

**Say goodbye to Ann Arbor's guerilla canvas: a photographic eulogy to the Liberty Street graffiti alley. B8**

**Black Friday is close upon us! A special section devoted to the steals, the deals, and the post-Thanksgiving anarchy. C1**

**The college's hottest acts, sexiest dancers, and most talented musicians converge for competition at the WCC Talent Show. B2**

## 'I'VE COME BACK TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF MY ACTIONS'



### Counselor comes forward in 40 year-old case

#### COLE JORDAN SPEAKS

Read his letter to WCC on page A6

Cole Jordan, 67, center, known to authorities as Ronald Bridgeforth, is flanked by counsel Jason Cueva, left, and Paul Harris, right, as he speaks to Judge Lisa Novak in the courtroom at the San Mateo County Courthouse in Redwood City, Calif. Jordan, who has lived in Michigan for 40 years, working for nearly 33 years at Washtenaw Community College, turned himself in to face charges related to a gun battle with South San Francisco police more than 40 years ago.

**MATT DURR**  
Editor

Cole Jordan, former academic counselor at Washtenaw Community College, faces life in prison after turning himself in to California authorities on charges of assault with a deadly weapon in connection to a shootout with police in 1968.

Jordan, known to authorities as Ronald Stanley Bridgeforth, appeared in San Mateo County Superior Court in Redwood City, Calif., after being on the run for more than 40 years. He turned himself in on Nov. 10.

"I guess I've come back to face the consequences of my

actions," Bridgeforth said during his hearing.

Bridgeforth, 67, pleaded no contest to the charges in March 1969, but did not appear during his sentencing the following April. Bridgeforth fled the country and went to Africa before returning to the United States and earning a master's degree.

Bail was set at \$25,000, and he was expected back in court on Nov. 22, when his attorney, Paul Harris, had said Bridgeforth will plead guilty. Harris is asking that his client be sentenced to probation, but Chief Deputy District Attorney Karen Guidotti is seeking the

maximum of five years to life in prison.

"At this point, I think that shooting at a police officer merits a severe sentence," Guidotti said in a telephone interview with *The Washtenaw Voice*. "It's very unusual for someone to come back after all these

years and I'm open to hearing what he has to say. But that doesn't take away from shooting at three police officers."

Harris thinks his client's actions over the last 40 years

**COLE JORDAN PLUS JORDAN'S LETTER TO WCC CONTINUED A6**

#### WCC EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

**1978** Hired as a custodian in Custodial Services.  
**1987** Promoted to Supervisor in Custodial Services.  
**1995** Appointed Director of Human Resource Development and Counseling in Human Resource Management.  
**1998** Transferred to Counseling, Career Planning and Employment Services Department where he assumed the role of Professional Counseling Faculty.  
**2011** Terminated employment with WCC.

## THE FACTS

**Nov. 1968** Arrested for shooting at police, known as Ronald Bridgeforth.

**March 1969** Pled 'no contest' to charges of assault with a deadly weapon.

**April 1969** Jumped bail and fled to Africa.

**Dec. 1978** Began employment at WCC as Cole Jordan.

**Nov. 2011** Resigned from WCC, turned himself in to California authorities.

## 'Assault' victim AWOL—investigation frozen

College promises better communication

**ADRIAN HEDDEN**  
Features Editor

The alleged sexual assault that created some anxieties on campus and caused the college to review its alert notification policy remains under investigation. But the probe is going nowhere, authorities say.

The woman who reported the assault last month is not cooperating with police. Without more information law enforcement cannot proceed, according to Steven Hardy, vice president of Administration and Finance. Hardy is urging the victim to contact Safety and Security with more information so that inquiry can resume.

In the meantime, Jacques Desrosiers, director of Safety and Security, reminds everyone of Washtenaw Community College's long history of being safe and secure, and that his

department is doing everything it can to keep it that way.

"I want them to know that we're here, but not to worry," Desrosiers said. "Just chill."

Since the assault alert notification went out on Oct. 5, however, Shellee Hoff has had a hard time following Desrosier's advice.

A student at WCC, undecided in her major, Hoff was nervous and confused after the school's efforts to inform its students of the assault on campus left many oddly uninformed.

"I'm all for protecting a person's identity, but tell us what happened," Hoff said. "I know it's bad, but I want to know how bad."

Hoff wishes more details would be released about the assault, reported the day after it was alleged to have occurred – so that she and her fellow students could understand the

gravity of the case.

"I would kind of like to know more about the assault," said Jordan Wright, 20, of Saline. "I don't have to know all the details. Finding out it was a sex crime makes me more uneasy."

Wright, a math and science major, worries about the assault the more she hears about it.

The victim said she was assaulted on Oct. 4, in a stairwell of the LA building, according

#### POINT OF VIEW



I would kind of like to know more about the assault. I don't have to know all the details. Finding out it was a sex crime makes me more uneasy.

**JORDAN WRIGHT**  
20, Saline, math and science major

to police reports. When the college learned of it the next day, a one-line message was broadcast over the school's emergency-alert system. This was a departure from the way the college has handled these matters in the past.

"We tried to do something different by communicating with students," Hardy said. "We're always looking to refine. Our biggest efforts this year have been to increase communication with students."

Hardy admits that the sentence-long voicemail, combined with a brief text message sent out to all students a day after the alleged incident, was less than ideal. He is certain that future efforts will make better use of computers.

"We would have rather sent it through email. The alert

**ASSAULT CONTINUED A6**

## Students pumped for presidential politics

Campaigns under way for candidates on both sides

**JARED ANGLE**  
Photo Editor

With one year left until the 2012 presidential election, politically active Ann Arbor-area students are getting a head start in their volunteering efforts – an opportunity afforded to them by the recent openings of campaign offices representing President Barack Obama and U.S. Rep. Ron Paul of Texas.

Opened in mid-September, the Ron Paul 2012 office at 122 South Main St. in Ann Arbor provides a space for local residents to get involved in the Republican primary campaign.

Michigan Coordinator Adam de Angeli, 30, directs grassroots activities statewide, including organizing roughly 300 supporters to show their support outside the CNBC Republican Debate, held on Nov. 9 at Oakland University in Rochester.

Stretching in a single-file line down a service drive adjacent to Oakland University's O'rena, enthusiastic Ron Paul supporters from cities across Michigan displayed political signs as motorists drove past before rushing toward the debate entrance as Rep. Paul arrived.

Further from downtown Ann Arbor on Eisenhower Parkway, President Obama's campaign office has also kept busy while serving as a base of operations for young

**STUDENT POLITICS CONTINUED A6**



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and Activities

WCC STUDENT  
DEVELOPMENT  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Handel's "Messiah"

Sunday, December 4, 2011  
2:00 p.m.  
Hill Auditorium  
\$15 for students  
\$20 for staff/faculty

### Cirque Dreams: Holidaze

Saturday, December 17, 2011  
2:00 p.m.  
Fox Theatre, Detroit, MI  
\$25 for students  
\$35 for staff/faculty

### Lunch with the President (Contest)

Monday, December 5, 2011  
Times: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Relax in the company of eight lucky students as you get to know WCC's new student-focused leader.  
**Enter to win at:**  
<http://tinyurl.com/wcclunchcontest>

### Much Ado About Nothing

Thursday, January 26, 2011  
8:00 p.m.  
Arthur Miller Theatre, Ann Arbor, MI  
\$5 for students  
\$7 for faculty/staff

**Tickets are on sale at the  
Cashier's Office, 2nd floor of the  
Student Center Building,  
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

### Club News:

The WCC Corps of Student Veterans is now recruiting WCC veterans and active military personnel. Get involved:  
<http://tinyurl.com/wccvets>

## UPCOMING SPORTS

### Intramural Rock-Paper-Scissors

Who: WCC Students and Employees  
When: November 30, 1:00 p.m.  
Location: WCC Sports Office SC 118  
Cost: FREE

Play the classic hand game with other WCC students and employees in our first ever rock-paper-scissors tournament!

### Women's Club Volleyball Tryouts (for winter semester)

Who: WCC Students registered during the winter semester (18 and older, 2.0 gpa, taking at least 3 credits at WCC)  
When: Thursday, December 8 and Monday, December 12, 2011 from 9:30 p.m. -11:00 p.m.  
Where: Health and Fitness Center at WCC  
Cost: Free

WCC will be holding tryouts for the women's volleyball team who will play in the Ann Arbor Rec and Ed league on Tuesdays from January-March. Students will need to be enrolled during the winter semester to play. Practices will be held on Mondays and Thursdays.

### Men's Club Volleyball Tryouts (for winter semester)

Who: WCC Students registered during the winter semester (18 and older, 2.0 gpa, taking at least 3 credits at WCC)  
When: Tuesday, December 13 and Thursday, December 15, 2011 from 9:30 p.m. -11:00 p.m.  
Where: Health and Fitness Center at WCC  
Cost: Free

WCC will be holding tryouts for the men's volleyball team who will play in the Ann Arbor Rec and Ed league on Thursdays from January-March. Students will need to be enrolled during the winter semester to play. Practices will be held on Mondays and Tuesdays.

**Student Activities: SC 112  
WCC Sports: SC 118**



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[www.tinyurl.com/sdapromotion](http://www.tinyurl.com/sdapromotion)

Must be currently enrolled in three credit hours with a GPA of 2.0 or higher.

# THANKSGIVING

## Some people put the emphasis on helping others

**BOB CONRADI**  
Staff Writer

Pilgrims. Turkeys. Feasting. Detroit Lions Football. Thanksgiving can mean many things, but giving is the key for some area businesses.

For example, the downtown Ann Arbor Cottage Inn Restaurant has been providing free Thanksgiving dinners to the homeless, the underemployed and the lonely for 28 years.

The serving job is too big for the regular restaurant staff, so about 60 volunteers are recruited for the effort. Finding volunteers turns out to be, well, a piece of cake. Volunteering officially opens on Nov. 1 and the full quota is usually reached within a day, according to Katy Cole, Catering and Banquet Coordinator.

Volunteers are called through posts on social media sites or notices in their churches. Their ranks include college students who cannot go home for the holidays, retirees and many others in between.

This year, Cottage Inn, located at 512 William Street, will be serving as many as 300 free meals on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Holy Trinity Student Parish, 511 West Forest Avenue, Ypsilanti, has also been serving free feasts on Thanksgiving Day. This parish ministers particularly to college students at Eastern Michigan University and Washtenaw Community College, but Deacon Stan Kukla said that all people are welcome at the dinner.

The food is provided by Food Gatherers and by contributions from parishioners. Church members serve the food. The church also maintains a food

pantry for the needy.

This year, mass will be held at 10 a.m. and the dinner will start at 11 a.m. The dinner will be open until about 1 p.m. or whenever the food runs out.

New Testament Baptist Church, 1230 Michigan Ave., in Ypsilanti, serves family style dinners every Thursday of the year from noon until 2 p.m. On Thanksgiving Day the lunch will include turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce and other traditional fare.

As with Holy Trinity, much of the food is provided by Food Gatherers and the servers are from the congregation. Thursday attendance is usually between 80-110 people, according to Patricia Davis, the church's feeding program coordinator.

St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division, Ann Arbor, serves free breakfast to all comers every day of the year, including holidays, said Kate Riedel, communications coordinator. The program is now a separate 501-3c organization supported by the church.

The breakfast program is entirely volunteer-based; even the director is a volunteer. Between 5-10 volunteers are needed each day for basic food preparation, dishwashing, coffee pouring and greeting. The number of people offering to help increases around holiday time, according to Riedel.

Breakfast at St. Andrews is served daily from 7:30-8:30 a.m.

Here at WCC, donors and volunteers are also doing their part. The Student Resource and Women's Center (SRWC) provides Thanksgiving food baskets to about 20 needy families identified by case managers. The recipients pick

up the baskets at the SRWC office in the Student Center, said Manager Liz Orbits.

The food for these baskets comes from two main sources. The WCC Bailey Library has a Food for Fines program in which canned goods brought to the circulation desk may be offered in lieu of paying fines. One item will pay for up to \$7 in late fees, according to Kate Karain, of Access Services and Course Reserves. The collected cans go to the holiday food basket program.

Students in the academic skills "On Course" program also bring in non-perishable food donations as part of a community service assignment in a unit on "emotional intelligence." These items either go to the baskets or are stored in a WCC food pantry.

Baskets also include a frozen turkey that is purchased through Food Gatherers using money in a turkey fund maintained by the SRWC.

Students in the Culinary Arts program also get in on the giving. The WCC students prepare a pre-Thanksgiving community dinner that is served Nov. 17, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Perry School Gymnasium in Ypsilanti. Everyone is welcome.

For this event the students cook, slice and portion 80 pounds each of turkey, chicken and ham. Some of the students also participate in serving. Chef Terri Herrera said that this dinner and WCC participation is a 17-year tradition.

As all these volunteers demonstrate, giving back to one's community is a rewarding and effective way of expressing gratitude, during the holiday season and anytime.



BOB CONRADI THE WASHTENAW VOICE

From left, Culinary Arts majors Steve Hamilton, 36, of Dexter, Jacob Guralnick, 21, of Ann Arbor, and Raniah McClelland, 36, of Ypsilanti, slice and portion turkey for Garrett's Thanksgiving banquet on Wednesday Nov. 16.



BOB CONRADI THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Chef Terri Herrera of the WCC Culinary Arts program wheels trays of turkey out of the cooler for a Thanksgiving feast.



# Hope

## for college students battling depression



ILLUSTRATIONS  
HAFAH MIJINYAWA  
THE WASHTENAW VOICE

BRANDON SHELTON  
Contributor

Derek Baggot had always excelled in school; it came to him with little effort. When his homework was done he could often be found playing hockey or video games with friends, or making music.

That all changed dramatically in high school.

He'd go through one semester with ease, but the next he'd struggle just to keep his head above water, when he could. Baggot would suffer from long bouts of depression that affected every aspect of his life, his relationship with family, friends, and not the least, his grades in school.

"There wasn't a specific trigger," Baggot said. "It was simply debilitating. I would do great one semester and then entirely fail another."

After high school, Baggot attended Eastern Michigan University, but changed his degree often because of a lack of confidence in himself.

Baggot eventually left EMU and enrolled at the University of Michigan-Dearborn in hopes of starting fresh.

"School was agonizing because I had such high standards for myself," he said.

Everything changed recently when Baggot was diagnosed with social anxiety disorder, the cause of his depression.

Depression, a life-threatening mood disorder, affects approximately 17.6 million Americans a year, or one in six people. Depression impacts people across all ages, races,

and both genders, according to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH).

The potential link between depression and heart disease is being studied by Dr. Jesse C. Stewart, a member of the psychology department at Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis.

Untreated depression not only affects the mental health of an individual, but physical health as well. Depression is the cause of up to two-thirds of all suicides. Worse still, suicide is the third leading cause of death among Americans aged 15-24, and the second-leading cause of death for college students ages 20-24. Data from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention also suggests that depression itself may be a risk factor for heart disease and not simply a role in its severity.

