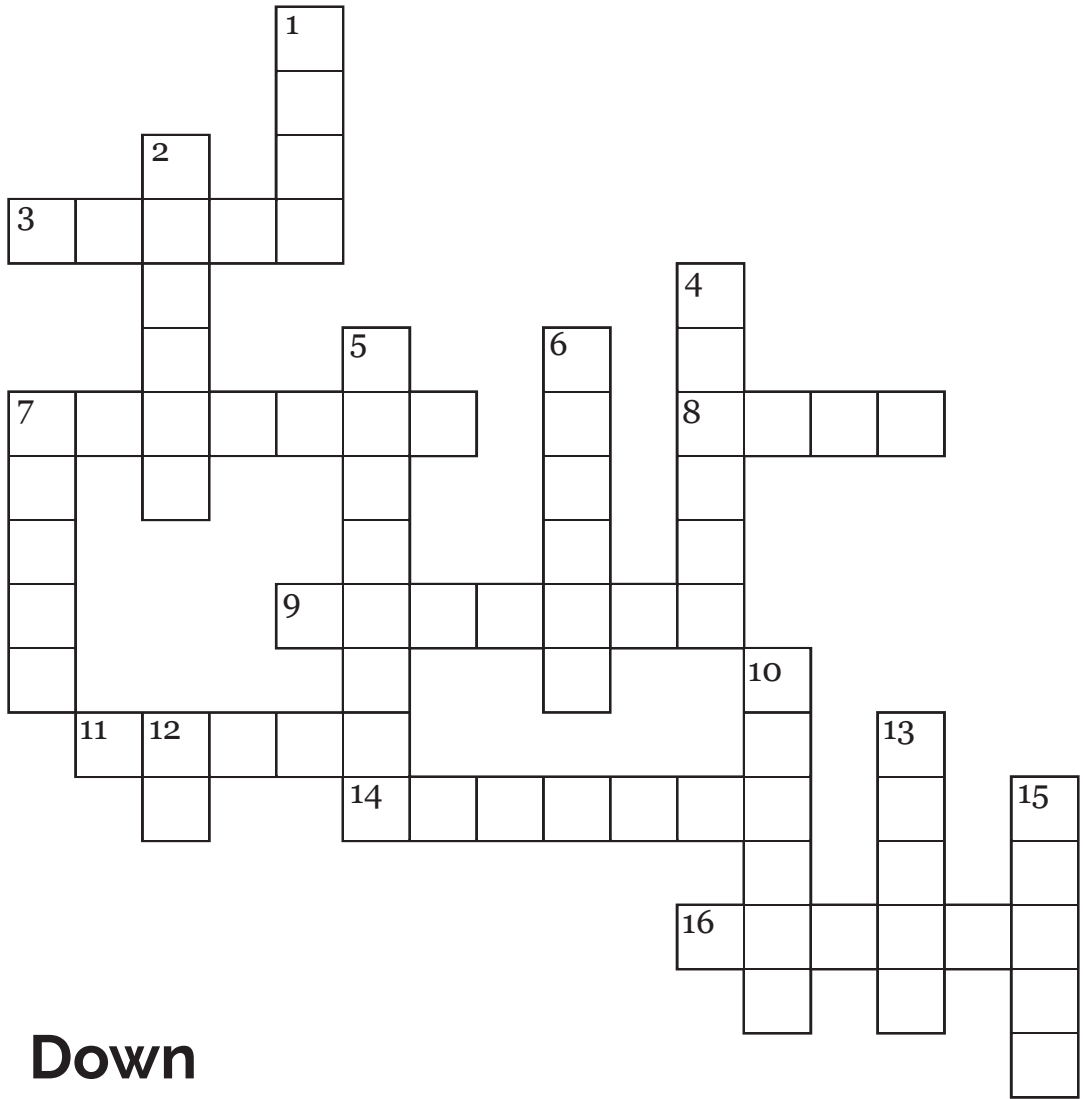


Schoolcraft College



DIVERSIONS

Find Answers on Page 30!



Across

- 3 Smiley face or heart sent in a text
- 7 Popular online flashcard study tool
- 8 treasure, gaming reward
- 9 dressing as anime/comic/game character
- 11 Beam of concentrated light
- 14 RPG setting, Dungeons & Dragons
- 16 fantasy item, magical drink

Down

- 1 Wireless internet connection
- 2 Tolkien creature, Lord of the Rings
- 4 System of billions of stars
- 5 Where you type letters on a computer
- 6 Crossword is one type of this
- 7 adventure goal, RPG mission
- 10 passionate fan community, geek culture
- 12 Tech buzzword for machine intelligence
- 13 Path a planet takes around a star
- 15 Japanese comics, anime