It can be hard to seek help when you are feeling hopeless or at times even more difficult to realize you need help.

For students at Washtenaw Community College and many other colleges and universities, there are options available to get assistance with mental health issues.

John Rinke, the director of Support Services at WCC, takes great pride in the evolving and growing wealth of programs and safeguards in place for students.

"Our process is never static," said Rinke, who oversees two part-time therapists, Edwina Jarrett and Audrey Hering. Both work on campus exclusively with students.

"Their days start at 11 a.m. and their schedule is often full until closing," Rinke said.

The responsibility for seeking help is not placed solely on the students, however. Staff and faculty are asked to keep an eye-out for students who may be in emotional trouble.

A broadcast email recently sent to all faculty advises them to take all "students who are in immediate crisis (in a highly emotional state, or have stated an intention of suicide or self-harm)" to see a counselor or therapist in the Counseling Center, or a member of the At-Risk Assessment Team.

WCC provides students with information about programs that are available to them through the school on TVs throughout the campus.

"Pay attention to the TVs sometime, you'll see up-to-date information there," Rinke said.

The WCC website also offers students information for outside sources of help such as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, a virtual pamphlet collection hosted by the University of Chicago, and Half Of Us, a website that works in collaboration with mtvU and The Jed Foundation.

Depression is a very serious but treatable illness, according to the NIMH. It has no one specific cause and therefore has no one universal treatment. The most common methods are cognitive behavioral therapy and medication. The first step, however, is accepting the fact that help is needed.

Justin Jacobs, a former WCC student, has also suffered from

depression for as long as he can remember.

"My depression didn't really have an impact on my social life," Jacobs said. "It did affect one of my first semesters at Washtenaw Community College, I failed my second or third semester entirely."

Jacobs described his depression as a constant low level of sadness that often had a snowball effect.

"When something bad happened, it just compounded," he said. "I'd miss one class and just not come back and little stupid things would just ruin my day."

Jacobs was diagnosed with generalized anxiety disorder and comorbid depression in 2000, while he was still in high school. However, it wasn't until several years later he found treatment methods that worked for him.

"I went through cognitive behavioral therapy and was prescribed Wellbutrin," Jacobs said. "The CBT taught me how to cope and the medication put a little bit of pep in my step."

"I'm now motivated, more active in my personal life, and currently applying for grad school to get my Master's (degree)," Jacobs said.

Baggot eventually sought treatment for his condition as well. He says now he has the tools necessary to succeed in aspects of his life.

"The help I've received taught me the coping skills I need," he said. "This isn't going to just go away, but I've developed techniques to manage my condition, move on and not let it interfere with my life."

# IN BRIEF

## WCC A TOP 20 PLACE TO WORK, AGAIN

Washtenaw Community College again ranked among the best Michigan based places to work in the state according to the annual Detroit Free Press rankings.

Employers are ranked by business size and placement on the list is based on surveys submitted by employees to their places of occupation.

With 559 full-time employees, Washtenaw Community College ranked No. 14 in large business, above Quest Diagnostics and below Real Estate One.

The best big business to work at is Quicken Loans, a mortgage-lending firm with 3,039 employees. Edward

Jones Financial Services, with 942 employees, came in second.

## HANDEL'S 'MESSIAH' TICKETS DISCOUNTED

Discounted tickets to a Dec. 4 performance of George Frideric Handel's classic "Messiah" have been made available to students. Featuring collaboration between the University Musical Society's Chorale Union and the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, the performance will be held at Ann Arbor's Hill Auditorium.

Tickets are available to WCC students at the cashier's office for \$15. Each student is limited to four purchases.

# CAMPUS EVENTS

**NOV. 22-25**  
Thanksgiving Recess

**NOV. 22**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting-** In ML 150 from 4-5 p.m., all invited to the Board of Trustees' monthly gathering

**NOV. 28**  
**Job Search Techniques Workshop-** From 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., in SC 287, students can learn job search processes and strategies for finding the right job.

**NOV. 29**  
**Resume Development Workshop-** In SC 287, from 3-4 p.m. students will learn to develop a resume that employers look for and discuss common mistakes.

**NOV. 30**  
**College Visitations-** Eastern Michigan University and Concordia University will be on the second floor of the Student Center from 1-5 p.m. to answer student questions.

**Wii Wednesday-** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Student Center cafeteria. There will be free pop, pizza, and Wii games such as Just Dance 2 and Mario Kart.

**Rock, Paper, Scissors Tournament-** From 1-2 p.m. in SC 118 students who are 18 years or older with at least a 2.0 GPA and WCC I.D. can play rock, scissors, paper.

**Interview Skills Workshop-** From 4:30-5:30 p.m. in SC 287 students can learn interview skills, and how to research companies at the interview skills workshop.

# SECURITY NOTES



## FENDER BENDER IN PARKING LOT

A minor accident occurred in Lot 1B on Nov. 2 at 1:14 p.m. When attempting to reverse to allow more space for a semi-truck blocking a lane in the lot, one car struck another with its rear bumper, leaving minimal to no damage. There were no injuries.

## HIT AND RUN

A motorist reported damage to her car from an unknown origin on Nov 3. The damage was said to have been sustained, on Nov. 1, by the vehicle's right-front-bumper, spanning 18 inches from corner-to-corner. The owner said she left her car parked on the West service drive at 9 a.m. and returned to find it damaged at 8:30 p.m.

## DAMAGE TO SCHOOL PROPERTY

On Nov. 8, an automotive instructor reported damage to a hydraulic cylinder in the OE building's car barn. After leaving the cylinder in its proper place at 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 7, the teacher returned the next day at 8:05 a.m. to find it removed from a hydraulic lift and damaged at a hose fitting. The damage caused a leak, which dropped the lift.

To contact Campus Safety & Security, dial 3411 from any school phone, press the red button on red security phones, or use your cell phone to call (734) 973-3411.

Visit [washtenawvoice.com](http://washtenawvoice.com) for security updates.

# Learning a foreign language not necessary—but beneficial for many

NATHAN CLARK  
Staff Writer

Imagine yourself walking through a park. You stumble across a man lying on the ground, apparently drunk. The man looks at you and says "Bitte, bringen Sie mich in ein Krankenhaus."

If you had the good fortune to understand German, you would quickly realize that the man is not drunk, but in fact injured and begging to be taken to the hospital. And you could save a life.

For students interested in learning another language, Washtenaw Community College offers credit courses in Spanish, French, German and Arabic. But how important is learning a foreign language for students wanting to transfer to a different college, and is it really needed for transferring?

"Studying a foreign language isn't necessary to apply for transfer, but a foreign language is needed to graduate," said Alexandra McCracken, M-POD (Michigan-Pursuing our Dreams) coordinator at WCC. "Most of the undergraduates at WCC transfer into the

college of Literature Science and the Arts (LSA), and that school requires a foreign language to graduate."

McCracken says that transferring to LSA is competitive among undergraduates and that having some foreign language credits on an application can be a distinct advantage for some students.

"I think any alternative activities that you do while you're in school will help to you get noticed, and language is one of those things," said Craig Cammann, a 35-year-old college graduate studying to get into the Masters program to become a physician's assistant. "Anything that makes you look more culturally diverse will help your chances of getting in."

On a personal level, Camann said, learning a foreign language shows students a whole different way to think. "I can speak Spanish fluently, learned some French and German when I was in grade school and learned some Thai when I lived in Thailand. I think everyone should learn Chinese. In terms of the world economy, learning Chinese will be critical."

The Chinese economy has been steadily rising for the past couple years and is said to be on schedule to surpass all other nations by 2016.

"People should learn Chinese, Spanish and English," said Juan Redondo, WCC's foreign language chair. "I think we should be teaching Chinese, but there is a drawback. It is very difficult to learn how to draw characters, and there are a lot of characters."

When he was in China, Rodondo learned that the average person there knew more than 10,000 characters.

According to Redondo, Spanish is the most popular language at WCC saying that for every one student enrolled in French, there are 14 studying Spanish.

"Learning Spanish or Chinese will give you the edge when it's time to look for a job," said Redondo. "Americans live like isolationists where we have become accustomed to the world coming to us. Times are changing."

WCC is offering three French, four German, two Arabic and 19 Spanish classes in the Winter 2012 semester.

Continue the conversation

[washtenawvoice.com](http://washtenawvoice.com)

# Having a plan can make scheduling easier

JAEL GARDINER  
Staff Writer

Audrey Bell had some difficulties during one semester when she wanted to take a radiology class, but soon discovered that only one section was offered – on Saturday mornings.

The timing made it difficult for her to get to class, and she really wished the college schedulers could ease the way a bit.

"Some classes are only offered in the springtime or only in the Fall," said Bell, 21, a health care student from Ann Arbor. "It's really frustrating when I want to go full-time. It's also annoying when classes are only offered on the weekend. What if you have to work?"

Vice President for Instruction Stuart Blacklaw, agrees that there are times that students may have a hard time getting the classes they

need. He emphasized the importance of laying out all of the classes that will be needed for the entire program, instead of just waiting to schedule classes at the last minute.

"We try to encourage people to see an adviser and talk to people," Blacklaw said. "Best case scenario is you write out your entire academic plan."

Blacklaw also understands that when there is only one section of a required course offered, it is more likely to conflict with students' work schedules. He also sees some problems with classes that are canceled due to low enrollment, and there are several ways that Blacklaw said students can deal with it.

Sometimes the classes will just run with fewer students or students who just can't get it and are planning on transferring can take it at another institution. However, the college tries to focus on

accommodating students who are here now, according to Blacklaw.

Other students worry about getting the classes they need and working at the same time. Ariana Boland wonders if she'll have to quit her job in order to have the time to take one of the classes she needs.

"There is a math class that I would have taken if it wasn't only offered in the middle of the day on Tuesdays," said Boland, 24, a liberal arts student from Ann Arbor. "I'm working, but I wanted to get it out of the way in the Winter. Hopefully it's offered at a different time next year."

There are times when classes will run with so few students that instructors have to be paid per student. Students who are having issues getting classes they really need can talk to counselors and find out what they can do. Some classes are also offered online.



EDITORIAL

WCC Trustees: Respect your elders and do the right thing

When Washtenaw Community College recently re-named to the Henry S. Landau Skilled Trade Annex and the Larry L. Whitworth Occupational Education Building, many of us around campus were left scratching our heads in confusion.

Last year, *The Voice* uncovered documents revealing that the Student Center building was to be named after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. To date, the building remains unnamed.

While we are disappointed that King’s name doesn’t crown the Student Center, we are even more concerned with the way the board and administration are handling it – by avoiding it.

In an interview last spring, then-President Larry Whitworth indicated that official board policy was against renaming any more buildings.

Since then, they have named two buildings after people in the last four months, after two more white men to be specific. Meanwhile, the powers that be have held fast on their policy to not give King the recognition he deserves – according to the best intentions of the board’s predecessors.

While we are inclined to say shame on the current WCC trustees, some of the blame lies with those who have seemingly failed to properly lobby those powers. There has been a dedicated and effective petition drive, with thousands signing on that they support putting Dr. Kings name on the building. And individuals leading those drives have gone to two different presidents in the hope of seeing that it gets done.

More distressing, however, was Whitworth’s assertion that King might not be as relevant, as he once was, to today’s college students. Excuse us, but doesn’t WCC repeatedly tout its diverse student population? Of course we do. Because it’s true, and we’re proud of it. But this wouldn’t be possible without the sacrifices of King and other Civil Rights activists.

We encourage and urge those passionate about the name change to continue fighting. But instead of pleading with administrators, take your fight to the Board. Offer the elected trustees the proof of the actions of a previous board, and give them no alternative but to put King’s name on the building.

If President Rose Bellanca is serious about the concerns of her students, and we have no reason to doubt her, then this should be among her highest priorities. Take the leadership and do not offer or settle for compromise.

To our students in favor of the change: Don’t settle. Overcome. To our Board of Trustees: Do the right thing. It is long overdue.



ANNA FUQUA-SMITH  
Staff Writer

The vegan diet – it’s not all about PETA

Just to clear the air – I hate PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals).

PETA is just like a Jehovah’s Witness coming to your door on your day off. It’s disrupting, disturbing and just plain annoying.

My motivation to be a vegan is not just about the perception of animal cruelty. I also want to know where my food is sourced.

More than half of all antibiotics produced in the United States each year are given to farm animals, resulting in antibiotic resistance in the humans who eat them.

And for craps and giggles, here’s a list of chemicals in meat, poultry, seafood and dairy commonly found in factory farmed meat: benzene hexachloride (BHC), chlordane, dieldrin, dioxin. . . It’s safe to say, if you can’t pronounce it perhaps you shouldn’t eat it!

Initially, yes, I was motivated toward veganism by animal cruelty issues. In many ways, I still am.

To shed some light on that: Did you know that at factory farms, egg-laying hens are stockpiled into cages? Most of



...Bite me?



JAEL GARDINER  
Staff Writer

Eating meat isn’t going to kill you

As a former vegetarian, I’ve found that eating meat is essential to my diet.

After close to a year without eating any meat, I got sick, and I was tired all the time. I was sleeping through my classes. I found out I had mononucleosis, and I wound up in the hospital. While it is hard to tell if the lack of eating meat contributed significantly to my illness, I did start feeling a lot better when I began eating meat again.

Not long ago, I watched a documentary called “Fat Head,” about how eating fat, particularly from meat, was healthy. One of the facts listed on the documentary’s website is that there has never been a study that proved that saturated fat causes heart disease. Many people who have heart attacks have normal cholesterol.

It also cites studies that have shown that children have been treated for attention deficit disorder (ADD) with the introduction of fats from meat in their diets, and epileptics have

been treated as well.

I agree that meat probably has some additives that aren’t great. However, I don’t think that means that I should throw away the benefits that can be gained from including it in my diet. Recently, the ‘cave man diet’ has risen in popularity. This involves eating almost exclusively meat, in the way that hunter-gatherers have in the past.

“Fat Head” contests the idea that vegetarians are healthier, that people as a society have only become agrarian in the more modern era. It is a common perception that vegetarians have a longer life span than those who eat meat, but this is not something that has been conclusively shown. As a matter of fact, there are several studies that have shown eating meat can lengthen life.

Yes, there may be some bad additives in meat, but those additives are in many products Americans consume every day.

Take it from me because I’m living proof: The health benefits of a meaty diet outweigh the risks.

Warning: You don’t need to eat the whole turkey in one sitting



NATHAN CLARK  
Staff Writer

Every November, Americans gather around the dinner table for a feast of epic proportions, contradicting that New Year’s resolution to eat healthier and lose weight. America may not be number one at many things, but we’re still the champion of overeating.

Thanksgiving, the Super Bowl of the obese, is a holiday where, depending on your viewpoint, we either celebrate a day when colonists and Native Americans weren’t trying to

kill each other, or we gather with friends and family to be thankful for how much we have. I guess no one considered the idea that we might have too much.

As Thanksgiving gets closer and closer, the media constantly reminds us of how fat and gluttonous Americans are by providing charts detailing how many calories are consumed in the typical Thanksgiving meal and stock B-roll footage of fat people at the mall.

Granted, the Thanksgiving dinner typically consists of the largest turkey you can afford, baked or deep-fried to perfection, potatoes, rolls, cranberry sauce, a magical variety

of vegetables, quart of gravy, stuffing and pumpkin pie or, if you’re feeling extra festive this year, sweet potato pie topped with Cool Whip. Calculating the calories for this kind of meal really could be used as a story problem in an algebra text book.

Am I saying we should stop having Thanksgiving dinner every year? No way! I love turkey and, more importantly, lots of delicious food.

No one brings a salad to a Thanksgiving dinner and if you did, no one would look at you the same, or at all, ever again.

By no means am I a healthy looking individual, but my size has very little to do with how or

what I eat, and more to do with my inability to run as much as I used to, so layoff.

Celebrate Thanksgiving anyway you please. All I’m asking for is a little restraint this year. Just because there’s plenty of food on the table, that doesn’t mean that you need to cram as much down as you can.

If you’re fortunate enough to have people in your life who deeply care about you, celebrate Thanksgiving and have a good meal with them. Also remember, the more people you surround yourself with, the better the odds that someone around you knows that Heimlich maneuver. Hopefully you won’t choke to death, you fat bastard.

The Washtenaw Voice

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The Washtenaw Voice is produced fortnightly by students of Washtenaw Community College. Student publications are important in establishing and maintaining an atmosphere of free and responsible discussion and in bringing matters of concern and importance to the attention of the campus community. Editorial responsibility for The Voice lies with the students, who will strive for balance, fairness and integrity in their coverage of issues and events while practicing habits of free inquiry and expression.

The Voice is committed to correct all errors that appear in the newspaper and on its website, just as we are committed to the kind of careful journalism that will minimize the number of errors printed. To report an error of fact that should be corrected, please phone (734) 677-5405 or e-mail thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com.

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VOICE BOX

Now that midterms have come and gone, students find themselves getting closer and closer to the end of the semester. What can the college improve before it’s all over?

INTERVIEWS **ADRIAN HEDDEN** FEATURES EDITOR  
PHOTOS **JARED ANGLE** PHOTO EDITOR



JACE BERRY  
20, Howell, Computer Programming

Parking kinda sucks, but I like it a lot better than LCC (Lansing Community College). I like it here.



DAVID MAGUMBA  
19, Cincinnati, Vocal performance

I wish there could be an intramural football league. Anything with football.



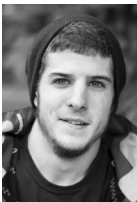
ANDY CHEN  
25, Ann Arbor, Health and Science

More study rooms in library. It sucks having to pay after only two hours.



JEREMY GILMORE  
19, Ypsilanti, undecided

They should also enforce the smoking policy better; armed guards.



DYLAN NEATZ  
19, Brighton, Criminal Justice

I hate the Writing Center. It takes so long. It’s just ridiculous.



ANTONIO WASHINGTON  
23, Ypsilanti, Business Management

More jobs on campus. With a lot of people being up here, it would help to have more resources.



MAHARA COLEMAN  
16, Ypsilanti, Graphic Design

The outdoor tables are a bit rickety. You feel like it’s gonna tip over when you sit in it.



IRIS PIERZO  
21, Orlando, Culinary Arts

Vending machines aren’t always working and there is no one around to help in a way that is timely.



MIMI OLSSON  
15, Ann Arbor, Undecided

Put more tables in the Student Center. Whenever you reserve a spot, and get up for a few seconds, boom! It’s taken.



JUSTIN WISE  
16, Ann Arbor, Graphic Design

All classes should start on the hour or half hour. It’s frustrating when my class starts at a weird time.



NATALIE FORTUSHNIAK  
18, Brighton, Nursing

I wish I could turn Writing Center assignments in to my teachers. It’s a big inconvenience.



BENJAMIN KEHN  
18, Brighton, History

Bus people from around parking lots on rainy days. One time, I had to park all the way in the back. I came home drenched.



Paterno deserves jail time.



MATT DURR  
Editor

When the Penn State University board of trustees made the decision to fire head football coach Joe Paterno this month, it was the end of a storied career for Paterno. Termination should be the first step toward putting the face of PSU behind bars.

Firing Paterno and those who covered up the child rape and abuse crimes committed by former assistant coach Jerry Sandusky is not enough. Everybody who had the slightest bit of knowledge of Sandusky’s transgressions deserves to spend time in jail. There is absolutely no excuse for not contacting the police as soon as this issue was brought to their attention 17 years ago.

As an adult, you have an obligation to report this crime to the proper authorities, not up the chain of command.

Joe Paterno is the guiltiest member of those involved in the cover-up and should spend

the rest of his life behind bars. As early as 1994, Paterno had to be aware of accusations against Sandusky. In 1998, more accusations came forward, and ultimately Sandusky was allowed to leave the program gracefully.

In 2002, when Sandusky was no longer employed by the school he was allowed to use facilities on campus and bring young boys along with him. Paterno saw no conflict or reason to question his boss. When an assistant coach caught Sandusky raping a young boy, Paterno downplayed the incident and as early as a week before the news broke, Sandusky was still on campus!

While he did not actually commit the crimes, Paterno was an accessory to the crimes and is responsible for every incident that took place after 1998. He had a chance 13 years ago to put the pervert behind bars, and he chose football over decency and the protection of children.

Along with having to send those involved to jail, the PSU football program should receive the “death penalty” from

the NCAA. By covering up and perpetuating the evil actions of Sandusky, this school has lost the right to run a football program. The level of corruption far surpasses anything on the football field, and the football program should cease to exist because of it.

The amount of money that PSU earns each year from football is extraordinary and to allow this group of criminals to profit from the game, while allowing a predator like Sandusky to roam around is unacceptable.

Everyone from Paterno, to the athletic director, to the president of the school knew this would be a public relations nightmare, so they decided to cover it up. This group of administrators sold their soul to make money for the school and they were arrogant enough to think that no one would ever find out.

The ironic thing is that now we all know what happened, their image has been shattered, and it will never be the same again. If I had my way, it’s an image that will never be repaired.

Please—Hold the jingle bells until the turkey is cooked



ALLIE TOMASON  
Staff Writer

I ran across a cartoon the other day in which a turkey and Santa Clause were featured. The turkey, symbolic of Thanksgiving, was screaming at a downtrodden Santa. “December, Fat Boy! This month is for MY holiday! Now hop in that sleigh and WAIT your TURN!”

I couldn’t help but laugh and thought, “Wow! I have been feeling this way for years.” It occurred to me that, obviously, some others feel this way as well.

Every year, it seems, Christmas “paraphernalia” is being pushed earlier and earlier on the consumer.

Now it isn’t that I have an aversion to Christmas, but for the last two years I have seen evidence of its premature manifestation as early as two weeks before Halloween.

Really?

By the time Christmas actually arrives, I am already over it. What used to be an anxiously awaited season is now a nightmare perpetuated by the competition of large department store chains to see who can generate the most revenue.

What’s worse is that the insatiable need to have “stuff” is greater than realizing that we, the consumers, are becoming complacently brainwashed into this capitalistic theft we call holiday shopping.

It pains me to be in the thick of it when doing something as basic as grocery shopping. It seems that this time of year, ironically, rude behavior becomes the norm, and the closer it gets to Christmas the ruder the behavior.

Whether it’s competition for a parking space because we are too lazy to walk half the length of the parking lot, or jostle people to get the last \$100 big screen television set on Black Friday, Christmas has become a time of selfishness instead of a time of selflessness.

And I believe that the earlier its presence, the more intolerant people become with each other.

I, for one, dislike feeling shackled to commercial greed. As a mother of three, I can only handle one holiday at a time—and I like to enjoy each of them for their own attributes. It kind of steals Halloween’s thunder when I go into Target to purchase peanut butter kisses and get bombarded by candy canes.

Instead of enticing me to do early shopping, in preparation for the wrapping paper massacre that is Christmas morning, it actually makes me dread the time leading up to it. So much so that I can’t wait until it is finally over, and all is right with the world again.

One thing I have noticed, though, is that while the commercialization of Christmas has been reviled by many a consumer, most are okay with it – after Thanksgiving.

Wow! I think that turkey might actually be on to something. Just sayin’.

As news broke of former WCC counselor Cole Jordan’s shocking past, opinions have varied on campus. Below are some of the comments from washtenawvoice.com readers on the issue.

Cole Jordan added so much richness to my life. As a young man from a rural area, I experienced very little diversity. Mr. Jordan opened me to the beautiful diversity of our campus and our world. He gave me books that moved me to live a life that is dedicated to helping others. The past is what it is, but the man I know is a hero and a sage. He always took a few extra minutes to show you he cared. I have never met anyone with more compassion. Our community college is weaker without him. Much love and respect to Mr. Jordan, his family, and the victims. — Zach Baker

Regardless of what Cole has done in the past I have come to know him as a spiritual and caring individual. He has extended more help and courtesy to me than ANY academic advisor/ counselor regardless of what school I have attended. He went above and beyond his job description and actually cared about my personal well-being in addition to my academic. He had a great deal to do with my growth and progress as an individual since the day I met him. — Shonte’ Cole

While Cole may have done many for things for the students of WCC, that is not excuse him from his criminal actions. He acted cowardly by running away, and I feel he deserves the maximum sentence. If he wasn’t prepared to face the consequences of his violent actions, then he shouldn’t have done them. I find it in poor taste for people to have sympathy for someone who thinks after a full career and nice life that now it’s okay to own up to his actions. What kind of example is he to the young adults he has served? He should feel deeply ashamed for all he has done. — Elizabeth



TO THE EDITOR:

Readers of “Jewish Federation offended by protests; security office unruffled” (Washtenaw Voice, Nov. 7, 2011, p.3) could be forgiven for not catching the falsehoods of David Shtulman, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, in the article. I would like to take this opportunity to correct them. First, he claims that our group, Jewish Witnesses for Peace and Friends (JWPF), has “no connection to the Jewish community.” Three of our members, including this writer, are Jewish, meaning we identify as Jewish and have cultural, religious and familial connections to the larger Jewish community. When our Beth Israel Congregation (BIC) vigils started almost half of the participants were Jewish, but our Jewish ranks have been depleted due to the passage of time and by the relentless Zionist onslaught of the mainstream Jewish community. We note that we are not the only Jews of conscience to have been driven to the margins by the inhumanity of Jewish support for

apartheid in Palestine.

Mr. Shtulman also claims: “They want our prayer for peace in Israel to be removed.” The prayer is found in the Siddur Sim Shalom, and is entitled “Prayer for the State of Israel.” It is hardly a prayer for peace. “Strengthen the hands of those who defend our Holy Land. Deliver them; crown their efforts with triumph.” It sounds more like cheerleading for the Israeli military, which repeatedly commits war crimes against Palestinian and other Arab civilians.

Despite the evident militarism of that prayer, we have never demanded its removal. Nor have we “demanded that references to Israel be removed from the doctrines and effigies used in the synagogue’s ceremonies.” We have, however, offered to terminate our vigils if BIC’s Board of Directors would only support basic human rights for Palestinians: (1) The full civil and political equality of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel within Israel, (2) The prompt implementation of the rights of Palestinian refugees of 1947-8 and 1967 to return to

their homes and properties in Israel and Palestine as stipulated in UN resolution 194, and (3) The prompt end of Israeli occupation and colonization of all lands seized by Israel in 1967. Contra Shtulman, whatever our individual members may think, JWPF has never issued any statement in regards to Israel’s “right to exist.”

Further, Mr. Shtulman’s charge that our members ate “bacon-cheese-burgers” at our October 8 protest is false. We didn’t eat anything in front of the synagogue on that day or any other. Readers interested in the full story are welcome to read the 9/26/2011 at zionistsout.blogspot.com.

Finally, Mr. Shtulman complains that “in the end, they’re really irrelevant.” But readers must wonder why, if we’re so irrelevant, did he spend so much time with the student reporter, and why would the Voice dedicate an entire article, not to his Federation’s fund raiser, but to our protests instead?

Henry Herskovitz  
Jewish Witnesses for Peace and Friends



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COLE JORDAN FROM FRONT PAGE

– including changing students’ lives during his tenure as an adviser at Washtenaw – are proof that he is reformed, and jail time is not necessary.

“I am extremely hopeful that the judge will take into consideration all the good things he has done all these years,” Harris said. “I understand this act as an aberration in the arc of his life.”

Harris added that the judge did not consider Bridgeforth to be a public threat. Harris feels that the amount for bail was an indication that the judge understood “the unusual circumstances” surrounding this case.

Bridgeforth remained in jail until Nov. 11, when he posted bail. He was free on bond, and Harris has assured the public that his client will appear at the Nov. 22 court date.

People at WCC knew Cole Jordan (Bridgeforth) as a kind, laid-back counselor who was easily approachable.

“He was a good counselor, very calm, mild-mannered. Lots of students loved him,” said Arnett Chisholm, the dean of Admission and Student Life, and a former counselor. “He had a passion for counseling and helping students.”

Bridgeforth resigned from his position at the college a week before turning himself in after being employed at the school since 1978.

“I got along with him great,” said Sandro Tuccinardi, an academic adviser and colleague of Jordan’s for 4½ years. “He was really my mentor. He had been here so long, he showed

me the ropes.”

Jordan’s influence on students made him one of the more popular counselors on campus. Although they were shocked by the news, they understood why he turned himself in.

“He was a cool dude. He was always laid back and about his job,” said Prince Logan, an 18-year-old business student from Ypsilanti. “It’s good that he turned himself in, but if he got away with it for so long, I don’t know why he did. It’s funny, I went to go see him last week and he wasn’t there. Now I know it’s because he’s in jail.”

Jordan has said that the reason he came forward was because he wanted to set a good example for his two sons and take responsibility for his actions. That example was not lost on students at the college familiar with the story.

“You can’t always hold people accountable for the things they have done in the past. He made up for it in his job helping people here. You can’t judge people on things like that,” said Anna Olsson, 17, a culinary arts major from Ypsilanti.

One of Olsson’s fellow culinary arts students felt the same way, but understands the other side of the argument.

“People do things with a good reason, even if goes back that far. Sometimes you can make a wrong a right. If he helped that many people out, then that counts for something,” said Hannah Stadelman, 18, of Ann Arbor. “Maybe back then he had some personal things going on, but you can never really know. But I can see how some people



Jordan enters the courthouse on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011.

can feel like they were lied to. Some may feel betrayed.”

Others on campus were not so forgiving of Jordan’s transgressions.

“What’s wrong is wrong. You can’t do something that long ago and skate by and not have it come back to you. If you hurt someone, you hurt someone. Whether you stole \$10 or \$1,000, you still stole something,” said an employee of the college of who asked not to be named. “I don’t know (referring to whether or not turning himself in makes a difference). Ask the families of the police department on whether they think that makes a difference or not. Some people around here thought he was a nice guy, but if you talk to other people, they’ll tell you that he was rude. He walked around here like he was above the law. When he became a boss, it was worse. You can’t expect something that long ago

to not come back and catch up with you.”