Color me in



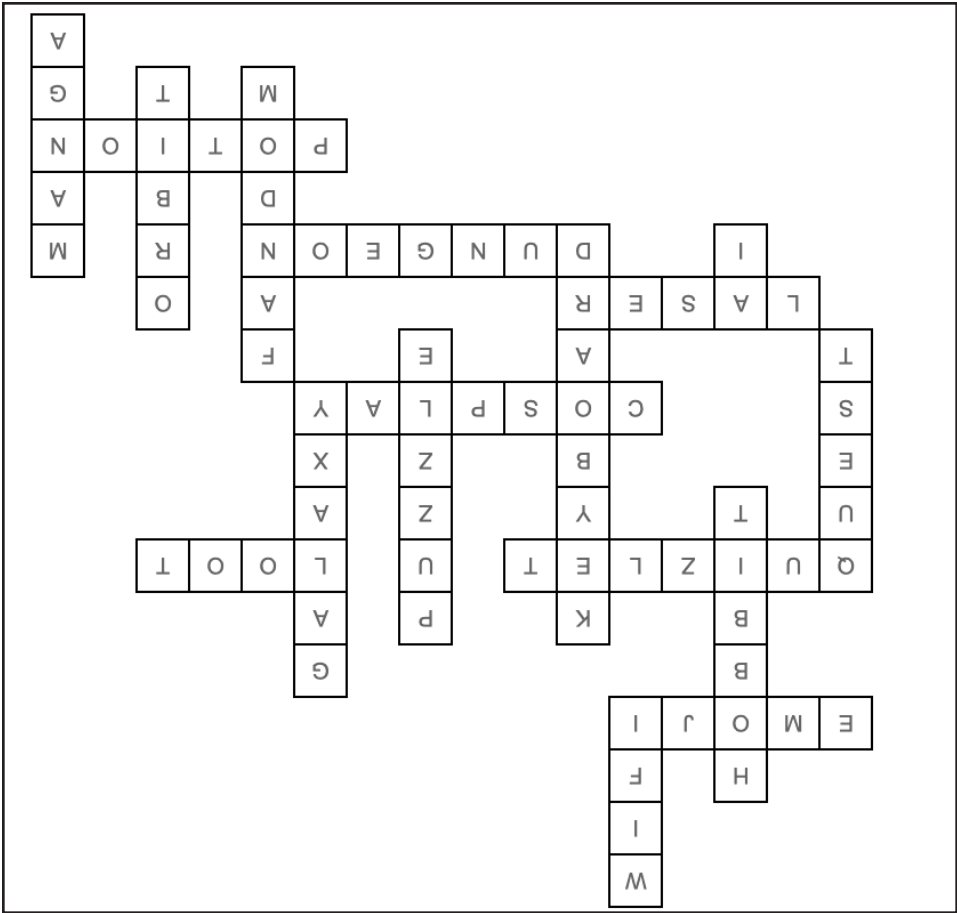
Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 8 | | 4 | 7 | | | 1 | |
| | 1 | | 8 | | 2 | 7 | | 4 |
| 9 | | | | 6 | 1 | 2 | 8 | |
| | 6 | | | | | | | 9 |
| | 2 | 8 | | | 7 | | | 1 |
| | 9 | 4 | | | | | | 8 |
| | 3 | 2 | | | 4 | 1 | | 6 |
| | | 6 | 3 | | | | 4 | 7 |
| | | | | | | | | 2 |

Spot the 8 differences



ANSWER KEY



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





Win an iPad

Be entered to win

Every student club meeting will provide the students with an opportunity to win these prizes at the end of the fall semester.

Every meeting that students attend will equal 1 entry.

Frequency of meeting attendance will provide our students with greater odds of winning the grand prizes and secondary prizes that will be determined later in the fall semester. Drawing will take place on December 12, 2025

For more information, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422 or email sc.sao@schoolcraft.edu



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@scsao



@sc.sao



@scsao



LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES CULTURAL COFFEE CONNECTION GET CONNECTED THIS FALL

BRADNER LIBRARY ROOM 110

Thursday, September 25 – 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Monday, October 13 – 3 - 5 p.m.

Tuesday, November 11 – 2 - 4 p.m.

Wednesday, December 3 – 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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



Schoolcraft College
BRADNER LIBRARY &
LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES

Timea Terjek, SOCIAL IMPACT FELLOW

Maria Del Pilar Estevez, SOCIAL IMPACT FELLOW

Contact the Learning Center at:
734-462-4436 or lc@schoolcraft.edu

Focus Series

IMAGINED REALITIES, BLURRED BOUNDARIES, & WRITING GREECE

with Natalie Bakopoulos

In this talk, Bakopoulos will discuss the way Greece—and the Mediterranean—features in her writing, as well as highlight some of the challenges of writing about a place you love when you live mostly outside of its borders, particularly a place that, from an American lens, is often reduced to either its culture of tourism or its recent crises.

Natalie Bakopoulos is the author of the novels *The Green Shore* (2012), *Scorpionfish* (2020), and *Archipelago* (2025). She's an Associate Professor at Wayne State University.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

1:00 P.M.

VISTATECH CENTER • KEHRL AUDITORIUM (VT550)



LOOKING FOR FUN, FRIENDS, AND UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES?

**JOIN THE
STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD
AND HELP BRING EXCITING
EVENTS TO CAMPUS!**

**MEETINGS EVERY TUESDAY
1-2 P.M.
LOWER LEVEL, VISTATECH CENTER
CONFERENCE ROOM C**

What We Do:

- Movie nights & game nights
- Themed parties
- Trivia, competitions, and more!

Why Join?

- Build leadership & event-planning skills
- Make lasting friendships
- Boost your résumé with real experience
- Be the heartbeat of campus life!



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





YOUR ADVENTURE BEGINS HERE!

NEW! Wicked Wand Workshop **NEW!** Viking Invasion

NEW! Ninja Warrior Challenge

Open Weekends Aug 16 - Sept 28 Plus Labor Day, Sept 1
& Festival Friday, Sept 26 • 9 am - 7 pm • Rain or Shine

2025 Michigan Renaissance Festival

248.634.5552 | MichRenFest.com