Meanwhile, administrators have declined comment, sending all inquiries through the public relations department. Janet Hawkins, the associate director of public affairs, said the college had no prior knowledge of Jordan’s past and that he did not give a reason for quitting his job when he resigned.

Authorities were also seeking Bridgeforth in connection with the murder of a San Francisco police officer in 1971. Authorities believed that Bridgeforth was the getaway driver in the murder. Guidotti said those charges were going to be dropped.

Bridgeforth was relieved that the murder case was dismissed, but was scared of what he faces for the assault charge, according to Harris.

Ben Solis contributed to this report.

## Cole Jordan: ‘I have an opportunity to heal my family’

To the WCC Community:

I would like to apologize to the Washtenaw Community College community for bringing this unwanted attention to the college. I would have done almost anything to spare you the spotlight that may have distracted from the college’s mission.

I cannot change the past. I can only influence the future. I have made mistakes in my life, and am now attempting to right those wrongs.

I want to thank all the people who have offered their support and understanding to my family and I. We are overwhelmed with emotion and gratitude. Words cannot convey our appreciation. It is truly humbling to know that we are not alone.

I love the college and what it represents. Retired WCC president, Dr. Myran often said, “WCC is democracy’s college in Washtenaw County”. For me WCC symbolizes an important part of the dream that is America.

When I came to WCC in 1978, I had little education, few skills, no job, and a young family. The college gave us the opportunity to take care of our family, to learn and to be of service. For me education became a sturdy ladder to achieve a meaningful life.

As a nineteen-year-old Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee Field Secretary in Mississippi, I found my purpose in life. In the words so popular in the 1960’s: serve the people. During my time at WCC, my definition of the people expanded to include anyone who was in need of help.

A number of people have asked me, why I have chosen to return now. There is not a single or simple answer. However, I can say this. My reckless actions on that terrible night in 1968 have left my family fractured. The only way for me to heal those wounds was for me to return, stand before the court, and pay my debt to the people of California.

While we do not know what is going to happen now, we are at relative peace. There have been only a few times in my life when the way forward was clear and certain. This is one of those times.

We know that what lies ahead is daunting. However, from my perspective, it is also a privilege. I am a man who is a father, a husband, a son and a brother, and in this moment, I have an opportunity to heal my family and do what is right.

—Cole Jordan/Ronald Bridgeforth

ASSAULT FROM FRONT PAGE

system only allows so many characters,” Hardy said. “We acted on the side of caution. We didn’t have enough information, but we wanted to make sure folks got the information as soon as possible.”

Hardy plans to employ broadcast emails in the future to alert students of non-pressing crimes so that future hysteria can be avoided.

“The WCC crime alert email will be sent out to all students and staff whenever there is a crime not requiring immediate attention,” he said.

But emails don’t cure darkness. Hoff, 40, of South Lyon, remains fearful of impending danger in the school’s sprawling parking lot, following nightfall.

“Sometimes I’ve seen things in the parking lot that scare me,” Hoff said. “They need more visibility in the lot. More of a presence. And they need to revamp communication.”

Desrosiers is on board, and he advises students to keep their eyes peeled for potential safety concerns, a tactic utilized by his department as well.

“Prevent yourself from becoming the victim by looking around and being aware of your surroundings,” Desrosiers said. “It’s just common sense. Stuff you’d use in a mall. Right now, we’re trying to ramp up

visibility.”

Using the 150 security cameras in and outside of the school and by increasing signage for emergency phones, Desrosiers believes his crew of 30 employees is enough to safeguard the college’s large student body.

“If you have thousands of people, some of them are going to have issues,” Desrosiers said. “Fortunately it’s a low percentage.”

Linda Blakey, associate vice president of Student Services, encourages that WCC’s campus is harmless and students

need not fear.

“We have a very safe campus,” Blakey said. “If students are nervous about walking to their car, call security and get them to walk you.”

Blakey looks at the assault situation as a good learning experience for the college, as well. In light of the recent concerns, Blakey believes efforts are already in place to better inform students of emergencies and have been hastened.

“We learned a lot from that. It was kind of trial by fire,” Blakey. “If we had to do it again, we’d do it differently. We would not

have sent the alert out. It was a learning experience.”

Blakey acknowledges that the alert system, in the past utilized for school closings and natural disasters, may have been misused in reporting the incident.

“What we have used that alert system for in the past is something you immediately need to know,” Blakey said “We haven’t used it for that type of event before. Because it’s coming on this alert, you’re assuming that you immediately need to respond to it, and that was not the case.”



JARED ANGLE THE WASHTENAW VOICE

One of the campus safety vehicles that patrols the campus and parking lots every night.

STUDENT POLITICS FROM FRONT PAGE

volunteers. At the office’s open house on Nov. 6, a large group of supporters of all ages arrived to talk with campaign organizers and sign up as volunteers while listening to a speech by Rep. John Dingell, a Dearborn Democrat.

Engaging students, especially minorities, is a crucial step in organizing campaign support at the grassroots level, said Garrett Arwa, 30. Serving as the state director in Michigan for the Obama re-election campaign, Arwa stressed the importance of giving back to students, including reforming the student loan system and putting more money into Pell grants.

Student engagement is an important focus for Clark Pettig, 30, Michigan press secretary for the Obama campaign. Pettig said that 300,000 Michigan youths were too young to vote in 2008, but are now registered. Securing the support of these voters is key, he said. The other priority is to get unregistered people registered to

vote, he added.

While officials like Pettig and Arwa direct the campaign from a higher level, hundreds of students in Michigan are taking part in the grunt work for the Obama and Paul campaigns – calling voters, canvassing neighborhoods and holding fundraisers. University of Michigan freshman Pavitra Abraham, 18, of Farmington Hills, works from the Obama campaign office with two things in mind – getting Obama re-elected and fighting for minority rights.

“Obama paved the way for young people to get involved,” Abraham said.

WCC political science student Don Crawford takes part in the campaign’s phone call efforts, cooperating with the College Democrats at the University of Michigan, reaching roughly 1,000 voters every two weeks. Crawford says that the current focus is to work with Obama’s core supporters and youth, while working to attract older voters over the next several months.



JARED ANGLE THE WASHTENAW VOICE

A large group of Ron Paul supporters swarm the candidate entrance at the Nov. 9 Republican debate at Oakland University in Rochester.



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MANCHESTER – For more than six months, Kellie Gutschang has been working with Sasha Farm, the largest Midwest farm sanctuary dedicated to housing and caring for farm animals. She’s bringing her experiences to the classroom.

An Internet Professional instructor, Gutschang, of Ann Arbor, developed the idea of the Digital Media Arts foundry to help Washtenaw Community College students in photography, animation, video, graphic design and Internet Professional programs to complete real-world work for the non-profit farm. They are rebranding and redeveloping marketing materials for Sasha Farms. In Gutschang’s words, “as a way to give back while making grades.”

So far this semester, Gutschang’s User Experience II class has written an export review and a usability document for its website in preparation for the Internet Professional class to redesign the site.

“They were looking for better ways to get donations in through their site rather than through print media,” she said. “Next term, we’re going to have our INP student code the site and program the interactivity.”

For Amanda Hitt, 36, of Manchester, operations manager, all of this means updated

photos of the farm, short videos of the animals and their stories and a redesign of the website and new marketing materials.

WCC students are all contributing to the overhaul.

“Now is the time for us to do this because there is a bigger awareness in the general culture of veganism and farm animal cruelty,” Hitt said. “We’re sort of at an awkward period due to still having the donor base of a small organization, but the needs of a bigger one.”

WCC photography instructor Don Werthmann, of Ann Arbor, has already embarked on a trip to the farm with 14 Advanced Studio Techniques students to photograph the animals and the farm for the marketing and website material.

He looks at this experience as a way to embrace new problems in an environment that is uncontrolled rather than learning just from the studio.

“A lot of assignments I give, they’re driven more by tools, techniques, process and the personal vision,” he said. “We can produce a lot of photographs that are driven more towards one’s personal interpretation, but rarely does

WCC students pool talents to



Non-profit sanctuary for animals creates real-world opportunities

ANNA FUQUA-SMITH  
Staff Writer

PHOTOS BY BENJAMIN LOPEZ  
Staff Photographer

this class get a context where there’s a potential client.”

To Werthmann, this opportunity is a game-changer and presents several problems for the student.

“When I presented this to the class, a lot of students we’re looking to me with all of these questions,” Werthmann said. “My answer: I don’t know. Let’s figure that out as we go.”

Students have been embracing the project in both departments so far.

Mark Hutchinson, 21, of Ypsilanti, believes that if this project wasn’t proposed, he wouldn’t have come to this location otherwise.

“You have no control over anything. It’s a matter of working with what you have and just basically going with the flow,” Hutchinson, a Photography major said. “As opposed to the studio, you can control everything. There’s no worry about cloud or direct sunlight.”

And while the environment presents problems that the student must figure out, Hutchinson embraces WCC’s support of local Michigan.

“A lot of bigger art schools have internships and this is WCC’s way of doing the same

thing, working with people that we would never work with before,” he said. “It’s a really new and cool situation.”

The farm is nestled on 75 acres and has been a non-profit organization for 11 years. Sasha Farms is not supported by larger organizations, and all money donated is strictly from individuals passionate about the cause.

Hitt believes that WCC’s involvement of the rebranding will allow for Sasha Farms to expand in areas necessary to grow both its donor and support bases.

“Right now, there’s a big disparity in the law that protects dogs and cats and the law that protects livestock,” Hitt said. “Our goal is to make sure that people understand that animals are all the same, and since we are the only farm sanctuary in the area, we need the expansion.”

Werthmann and Gutschang admit to never doing something like this in their classes, they only hope to continue in the direction of giving back to non-profits in Washtenaw County.

“This is a bit of experiment, and we want to perpetuate this and take it to another level,” Werthmann said. “It’s going to be fun to watch this place change over the winter and deteriorate and it’s just going to present more problems that my class has the opportunity to solve.”



Top, a goat nibbles on Torrence Allison’s shirt while he is occupied with setting up a shot. Torrence is one of the Advanced Studio Techniques students taking photographs for marketing and web site material for Sasha Farm under instructor Don Werthmann.

Left, two chickens wander around the farm.

Right, Mark Hutchinson, 21, of Ypsilanti, photographs a small goat.



# INTERNATIONAL AEROSPACE COMPANY CREATES JOBS in Saline – by way of Germany

**BEN SOLIS**  
*Managing Editor*

While many American cities struggle to make a comeback from a devastating recession, residents in Saline have barely noticed the difference.

“We’ve been lucky,” said Larry Osterling, executive director of the Saline Area Chamber of Commerce. “We have the most hi-tech jobs and employment. We haven’t been affected as adversely as other Michigan cities.”

The jobs are local, some right in Saline citizens’ own back yards. The most prolific company hiring American workers isn’t even homegrown – it’s German.

Since the early 2000s, Saline has been home to Liebherr, a

German-based aircraft, ground moving, and

gear technologies components manufacturer that has been creating those hi-tech jobs and employing local residents in the process.

Back in 2006, Liebherr was approved to expand on its 67,000-square-foot facility in Saline by another 33,000 square feet. In 2008, the company acquired another 54 acres worth of land.

Last summer, Alex Vlilander, president of Liebherr Aerospace Saline, and his crew decided that another 33,000-square-foot facility was needed to meet the demand of high product output, due in part to federal servicing requirements for all airplane components.

“We service about 900-1,000 components a month,” Vlilander said. “We do a total of about 11,000 servicing’s a year.”

Liebherr’s international factories, based in Lindenberg, Germany, and Colmar, France, create and manufacture the components. When the components break down, or reach a set time for servicing – meaning repairs and general maintenance – the parts are shipped directly to Saline. “If you look at most

of the landing gear on planes,” Osterling said, “the majority of them have most likely been through Saline for repairs.”

Construction workers broke ground on Liebherr’s new facility a month ago, and with weather and other complications in mind, the repair shop should be fully functional by April. The new addition will be only for servicing and repairing large landing gear components and fixtures.

With that date in mind, Liebherr will begin hiring a total of 15-20 new certified mechanics to work on parts as early as March.

“We will only be hiring mechanics,” Vlilander said. “This is for a very specific type of work, which is landing gear work. By definition they are fairly big components, so we will need the space to move them around with overhead cranes.”

While these new openings sound like a boundless opportunity for the everyday mechanic, the type of employees Vlilander is looking for is limited to specific sets of skills and knowledge bases.

“Typically, more than 80 percent of the people that we employ as technicians are aircraft mechanics,” Vlilander said. “If we find a good mechanic with a very solid background in electronics or any other type of servicing industry,

we will hire them. But our preference is to have someone who has been through FAA, Federal Aviation Authority, training so we know that they understand regulation type training.”

Among the key places Vlilander finds his aerospace gear-heads are the Michigan Institute of Aeronautics, in Canton, and from aerospace technician courses taught at Willow Run Airport.

Vlilander’s company prerequisites not only highlight the need for specialization in terms of education, but the diversifying of a student’s skill set, according to Washtenaw Community College student Kevin Aldrich, 25, from Ann Arbor.

“If you don’t sit and do it as a hobby, you’re screwed,” Aldrich said, who is working toward his associates in applied mechanics and a Master Automotive certificate. “You have to be

a wannabe mad scientist. Grease monkeys are a dime a dozen. Scientist grease monkeys, not so much.”

Having an international company hiring local workers and keeping them here is a feat of business that Osterling is immensely proud of. “They have an excellent community footprint, and we appreciate that they are here,” Osterling said.

Yet even with such growth, Osterling did say he wished more local American companies would follow suit. “We would like to see local ownership do that,” he said. “It doesn’t influence as much without that. We’d rather not see the local plants close.”

While local businesses have closed, Osterling was optimistic with the recent upturn in the local economy, which Liebherr has been a part of. Part of Liebherr’s success, Vlilander said, is because of Saline’s increasingly pro-business attitude.

“This is an interesting

## FLIGHT LOG:

Liebherr has two main, international manufacturing plants – one in Lindenberg, Germany and the other in Colmar, France.

Liebherr Saline repairs and performs maintenance on a majority of the aerospace industry’s various parts and components – a total of 1,000 components a month and around 11,000 components a year.

Liebherr is an international leader in ground moving equipment, gear technologies and aerospace components.

With a new landing gear repair shop under construction, Liebherr is looking to hire 15-20 new certified aircraft mechanics or those mechanics well versed in hi-tech electronics and manufacturing.

Saline and Liebherr’s native Lindenberg are sister cities, and share a cultural identity through social gatherings, events and educational exchange programs.

LIEBHERR CONTINUED B5

# Putting lipstick on a pig

*And the pig wins when WCC earns ‘sweetest car’ tag by Motor Trend*

**ANNA FUQUA-SMITH**  
*Staff Writer*

What started out as a joke and an immense challenge for Gary Sobbry and his Washtenaw Community College automotive technologies students – fixing up a totaled car – earned the highest praise from a leading trade magazine at a Las Vegas convention this month.

“Ford wanted a four-door car that got the younger generation interested,” Sobbry said. “We jokingly said that a Ford 500 is not sexy in the eyes of America, but that we could cut it up and make a Ford 500 appealing.”

And they did. WCC’s version of the vehicle, a formerly wrecked Ford Five Hundred that transformed in the tantalizing vehicle the students had worked on for more than a year was ranked as one of Ford’s “8 Sweetest Vehicles” by Motor Trend at the Specialty

Equipment Market Association convention.

Christian Seabaugh of Motor Trend admitted to judging a book by its cover in the car-judging process of the convention.

“While the ridiculous red and black paint job is what initially drew us to the Five Hundred GT-R, what got us drooling was its power plant,” Seabaugh wrote on Motor Trend’s website. “The Five Hundred GT-R is powered by a 5.4-litre supercharged V-8, just like the GT.”

It’s pretty much what Sobbry, of Dexter, had in mind when he suggested that WCC take on the project. Sobbry never imagined Ford would take him seriously because he thought there would be no way the company would donate a rare Ford GT to the college.

But it did. Ford challenged Sobbry and 40 students to finess the vehicle and offered to pay for all parts and materials.

The result: Stunning to look at, and unimaginably powerful from behind the wheel. It’s what WCC students do, and the college has a trophy case to prove it.

David Storch, 25, a lab assistant in vocational technology at WCC, of Walled Lake, has always been amazed at the college’s prolific involvement with the convention.

“The school has been taking cars there even before I started here,” Storch said. “For a community college to be in that and presenting a vehicle donated by Ford, it’s huge, especially getting the award and also the awareness we get from everybody already working in the industry.”

“There were thousands of cars being judged in several different categories,” Storch said. Our car was featured as a Ford featured car so it was displayed in the hallway where it would be most seen.”

The SEMA convention is

held annually for manufacturers, distributors, retailers, publishing companies, auto restorers, street rod builders, re-stylers, car clubs and race teams to provide an opportunity to show off new products or vehicles produced yearly.

Automotive instructor, Mike Duff of Canton, credits events like SEMA for educating students in all areas of his field.

“The automotive industry entails a lot of other aspects rather than just fixing a grocery-getter every-day car,” he said. “We want to show our students the whole spectrum of the system so they can go wherever they want.”

And while the Ford Five Hundred was originally wrecked in a 2008 accident on its way to WCC following the Woodward Dream Cruise, Sobbry was willing to rise to Ford’s challenge once more and build “a family trickster” with

FORD 500 CONTINUED B5

# Hitchin’ a ride

*A taxi service for those in need from preschool to middle college*



COURTESY PHOTO KIDS KRUISER

Left, Santonya Thomas, driver for Kids Kruiser, LLC. Right, Angela McCommons, owner of the company standing in front of their van.

**ALLIE TOMASON**  
*Staff Writer*

Satonya Thomas saw a curious thing as she was dropping her twin boys off at school: a purple minivan with Kid Kruiser painted on the side. Thomas, 40, a school bus driver from Ann Arbor, was intrigued. She was pleased with what she found.

“I loved that this was a kid’s service,” Thomas said.

Indeed, Kid Kruiser is a service for children, a taxi service, catering to the transportation needs of children with on-the-go parents.

“I have been in business for about six months now, though I have been offering this service to friends and neighbors for about a year,” said Angela McCommons, president of Kid Kruiser, LLC.

As a parent herself, McCommons assessed her own needs and talked to other parents and friends to find out if this was a service they would pay to use. What she found out: yes, they would.

As a result, McCommons services more than 50 families with 2-5 children as young as 3 years old. That may seem surprisingly young, but McCommons says that all of her drivers have stringent requirements to meet. Drivers must obtain first aid and CPR

certification, pass a drug screen, maintain a clean driving record (submitted biannually), have a minimum of two years experience working with children, and gain central clearance through the Department of Human Services (essentially, for background checks).

In order to use the Kid Kruiser services there is a registration process and parents must attend a meeting.

“We don’t feel good about just showing up and not having a meeting,” McCommons said. “And we don’t just pick up random children.”

Service is based on availability, so there are no contracts in place, but week-to-week schedules are considered.

Currently McCommons employs three drivers at \$2 per mile, with a \$2 fuel surcharge per ride. She says her service is 50 cents below Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti cab fare rates.

McCommons predicts that the trend for growth in her business will rise as the menacing economic crisis forces parents to work more furiously than ever to keep up.

“Parents just don’t have the flexibility that they used to,” McCommons said. “We’re gonna grow at a careful and steady pace.”

And by the looks of it, she

KIDS KRUISER CONTINUED B5



COURTESY PHOTO AUTO BODY REPAIR PROGRAM

The Ford Five Hundred GT-R finished at the Specialty Equipment Market Association in Las Vegas.



# Singer Abraham wins ‘best-ever’ WCC Talent Show



BOB CONRADI THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Delphine Abraham & The Pips (Casey and Chantel Campbell) sang “Neither One of Us” by Gladys Knight & The Pips to win the annual show.

**JAEL GARDINER**  
Staff Writer

Despite having almost lost their voices in the last week, Dillon Brown and Jay Lee still rocked the stage at Washtenaw Community College’s Talent Show. Although their rap performance didn’t win, they still loved the response that they got from the audience.

At first the pair wasn’t sure if they would be able to perform, because they didn’t know about the auditions in time. Lee, 24, a music and audio engineering student from Ann Arbor, asked to audition late and was able to perform among the 23 acts in the Nov. 17 show.

“I’ve been waiting for this for weeks, I’m really excited,” Lee said.

Brown, a Cass Technical High School student from Detroit, was just worried about his voice.

“I was really nervous at first, because my voice wasn’t 100 percent,” Brown said. “But I gave it my everything, and the crowd was really receptive.”

The Towsley Auditorium in the ML building was filled with spectators at the Talent Show that started at 6 p.m. Despite being late on a Thursday night, the audience stayed until the show ended at around 9:30 p.m., keeping their cheering and excitement all the way

through to the last act of the night. WCC President Rose Bellanca, one of the judges, said that she loved the performances and the students were fabulous. Another judge was Princeton Dudley, a WCC graduate who has gone on to work with companies such as Speedway Gas Stations and Universal Music Group.

“This is my third year judging. I actually came back from California last year to judge,” Dudley said. “This is where I got my start. Rachel Barsch opened up the door for me. There was a jazz band last year that was amazing. There was a metal band that played here last time; they were some of the most

talented musicians I’ve met.”

The winner was Delphine Abraham for singing, along with her nieces, “Neither One of Us” by Gladys Knight & The Pips. This was Abraham’s last year at WCC, but she was happy to perform and support the school again. She finished third in last year’s competition.

Dominique Mathews came in second place for her recital of original poetry, and Morgan Foreman came in third place for her modern dance performance.

There were acts such as pieces played on piano and drums, dancing and singing. Dance groups, Patchwerk and Maverick Crew performed.

“I liked it when I was in the

middle,” said Bernard William, 21, a graphic design student and Maverick Crew dancer from Ann Arbor. “I was in the spotlight.”

The audience enjoyed cheering on its favorite acts.

“It’s really fun. I saw Nicole Barley in the Talent Show, she was here again from last year,” said Lena Harbali, 17, a secondary education student from Ann Arbor. “My favorite act was the poet.”

One girl both danced with a dance crew and performed a song she wrote and played on the guitar. Kate Sizemore, 21, a liberal arts student from Saline, has watched the talent show for several years before she got

involved with it.

“I prefer dancing. For me, dancing is my passion,” Sizemore said. “I’m involved with two dance crews, but I only danced with one. This show was really great; the last few years have been amazing.”

According to Rachel Barsch, Student Activities events coordinator, it took a lot of work to get the show going, but in the end, it came together well. She also said that the event was supposed to last three hours, but it had ended up going over.

“It took hours, probably close to 50 hours of work,” said Barsch. “I think it was a success, it’s my favorite event of the year.”

# Dexter Buck Pole draws deer, spectators on Opening Day

*Photos and words by*  
**BOB CONRADI**  
Staff Writer

DEXTER – A half-dozen deer carcasses hung from a pole here on Main Street. For the Ross brothers, and one son, this was a place for a family reunion. Joe Ross drove down from Cadillac to see Southern Michigan bucks on opening day. Tom Ross delayed his annual migration to Southern California to meet at the pole.

Tom’s son, Mark, was also

with the group. He recently retired with the rank of colonel from the U.S. Air Force, where he flew various aircraft including Air Force 2, the plane carrying the vice president. He also served in Iraq and Afghanistan. He took time out from working on his retirement home on a small farm in northern Ohio to join his father and uncles at the pole.

The Dexter buck pole draws men and women of all ages. They come to admire the majestic animals, remark on their racks,

discuss hunting tactics – or just hangout. It is a November tradition in places all over Michigan during the opening week of deer season.

The Mill Creek Sport Center in Dexter hosts what is possibly the only buck pole in Washtenaw County. Hunters who take bucks locally bring their trophies to Mill Creek. Workers there hoist the bucks up the pole suspended by their antlers. For gawkers, it is a chance to see prize bucks; for hunters, it is about bragging rights.

The six bucks were slim pickings compared to other years. Glen Bolling, a gunsmith at Mill Creek for 22 years, said that the warm weather was to blame. He said this was the third-warmest deer season since he started working there. Warm weather can reduce deer activity, causing hunters to see fewer bucks. It also reduces a hunter’s desire to hang their deer out for viewing.

One buck, an 8-point, was shot by Alicia Kloczek, 17, of Dexter, who skipped early classes at Dexter High School on

opening day so she could hunt. She restored the good graces of her biology teacher by bringing in the heart of her buck for class study. Her proud dad called her, “the most accurate shooter I know.”

A smaller button buck, one lacking antlers, was brought in by Joey Ferullo, aged 10, of Ypsilanti. It was his first.

Both Alicia and Joey had brought their bucks in earlier in the day, but came back in the evening to enjoy the spectacle and bask in the glory.

The buck parade did not stop. By 8 p.m., the six bucks had grown to 14. Some of the later arrivals were among the largest.

Dave Vetican, 62, of Gaylord, brought in a 10-point. While most Southern Michigan hunters head to deer camps up north, Vetican goes south where he

says the deer grow bigger. For years he has been traveling south for Opening Day to his mother-in-law’s Washtenaw County farm. He planned to hunt again the next day with his teenage daughter to help her get her buck.

Other harvesters of big bucks included Joe LoBello, 56, of Chelsea, and Patrick Wheeler, 44, of Redford. Both bucks had impressive racks.

Around dusk, only occasional visitors were stopping to see the bucks. By 7:30 p.m. there were perhaps a hundred onlookers, and the gathering took on a festive quality.

Are buck poles in Michigan a big deal? Even in the southern Lower Peninsula? You betcha!

Check out more photos from the Dexter Buck pole online at <http://washtenawvoice.com>.



The Ross family had a reunion at the Dexter Buck Pole. They are, from left, Mark, John, Tom and Joe. Mark is the son of Tom. The other three are brothers.



Joey Ferullo, 10, from Ypsilanti, shot his first deer, a button buck, on opening day of deer season and displayed it at the Dexter Buck Pole.



# The four best kept secrets on campus

For struggling students, case workers at the Student Resource and Women’s Center are here for you

ADRIAN HEDDEN  
Features Editor

Wealthy or not, if you're a Washtenaw Community College student, Elisabeth Orbits can help you.



ORBITS

The manager of the Student Resource and Women’s Center urges students from all backgrounds to seek help, if needed, regardless of their financial situation. “We see students at all socio-economic classes,” Orbits said. “Our main goal is to help all students stay successful, but we are particularly sensitive to non-traditional students.”

From merely signing timesheets to aggressively lobbying school administrators for funding, Orbits has been pleased at WCC’s support of her department and its constituents.

“The college is very generous. Our community is very generous,” Orbits said. “The administration is very student-centered.”

Aiding in the plight of those students who did not continue their educations after high school, Orbits and the SRWC have seen and assisted single-parent students, displaced home owners, workers in transition, and first-generation students, along with students experiencing a multitude of economic disadvantages.

“We provide case managers to help students negotiate the system,” Orbits said. “We offer access to federal financial aid, scholarships and other learning support services so that successful students stay that way.”

Referring to just a couple examples of useful seminars provided by the center, Orbits is confident that any obstacle between her students and their education will be taken care of.

“We offer test anxiety workshops, and a vocational series for those seeking employment,” she said. “We will address whatever might interfere with their success in class.”

Orbits urges those interested to fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Although federal assistance is not required to take advantage of the SRWC, FAFSA application is required.

The SRWC usually works by appointment, but Orbits asks students to call or stop by the front desk for more information at any time.

“We strongly believe in education,” Orbits said. “It’s the only way out of poverty.”

A PERFECT FIT

Cheryl Finley has never doubted her place at Washtenaw Community College.



FINLEY

When Finley saw a classified ad for an advising position at WCC, the Detroit resident, convinced from the start that it was the best place for her, leapt at it.

“I just answered an ad in the local newspaper,” Finley said. “At the time, it was perfect.”

Finley looked forward to working with students to help them rise above their struggles for success.

“It was academic advising, it was working with students who

had barriers to reaching their educational goals,” Finley said. “And it was in a Women’s Center. So I thought, ‘this sounds exciting.’”

Knowing how much it can help students, Finley urges students to approach the SRWC right away for access to all the resources it has to offer.

“I think it’s really a hidden gem on campus,” Finley said. “I know how it may be difficult and you may not want to go and ask for help. But if you don’t go ask for help, you can’t get help.”

Along with the typical caseload, Finley coordinates the Off Campus Child-Care Grant and hosts programs for domestic violence and abuse awareness, breast-cancer awareness and sexual-assault programs. Finley hopes to start a healthy lifestyles program for next year, hopefully including massage therapy and talks from nutrition experts.

“It’ll try and help students have balance between school, work, family,” Finley said. “We have that on the calendar, but we’re really not sure how we’re going to approach it.”

STEERING STUDENTS TOWARD SUCCESS

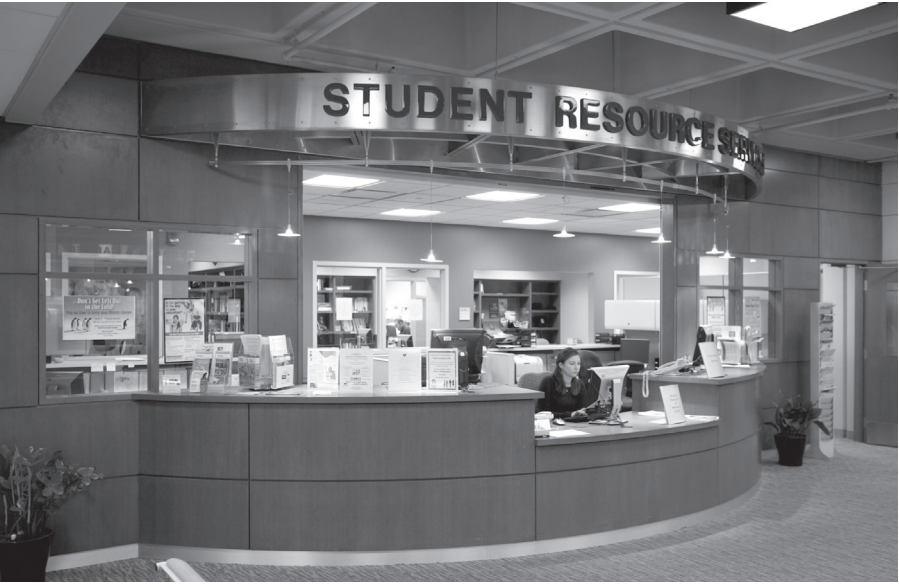
Face to face is the best way for Eleanor Brundage to do her job.



BRUNDAGE

Sitting across her desk from students on a daily basis, Brundage, a SRWC counselor, helps them navigate their paths at WCC in a system that is ever-changing.

“We offer one-on-one intensive attention,” she



JARED ANGLE THE WASHTENAW VOICE

The SRWC is located on the second floor of the Student Center.

said. “Minimally, we hope to see our students about twice a semester.”

In dealing with students, Brundage endeavors to plot a student’s academic path at Washtenaw, seeing education as her main agenda.

“We help students develop a really solid educational plan because that’s our focus,” Brundage said. “They’ll be successful.”

With annual alterations to the rules confusing many students, Brundage anticipates conducting her students through an often-puzzling system.

“I try to get them to meet with all the new rules and regulations and policies,” Brundage said, “because they’re constantly changing.”

Aside from her students, Brundage coordinates the Carl Perkins Grant, which provides funding for working students in need of rent, supplies and even childcare. The grant helps those suffering at the hands of the job market, she said.

“It really works well for workers in transition,” Brundage said. “People who may have been laid off, unemployed, or have a degree – that doesn’t make sense.”

To be loan-eligible for the Carl Perkins Grant, students looking for a change must already have finished a degree.

On campus, Brundage has been working to establish an Alcoholics Anonymous group as

well as an Al-Anon program for families of addicts. She is also coordinating “Friends of Bill W.,” a substance-abuse panel currently meeting on campus weekly.

Brundage also is committed to helping students suffering from depression.

“Our students fall into the age group that is most susceptible to depression,” she said. “There are a lot of variables.”

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Leslie Neal is on the prowl.



NEAL

Neal, a case manager at the SRWC, has been heading up the school’s mentoring program for the past three years.

“I go out and do recruiting for the program,” Neal said. “I also have help from funding from the Women’s Council here on campus. They’re great with finding us mentors in the community.”

Initially started with one-on-one counseling,

Neal’s program was not gaining the publicity it needed to flourish. Converting to larger discussions that are now held in a bigger lecture room in LA 275, Neal is proud of a very accommodating student-mentor ratio.

“We have about 10-12 mentors in our discussions per about 25-26 students,” Neal said. “That’s what our goal is. The mentors seem a lot more apt to talk during a big event.”

After the initial, large-group discussion, mentors provide times for students to meet in smaller groups for lunch meetings, conference calls and job shadowing. Neal wishes for students to use this chance to begin building a rapport with those in a desired field of employment.

“From that point forward, it can kinda bridge networking opportunities and start to build a relationship,” Neal said. “We hope it takes off.”

Success for the mentoring program has been largely dependent on instructor referrals. Neal encourages teachers to point students in her direction.

“We’re finding students through faculty and advisers, and students who show interest,” Neal said. “They have to be already taking some of the core classes in the program. They have to think that this is really what they want to do.”

## Application deadline approaches for SRWC grants

ANNA POTTER  
Contributor

The clock is ticking for students seeking assistance next semester, as the Nov. 28 grant-application deadline for the Student Resource and Women’s Center quickly approaches.

SRWC Case Manager Elisabeth Orbits said that there are about five grants available, funding tuition, books and childcare.

“Childcare,” Orbits said, “that’s the biggest one. It’s a huge barrier for low-income parents that could prevent them from going to school.”

Rather than trying to determine eligibility on their own, Orbits suggests that students seeking assistance should make an appointment, go in, and complete an intake.

“You’ll sit down with a case manager and you’ll talk about any issues that might prevent you from being successful here at the college,” Orbits said. “Then we create a file for each student and they stay with that case manager.”

According to Health Care Foundations major Michelle B., 68, even if you aren’t eligible for grant funding, the center “can guide you to helpful resources.” Michelle (who asked that her last name not be used) is thankful for the center’s “help, confidentiality and respect,” and for reminding struggling students that they’re not alone.

“There’s always help,” Michelle said. “Just ask!”

According to Orbits, the SRWC averages about 200 students per case manager and they get booked up quickly around the deadline.

“If you call and there are no appointments left, just come anyway and fill out an intake,” Orbits said. “If it’s before the funding deadline, I’ll take a look at it and see if there’s eligibility for you if you’re looking for funding. We have different pots of money, so I’d encourage students not to limit themselves.”

To make an appointment, or for more information, contact the Student Resource and Women’s Center, phone (734) 667-5105.

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\* must also be enrolled in at least 3 WCC credits for winter semester

Washtenaw Community College



# Record turnout for tryouts results into two Club Sports men’s basketball team

ANNA FUQUA-SMITH  
Staff Writer

His teammates call him “Dr. White Chocolate” on the court. Off the court, he’s Kenny Grimm. The 41-year-old Ann Arbor resident will now represent Washtenaw Community College on one of its two men’s club basketball teams.

An astounding 48 students attended both practices held on Nov. 2 and Nov. 5, forcing Club Sports to form a second men’s team to give everyone a chance to compete.

For Grimm, a liberal arts major, to be selected when he didn’t even think he had the

second chance to play is nothing short of amazing – at least for him.

“I was just glad I showed up, and making it was a surprise,” he said. “Being selected to be an ambassador to your school out of 48 people after not playing for so long is an honor.”

Men’s basketball coach Michael Mosley looks at it as a challenge worth embracing.

“I think it gives more of a realistic look to Club Sports being more competitive and more than just drop-in,” Mosley said. “It’s comparable to a varsity and junior varsity team and gives players the opportunity to advance.”



**BENJIMAN LOPEZ** THE WASHTENAW VOICE  
Bruce Williams, right, 32, of Detroit, an automotive engineering major attempts to make a shot while another player blocks.



**BENIJAMIN LOPEZ** THE WASHTENAW VOICE  
E’Sean Hogan, left, attempts to block Deron Wilson, right, from dribbling the basketball.

And while a new coach will be added to Club Sports before the first game on Dec. 4, Mosley has already had to act quickly to revise a practice that accommodated so many players.

“I’ve done this before, so I’m used to the dynamics,” he said. “The plus side is it poses opportunities and gives Team A someone to practice with inside the college.”

Club Sports Coordinator Erica Lemm said forming two teams is right in line with her idea of always having a place for students to compete if they’re willing and eligible.

“Another reason there are two teams is because

some students that came to tryouts are not current students so they cannot play until January,” she said. “I wanted to have extra spots for these students and can make changes to the roster on Jan. 21.”

While budget was of concern as to whether or not Club Sports could afford two men’s teams, Lemm had already done her homework in that department.

“For most sports, they run two seasons typically played in the fall and the spring,” she said. “For basketball, the season runs from December to March so it was easy to find the money because I budget two seasons for each sport.”

While Team A has 12 players on the roster and Team B has eight on its roster, the new coach, when hired, can make changes and additions to the roster in January.

Players can move from Team B to Team A if interested. A tryout would be conducted if Team A had space on its roster.

“We’ve already done it with one person and it can be done again,” Mosley said.

In the Ann Arbor Rec and Ed league, Team A will compete in the B division and Team B will compete in the C Division. The difference in competition is minimal, but Lemm also didn’t want both

teams competing with each other.

“By having them compete in different divisions, they will compete on different days in the week,” she said. “I’m hoping this will create a support amongst all three basketball teams (men’s and women’s).”

Business major, E’ Sean Hogan, 19, of Ypsilanti admits to being out of shape, but welcomed the opportunity to compete.

“I was on the freeway when I got the news and literally got out of my car and put my hands in the air,” he said. “I was that excited.”

## WCC student enjoys sports, life outside of Germany

ANNA FUQUA-SMITH  
Staff Writer

When you first observe Johannes Boehme doing his thing on the volleyball court, he appears intense to the point of intimidation while having fun and making friends.

The casual observer would never suspect that Boehme is living in a strange land without the support of his family or friends across the Atlantic Ocean.

A business major, Boehme, 22, of Gera, Germany was selected to participate in a year-long exchange program called the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals. Boehme

is one of 75 German scholarship recipients spread throughout the United States. He is at Washtenaw Community College in a program designed to strengthen ties between the younger generations of the two countries.



**BOEHME**

And he’s doing his part.

Not only is Boehme a member of the men’s soccer and volleyball teams, but he is also an official for intramural sports.

Boehme is known to be one of the many frequent players at the Ping-Pong table in the Student Center.

Erica Lemm, Club Sports

**BOEHME** CONTINUED B5

## Ping-Pong popularity spins out of control

ANNA FUQUA-SMITH  
Staff Writer

Saran Naqshbandi is often seen playing Ping-Pong dressed in hijab in the Student Center in between classes like so many others.

The new Ping-Pong drop in sport offers a safe sanctuary to participate in a sport that doesn’t require contact with men. As part of her Muslim religion, a contact sport such as football or wrestling would be deemed inappropriate for the 17-year-old biology major from Ann Arbor – when competing with men who aren’t family.

“Contact with other men would bring feelings up,” Naqshbandi, said. “It is against our belief system and because we’re not used to that kind of

culture, it would change the meaning around.”

Naqshbandi explained that if a Muslim woman is interested in a particular sport, it is certainly embraced by her religion. Sometimes other accommodations must be made to compete.

“For example, I’m in a martial arts class with men and women,” she said. “I’m allowed to compete with the other women and my brother who is also apart of the class.”

Zeinab Aisheemary, 18, of Ann Arbor, a biology and chemistry major, is also seen playing a lot in between classes learning the game because of the set-up of the table.

“My friend and I picked up the paddles and were playing as if it was tennis. We were hitting it back and forth rather

than being gentle and one of the main guys of the table taught us,” Aisheemary said. “I didn’t know how to play until two weeks ago.”

And they are not alone. Sign-up’s for playing are being conducted in between games, and more than 15 people at one time have been seen waiting to get on the table to play.

“From 10 a.m.-5 p.m., it’s literally in use the entire time,” said Erica Lemm, Club Sport coordinator. “It’s very rare to see the table get a break.”

The addition of Ping-Pong is new to Club Sports, and its sudden popularity came as a surprise. While preparing for the Ping-Pong tournament that took place on Nov. 16-17, Lemm brought the old table out from the basement of the Student Center to ensure it was in good

working condition.

“As I wheeled it in,” she said. “Before it was even out of the box, people were surrounding the table wanting to play. It’s exciting.”

Initially, the table was set up directly in front of the Club Sports office with half of it taking up the space in front of The Sweet Spot. It was moved to the sitting area, so students could play and the Club Sports staff could better supervise it.

“For now, the students have been extremely respectful and we haven’t had any issues with how the table is operating,” Lemm said.

Bruce Williams, 32, of Detroit, an automotive engineering major, considers

**PING-PONG** CONTINUED B5



**JARED ANGLE** THE WASHTENAW VOICE  
Students play Ping-Pong in in front of the Club Sports office in the Student Center.

### CLUB SPORTS CALENDAR

#### MEN’S VOLLEYBALL TRYOUTS

When: Dec. 13 and Dec. 15, from 9:30-11 p.m.  
Where: Health and Fitness Center

#### WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL TRYOUTS

When: Dec. 13 and Dec. 15 from 9:30-11 p.m.  
Where: Health and Fitness Center

Registrations for tryouts are conducted in SC 118.

### INTRAMURAL SPORTS CALENDAR

#### ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS

When: Nov. 30 at 1 p.m.  
Registration: None  
Division: Co-rec

### DROP-IN SPORTS

#### PING PONG

When: Monday – Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m



BOEHME FROM B4

coordinator, describes Boehme as multi-talented.

“Johannes is a very intense player. When he’s there, he’s there to play,” she said. “He’s a good role-model talent wise.”

Typically in the exchange program, the students would live with a host-family that could oversee his actions while in the U.S. Instead, Boehme is living in a house with three roommates, all about the same age as him and studying or working in various areas.

“It’s really different, because I am the only one in the program living without a host family,” Boehme said.

He’s enjoying life here. Boehme finds some things that many Americans take seriously, like the Michigan-Ohio State football game and college rivalries in general, rather amusing.

“We don’t have all of these college teams,” he said. “In Germany, everything is in their separate clubs. Schools don’t have teams, and you must go to the city to compete in a club.”

Recently, in preparation to go home, Boehme enrolled in the University of Leipzig and is saddened that he can’t compete on a sports team at school there.

His father, Mirko Boehme, 44, is extremely proud of his son for making it into such a prestigious program.

“I have no fears of him being in America, and wish the best for him,” Mirko said. “I hope he’s found some good friends and created a support base here in the U.S.”

As described by his parents, Boehme has always been an athlete and did well both in sports

and academics.

“I hope when he comes home, he’ll be way more independent,” Mirko said. “In the U.S., he has to take care of his own obligations rather than us, as his parents, mentoring him.”

After the Fall semester, as part of his program, Boehme will have to find a job for the rest of his tenure here, in a concentration related to his major. Unfortunately, he’s facing several challenges, just like most U.S. citizens trying to find work.

“I’m looking for a job now, but not finding anything as of yet,” he said. “I didn’t realize how difficult it was going to be to find a marketing or business position.”

Men’s volleyball coach Doug Tan said Boehme will be missed when he has to leave the team.

“Johannes is instrumental in every aspect of the game, whether it be passing, hitting or serving,” Tan said. “He was probably the best player to try-out when he came to us.”

Lemm will also miss him around the Club Sports office.

“When he comes out to the Ping-Pong table, other students fight for him to be on their team,” she said.

Despite losing an essential player next semester, Tan but is looking forward to being a fellow teammate with Boehme in a recreational league in Ann Arbor.

“Doug has always joked with him on the court that if the situation gets too intense, to say his words in German,” Lemm said. “He’s a funny guy and is always encouraging of the young guys on the court who haven’t played organized volleyball.”

PING-PONG FROM B4

himself a regular at the table and enforces the rules of signing up and getting waivers from each new player.

“Whenever I’m not in class, I’m here at the table,” he said. “I spend about four hours a day and use it as a de-stress between classes, especially when I have a big test.”

And while the table is here to stay, Linda Jachum-Owczak, Club Sports assistant, emphasized that beginners like Naqshbandi and Aisheemary are always welcome to play.

“Everyone has been terrific sportsmen,” she said. “They don’t care if you’re a beginner, and they’re willing to teach anyone.”

LIEBHERR FROM B1

statistic,” Vllander said. “About 80 percent of the people employed by Liebherr Saline live within 10 miles, so we employ a lot of local people. We’ve benefitted and so have they.”


But Liebherr’s success doesn’t just lie in its job creation and productivity. It creates social ties where it does business, as well. In 2003, Liebherr’s native Lindenberg was added to Saline’s list of sister cities.

“It’s a small town, not unlike Saline, in the fact that it is semi-rural,” said Dick Nehring, a Saline resident who sits on the Board of Trustees for the Saline-Lindenberg sister city program.

The sister city program, created by President Dwight

D. Eisenhower, was a key tool in helping the U.S. curb the spread of the Soviet Union in Eastern and Western Europe. As a cultural exchange partner-

POINT OF VIEW



‘If you don’t sit and do it as a hobby, you’re screwed. You have to be a wannabe mad scientist. Grease monkeys are a dime a dozen. Scientist grease monkeys, not so much.’

**KEVIN ALDRICH**  
25, Ann Arbor, Automotive technologies

ship, the program allows Saline residents to bask in Bavarian culture.

Aside from Saline’s Lindenberg partnership, the city has had a separate sister

for half a century.

“We’ve had the Brecon sister city for 45 years now,” Nehring said.

The city of Brecon, Wales was Saline’s first sister city, a relationship that has thrived since. When looking for a sister city, Nehring said that everything from the size of the foreign city to the geography and way of life are considered before building the partnership.

Those perquisites drive the decision, but that was not the case for Lindenberg.

“Liebherr knew we were looking to find another European city and they suggested Lindenberg,” Nehring said. “So we looked into it and sent a group of five people over there, and they looked to see if it was going to be a good marriage.”

By adding Lindenberg to its

family, the foreign company now has a reason to feel a little more at home.

“There is a connection there outside of just we are a tenant here, we own property and we employ people,” said Vllander. “There is also a co-operation from the city from a social standpoint.”

Aside from making the Germans feel cozy, the partnership opens doors for Americans too.

“There was recently an Oktoberfest, and we had people from the sister city come over,” Vllander said. “We send students every year in a student exchange with Lindenberg. It’s all a cultural exchange, so even music groups will go to Lindenberg and other places in Germany to play. It is a very good cooperation.”

KIDS KRUISER FROM B1

may be right.

Mathnasium Learning Center, in Canton, refers Kid Kruiser to its students as an alternative when transportation issues surface. Rashonda Arnold, 36, an owner of the learning center, said that probably 10 percent of her students use the service.

“I have actually used her service a couple of times myself. My husband and I both work,” McCommons said.

WCC is another frequent stop for the Kid Kruiser. Washtenaw Technical Middle College’s Tyler Freitas, 15, has been a passenger for a couple of months and is looking forward to the next couple.

“It’s nice to be able to get a ride somewhere, instead of waiting in the cold,” Freitas said.

Also looking forward to the next couple of months is Thomas. Remember her? The school bus driver is now a Kid Kruiser driver in training, and she hopes to make the most of a new opportunity.

“Hopefully this will be my full time job,” she said.

For more information go to the Kid Kruiser website: <http://kidskruiser.com>

FORD 500 FROM B1

the motor and suspension of the Ford GT comparable to a Ferrari.

Although opportunities like this present real world challenges to WCC students, Duff looks at this as a double-edged sword for some students.

“It’s a huge commitment on time to build a car like that,” Duff said, adding that someone

like NASCAR team owner Jack Roush “will put 100 people on it for 24 hours a day, for six months. For our students to do that in a 30 session class at 7.5 hours a week, it becomes a lot more than the class entails.”

Time commitment may be of concern in some cases, but Storch looks at it as helpful for students down the road.

“WCC has helped me a lot with the instructors,

department chairs and the faculty to get where I’m at now,” Storch said. “And now I can say I’ve worked on a Ford-featured award-winning car along with several other students.”

To see pictures of the award winning car and full Motor Trend remarks, visit: <http://wot.motortrend.com/2011-sema-fords-8-sweetest-sema-vehicles-132173.html>



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## ‘J. Edgar’ an enlightening look at a complex man

JAEL GARDINER  
Staff Writer



While viewer emotions ran high in “J. Edgar,” the movie’s facts were a mess and the plot was a revolving door of confusion.

The movie attempts to capture the entire life of a man, J. Edgar Hoover, who built the Federal Bureau of Investigation, while spending a lot of time on rumor and innuendo.

Many factual questions were left unanswered. Hoover is portrayed as being a man deeply dedicated to his job, protecting the morals and safety of the people of America, while also having a homosexual relationship with one of his closest colleagues.

Throughout the beginning, Hoover is dictating the

adventures of his time with the FBI to be made into a book. It alternates scenes between J. Edgar in his youth and when he is old, thanks to ridiculous makeup. Leonardo DiCaprio does a wonderful job, despite the awful get-up. The transitions from past to present aren’t apparent enough, making it easy to get lost in the plot.

Aside from the focus on Hoover’s personal life, the movie offered a fascinating account of the early cases of the FBI and how he built the bureau we know today.

J. Edgar was about a man with little respect for personal privacy and a great disdain for anybody who he believes to a Communist. The man had no problem performing wire taps without regard to legalities, and he’s never afraid to

lie whenever it’s convenient.

The true relationship between Hoover and Clyde Tolson was left very fuzzy in this movie. Although it is unclear exactly what was going on, the scenes between the two of them are touching and beautiful. These are



RATING **R**  
RUN TIME **137 MINUTES**

## ‘Immortals’ captures the spirit of men

BEN SOLIS  
Managing Editor



Following the always trendy path of returning moviegoers to the wild, and often oversold, world of 12th century war and mythological epics, “Immortals” chose form, finesse and tact over the visual masturbation of modern incarnations in the genre.

Featuring rising star Henry Cavill as Theseus, a peasant-turned-hero, “Immortals” tracks the rise of the evil King Hyperion (Mickey Rourke) and his murderous quest for the most powerful weapon in all of Greece, one crafted by the

Gods themselves.

Anyone going into this film with the bar set low will be pleasantly surprised to not only have their expectations met, but to be exceeded three-fold.

For action buffs, the blood, violence, and torturous agonies of classic warfare were abundant in “Immortals.” The film was full of well-choreographed fight scenes and just the right amount of slow-motion edits to give it an extra edge.

But “Immortals” was not only mindless treachery. Both Cavill and Rourke shined in their respective roles and drew clear boundaries between what is truly

just, and sincerely evil.

Rourke, a fine actor with a knack for developing character, was sadistic in ways that only he could portray. With movie baddies, we are attracted to two archetypes: the villain we relate to and the villain that we revile.

Hyperion was undoubtedly the latter, and gracefully went from eating pomegranates on his throne to burning captured men alive in mere minutes. If the producers of the comic book movie vehicle Marvel Studios would have spent more time with its edits, this would have been the noteworthy performance that could have been achieved by Rourke in “Iron

RUNTIME **110 MINUTES**

Man 2.”

Aside from well-cast roles, “Immortals” was rich with visual motifs most impressively found in the transitions between key sequences. The techniques of long cuts and careful editing made the film feel more like “Jason and the Argonauts” than “300.”

It seems that by straying from the played-out and knocked-off conventions of modern epics, “Immortals” may have forged its place in the ranks of those like “Ben Hur” and even the “Ten Commandments.”

For it is not the everlasting of flesh that makes you immortal; it is in deeds and actions that one will live forever.

## Adam Sandler is a desperate man

ADRIAN HEDDEN  
Features Editor



Ah, the overstaying house-guests. No matter how closely related they are to the main character, annoying visits from relatives always make for easy-to-digest and predictable holiday comedies.

With a beautiful wife, a witty pair of kids and a beautiful home in California, thanks to a lucrative career in advertising, the only thing Jack Sadelstein dreaded was Thanksgiving. Enter Jack’s squawking twin sister.

Visiting from Brooklyn for the holiday, the oddly masculine Jill Sadelstein’s brash and demanding, yet charmingly clueless, personality runs contrary to Jack’s soft-spoken,

suburban lifestyle. Or does it?

Opening with sappy, yet quirky interviews with what appear to be real-life twins, “Jack and Jill,” Adam Sandler’s latest outrageous effort for laughs attempts to make light of sibling rivalry with the same cliché fart-and-fat jokes that litter the comedian’s entire career.

What makes this one different? Sandler wears a dress.

Playing both brother and sister for his latest in a string of family themed comedies, Adam Sandler’s obnoxiously nasal, middle-aged, female New York accent, screeches across the theater abrasively throughout the film. Viewers’ only respite is that it will all be over in a mere hour-and-a-half.

After films such as 2008’s “You Don’t Mess with the Zohan” and last year’s “Grown Ups” slapstick humor seems to be all Sandler has left in his bag, “Jack and Jill” saw the comedian taking his loud-mouthed impressions into new territory with disastrous results. Contained in “Jack and Jill” are the most predictable gender-bending and annoying sibling jokes ever projected on the silver screen.

In an early scene at the Thanksgiving Day table, Jack’s young son socks drag-Sandler in the face. Although the reason for the punch was fuzzy, applause was necessary as a shot to the chops is just what the desperate Sandler deserves. Maybe it knocked some sense into him.

True it was a bit out-of-the-ordinary, but “Jack and Jill” marked a low point in Sandler’s career. With an illogical plot centering on Jill’s attempts to find love, the film’s comedic timing was entirely predictable as Sandler bounced jokes off of himself. It was Sandler vs. Sandler, and it became very stale very fast as Sandler was the only actor who made any jokes at all.

From Jack’s embarrassment when his sister attempts to converse in an imaginary childhood-language, to Jill’s continuous pestering to “lay down together,” a chuckle and sigh was occasionally heard for the sheer oddity of seeing the former “Big Daddy” in both roles.

True it was a bit out-of-the-ordinary, but “Jack and Jill” marked a low point in Sandler’s career. With an illogical plot centering on Jill’s attempts to find love, the film’s comedic timing was entirely predictable as Sandler bounced jokes off of himself.

It was Sandler vs. Sandler, and it became very stale very fast as Sandler was the only actor who made any jokes at all.

## A welcome change of form for Coldplay

ANNA FUQUA-SMITH  
Staff Writer



Coldplay’s latest release, may be its most unique.

While Chris Martin, the band’s front man, had every intention of creating a name for the album that so far had no hits on Google, the group now has more than 100 million hits on Google for “Mylo Xyloto.”

For die-hard Coldplay fans that have been a part of the experience from the beginning, “Mylo Xyloto” doesn’t completely abandon the former sound of sappy, crazy-in-love lyrics.

The album not only

delivers high-energy songs, but experiments with some somber, mellow tracks like “Paradise”, which speaks of a young girl running away to a better life. “Paradise” not only intends for you to feel for this unnamed young person, but forces a look back to your younger days to remember those feelings.

Tracks such as “Charlie Brown” and “Up with the Birds” bring the soulful sounds similarly heard on earlier albums. But the album is definitely not shy of booming anthems, either.

The track “Every Tear is a Waterfall” resembles a bring-me-back-to-life anthem in

every way. The lyrics begin with “I turn the music up, got my records on. I shut the world outside until the lights come on.” This song is clearly designed to suit many moods and personalities.

Initially, I was surprised at Coldplay’s new mainstream, pop-star-like sound. After several listens, a love and appreciation for the new sound will surely unfold. It should be acknowledged that Coldplay has abandoned most of its sappy love songs that made its music so boring 10 years ago. It’s nice to see the group finally singing about something different.

Interestingly, one of the

ALBUM: **MYLO XYLOTO**  
LABEL: **CAPITOL RECORDS**  
YEAR: **2011**

unique qualities of this release is that it hasn’t been aired on Spotify, Pandora, or any other streaming website.

Although Coldplay followed in Adele’s footsteps to not release its songs as individuals to streaming websites, it will turn out to be the right choice. “Mylo Xyloto” wasn’t designed to be listened to as a group of singles, but rather as a start-to-finish composition – something that is long-forgotten in the mainstream music industry today.

Finally, Coldplay has gotten something right.

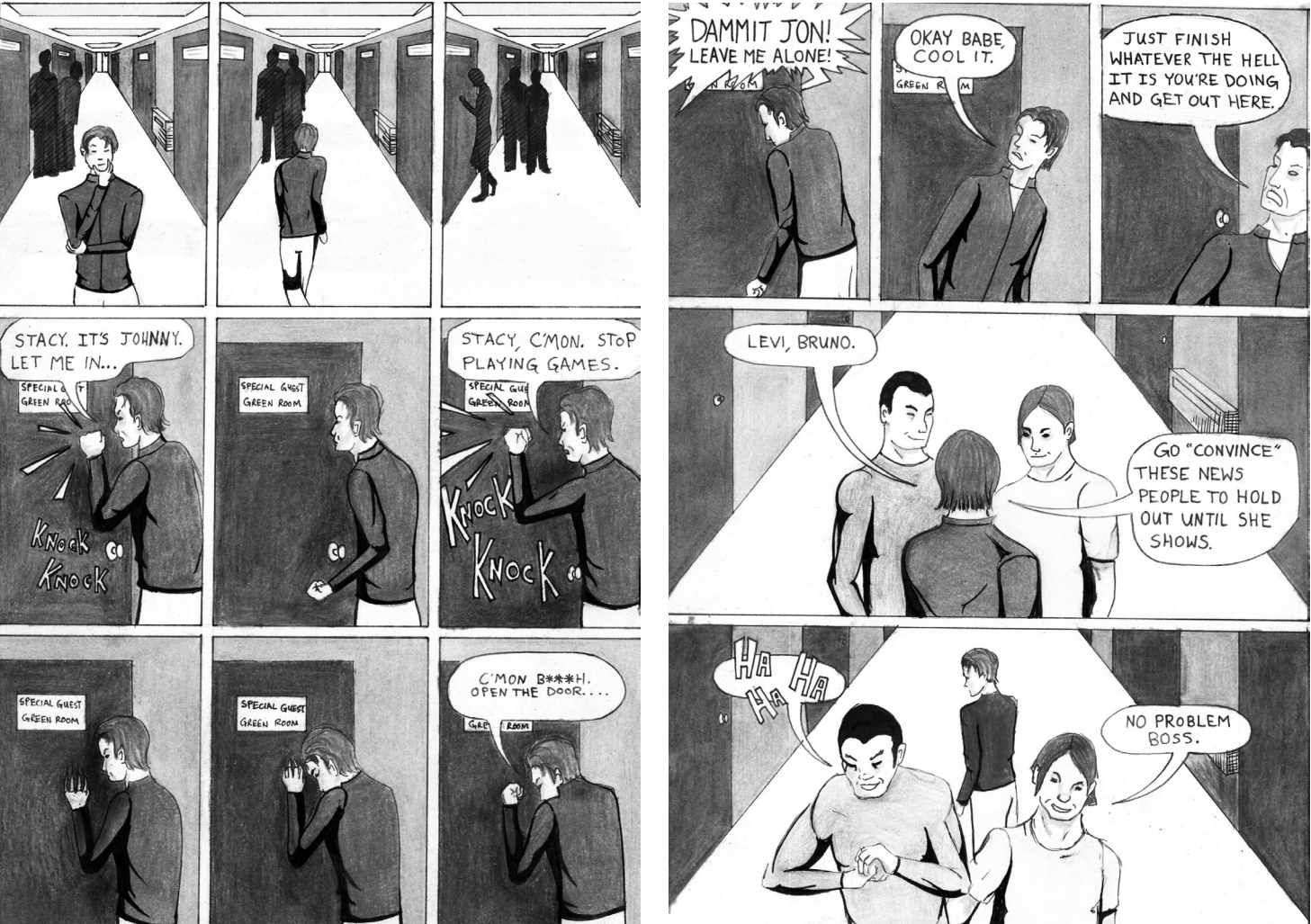
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ALBUM





**R&Z** When dope has been replaced by a new wonder-pill, the consequences can be deadly — and un-dead. A brand-new comic from Voice Managing Editor Ben Solis and graphic artist Frances Ross. Installments throughout the year. Read them all at washtenawvoice.com.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY **FRANCES ROSS** THE WASHTENAW VOICE  
WRITTEN BY **BEN SOLIS** THE WASHTENAW VOICE



# Crossword

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
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64						65						66		

- Across**
- 1 Up in the air
  - 6 Runner's woe
  - 11 "Very funny" TV station
  - 14 Instrument for the musically challenged
  - 15 Panting, perhaps
  - 16 Art, now
  - 17 1-Down follower
  - 19 Ad —
  - 20 \*Public distribution
  - 21 Subject to debate
  - 22 \*2011 NBA finals runner-up
  - 25 Mao follower?
  - 26 Garden purchases
  - 27 A pop
  - 28 "Golly!"
  - 31 \*Loose
  - 32 Routes for two-wheelers
  - 36 1962 NASA launch
  - 38 Hairstyle with an appendage of sorts
  - 40 Modern information sources
  - 42 "Java" jazzman
  - 43 \*Bond, for one
  - 44 Scratched (out)

- 45 Hightails it
  - 48 Stephen of "Citizen X"
  - 51 Causes of grins and groans
  - 52 \*Champagne, e.g.
  - 53 Wall-mounted safety device
  - 56 Baby carrier
  - 57 Prevailing tendencies
  - 61 72, at Augusta National
  - 62 Door support
  - 63 Time piece?
  - 64 Take a shot
  - 65 Of yore
  - 66 Stage device
- Down**
- 1 Letters before a 17-Across
  - 2 — Cruces
  - 3 Wt. units
  - 4 21-Down group
  - 5 Heavy reading?
  - 6 Yields
  - 7 Went ape
  - 8 Turkish titles
  - 9 Unit of cultural information
  - 10 Fix opening
  - 11 Chevy SUV
  - 12 Group of chicks

- 13 Doctrinal offshoots
- 18 "The Book of —"; 2010 film
- 21 Interview show since 1947 ...
- and what this puzzle's starred answers do in two ways
- 22 Test by lifting
- 23 Dog-— page
- 24 Speedy Amtrak train
- 26 Relief for a commuter
- 29 "Take it!"
- 30 3.0 and 4.0: Abbr.
- 32 Pig movie
- 33 Founding member of OPEC
- 34 17-syllable work
- 35 Emergency indicator
- 37 Puts out, in a way
- 39 Old Fords
- 41 Adjective for Ripley
- 45 Won all the games
- 46 Gag that might explode
- 47 Explosive
- 49 Clampett player
- 50 NYC dance troupe
- 53 Author Godwin
- 54 Fruit cover
- 55 Met excerpt
- 57 Old reciprocal electrical unit

58 "— always say ..."

59 Pie material?

60 Reference word

For last week's answers go to

<http://washtenawvoice.com>



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Deadline for the Dec. 5 issue is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 30.

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**Radiography tutoring available:** Having difficulty in the Radiography Program? As a recent WCC radiography graduate, I can help you learn exactly what you need to know to pass the quizzes, exams, and also prepare you for the A.R.R.T. Exam. For more information, call Joe at (734) 657-4596.

**FOR RENT**

**1 Bdrm** apartment for rent, third floor unit. Located on Golfside. Phone (734) 635-1186

**1, 2 or 3 Bdrm** apartments across from EMU campus on AATA bus lines 3 & 7 to WCC. Visit [www.aymanagement.com](http://www.aymanagement.com), or phone (734) 482-4442 or (734) 483-1711.

**EMPLOYMENT**

The following is a sample of recent employment want ads that have been posted with WCC's Employment Services Center. For more information about these ads, contact Employment Services at (734) 677-5155, or visit SC287 to review the complete posting.

**Accounts Receivable Clerk** (2415838)

Balancing driver and sales collections as well as posting any payments that are received on a daily basis. Also handle incorrect and non-payments. Mail customer statements and handle any problems customers may have with their billings. Full-time position in Ypsilanti.

**Bistro Attendant** (2418193) Taking food orders and inputting them into the terminal. Heating food items and serving the guests. Making a limited selection of coffee drinks. Basic cleaning duties, e.g. bussing tables, washing dishes, taking out trash, vacuuming. Part-time position in Ann Arbor.

**Package Handler** (2106357) Loading and unloading delivery vans and trucks. Must be able to lift an average of 50 pounds. Part-time position in Saline.

**Sales Support** (2420698) Applicants must have a strong interest in sales and enjoy working in a fast-paced challenging environment. This is an entry-level position that offers a flexible schedule. Candidates should remain fair, respectful and moral in all situations and work well both independently and as part of a team. Full- and part-time positions in Ann Arbor.

**Care Manager** (2324410) Assist seniors with their activities of daily living. Participate and lead activities such as bowling outings and assist in the dining room. Perfect job for those considering the nursing/healthcare field. Equal opportunity employer, tuition reimbursement. Full- and part-time positions in Ann Arbor.

**Marketing Assistant** (2423519) Develop call lists based on input from field marketing as well as individual research efforts such as Web and patent searches. Call prospects and log opportunities for follow-up by sales reps. Log all important discussions with customers and convey feedback to appropriate parties. Full-time position in Ann Arbor.

**Bilingual Customer Service Rep**

(2373452) Bilingual Spanish/English speaking individual to provide exceptional customer service. Main responsibilities include providing quotes, filling requests and following up on orders. The ability to respond to and resolve customer issues in a timely and polite manner is imperative. Qualified candidates must have outstanding problem-solving abilities as well as the ability to work well under pressure. Full-time position in Belleville.

**Manufacturing** (2425973) Candidates must be dependable, conscientious individuals who can demonstrate a strong work ethic and positive attitude. No experience necessary; will train. Some heavy lifting involved. Innovative company. State of art facility. Full- and part-time positions in Plymouth.

**Software Test and Support Intern** (2385536) Assist Software Test and Support Team at Ann Arbor office. Tasks may include software testing and validation, researching and reproducing customer support issues, training video production and scripting, and documenting process. Exact duties will depend on the applicant's talents and education. Applicants with a background in science and engineering are preferred but those with non-technical backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Paid Internship in Ann Arbor.

**IMPORTANT CAREER TIP**

You've heard of the old expression, "It's not what you know, it's who you know?" This is especially true when it comes to the job search, and networking is an excellent way of finding out about job opportunities that are not advertised. Talk with friends and family, instructors and neighbors, business executives and member of professional organizations — anyone who might be able to give you access to a more diverse group of employers.

For further assistance regarding networking, please contact Employment Services at (734) 677-5155.





# Graffiti Alley

soon to be a memory

Photos and Words by  
**ADRIAN HEDDEN**  
Features Editor

Ann Arbor's government hopes to do away with graffiti. Starting in November, the city again decided to crack down on the outdoor wall-art.

After business owners were demanded to clean it off their walls, at their own expense, graffiti's storied and continuous history in Ann Arbor is threatened.

Those who cherish local artwork built directly into the concrete and steel of an urban setting are running out of time to enjoy. Soon, photographs of the town's renowned "Graffiti Alley" will be all that is left.





# CONSUMER CHAOS



ILLUSTRATION BY ERIC STEIGER

## Why ‘Black Friday?’

SEAN HANDLER  
Contributor

Think of Black Friday: Early mornings. Long lines. Great deals and lots and lots of shopping. An American tradition.

But where did this come from? How did this consumer holiday get its name? There are several contexts in which the term “Black Friday” has been used. Some say it dates to 1966, when the Philadelphia Police Department used it as anything but a term of endearment, referring to a day that brought out masses of shoppers causing traffic jams and overcrowded sidewalks.

However, the term itself didn’t really gain much popularity until 1975, when newspapers began the term to describe the day after Thanksgiving.

The Associated Press wire service quoted an unnamed department store sales manager about shoppers on buying sprees on what was then widely known as the first day of the holiday shopping season: “That’s why the bus drivers and cab drivers call today ‘Black Friday,’” a sales manager at Gimbels said as she watched a traffic cop trying to control a crowd of jaywalkers. “They think in terms of headaches it gives them.”

Black Friday is also said to refer to an accounting process – the making of much more profit, more “black ink” than usual. Of course, the shopping ties in to the holiday season, which is the main reason for the shoppers to be out in force, to get the best deals on potential Christmas presents for friends and family.

## Retailers shoppers: have a little patience

RACHEL TUTHILL  
Contributor

Black Friday. Just the name sends shivers down the spines of retail employees everywhere. At the Green Oak Village Place mall in Brighton, Claire’s manager Breanna Broghamer has many Black Friday war stories – and the medical case file to prove it.

“I was at Aeropostale as a sales associate. We had just opened at 10 a.m., and they (customers) were running into the store,” she recalled. “I bent over to stock and fold clothes, and was literally stepped on, which bruised my rib cage. Later that same day, I was on a stepstool filling jeans. Someone kicked the stool, and I fell down and dislocated my knee.”

Customers can add insult to injury, too. Broghamer, 22, of Howell, has received verbal abuse as well as physical.

“Any type of profanity has been blurred at me, really,” she

said, citing a litany of profane phrases hurled her way on Black Fridays. “People are nasty.”

She remembered a time when she broke up a fight over a graphic t-shirt. “One lady told me to ‘keep my little white ass out of it.’ The other woman was a crazy soccer mom. She looked like she’d injected coffee directly into her veins.”

As bad as bigger cities such as Ann Arbor and Detroit may be on this shopper’s holiday, smaller towns can have their moments, too.

“We aren’t too bad, at least with this company,” said Broghamer, referring to Claire’s. “At Aeropostale, Black Friday is a nightmare. Especially at Howell. The Tanger Outlet Mall opens so early; we were required to open at 10 p.m. the night before. It’s very intense. The parking lot is full at 9:30 a.m., and the back lot is filled with trailers.”

The day after Thanksgiving is filled with chaos as shoppers

turn into monsters, trampling worker and customer alike in their mad rush to buy their daughter a pair of earrings, or their son a video game on discount. It’s a guarantee that stores such as Best Buy and JC Penny will be swamped in this violence, but what of the smaller stores?

“We don’t have the doorstoppers,” said Dress Barn manager Kate Cogswell, 29, of Howell. And the customers tend to behave themselves at Sally’s Beauty Salon, also located at the Green Oak Village Place in Brighton. But manager Kathleen Kunkle, 45, from Brighton, remembers dark times from when she used to work at a restaurant.

“They would all come at once,” said Kunkle. “The restaurant opened at 11, and many of them had been up since 3 a.m.” Despite there being open tables, there were not enough waitresses to take orders; as a result, customers became testy. “We’re gonna be busy, so have

patience. Do it with a good sense of humor.”

Sandi Wilbanks, 20, of Brighton, remembers Black Friday from when she worked with Bed Bath & Beyond.

“A lot of customers throw their stuff on the counter and expect you to get it done in five seconds,” she said. “People are really grumpy, and they’re just rude.”

With all of the drama and insanity in the air during Black Friday, there are some things that retail workers want shoppers to keep in mind: “We’re people, we’re moving as fast as we can, but it’s Black Friday and we can only move so fast,” said Wilbanks.

“I would recommend them to pay attention to the sale rack signs,” said Cogswell. “A lot of shoppers misinterpret or misread the signs. Also, stick to yourself, and you’ll be fine.”

## Where to find the hot deals

JAMIE FLETCHER  
Contributor

What is it that attracts customers to wait in long lines in frigid cold, waiting for stores to open their doors on Black Friday?

Sam’s Club is hoping it’s the Samsung 32-inch 720p LCD HDTV for the low-low price of \$278. Or the Nintendo Wii for \$99. Or a \$100 iTunes gift card pack for \$79.88.

Looking for a new laptop or digital camera for the upcoming semester? Look no further than Office Max on Black Friday. It’s offering an HP 15.6-inch laptop with Intel core i3-370m processor for \$389.99, and a Vivitar Vivicam v25 2.1 megapixel digital camera for \$19.99.

Opening at midnight, Target will be selling very much marked down electronics, including an Amazon Kindle keyboard 3G for \$85, and an Apple iPod touch 8GB mp3 player with a \$40 gift card for \$195. JC Penney is giving at least

50 percent off most items in store including: 50-70 percent off winter gear, 60 percent off handbags, 60 percent off blankets and sheets, 60 percent off jeans, \$20-30 women’s boots, and 60 percent off diamond and pearl jewelry.

Penney’s is also giving away iHome color charging docks for \$50. If you’re looking for gifts for the kids, they also are going to have \$3.99 select toys, and there will be 60-80 percent off all children’s winter wear.

Best Buy will be opening at midnight with deals such as a Toshiba Wi-Fi ready and Netflix-streaming Blu-Ray player for only \$39.99. And if you’re a wizardry fan, the newest and last “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2” will be on sale for just \$9.99.

These are just some of the many deals available to shoppers on Nov. 25 – Black Friday. For more information on more deals, many of them not announced until just a few days before the sales, visit <http://blackfriday.com>.

## Downtown businesses offer savings, too

ANNA POTTER  
Contributor

For shoppers who want to take advantage of Black Friday specials but dislike big-box stores and shopping malls, there is another option.

Ann Arbor’s downtown businesses are prepared to slash prices and offer deals to attract holiday spenders for the biggest shopping day of the year.

Vault of Midnight, Ann Arbor’s largest slinger of comic books, vinyl toys and board games, will be offering 10 percent off all graphic novels, 30 percent off all single issue comics and 20 percent off all statuary. Board games will be “buy one, get one 25 percent off” and the store sweetens the deal with free gift-wrapping, November through December.

“We are really, really sweet gift wrappers,” said Curtis Sullivan, the resident “Stalwart

Steward of Pictographic Narratives, Treasurer” at Vault of Midnight “Our gift wrapping is better than the rest.”

Downtown newbie Bongz & Thongz will be offering a “buy one, get one 50 percent off” deal on all items in the store.

When asked what attracts customers to his store, owner Kilo Hassan smiled and pointed to the store name, saying, “It’s the best of both worlds!”

Local record store Underground Sounds will be participating in the second annual Black Friday Record Store Day. “It wasn’t that huge last year, but people are getting really excited for it this year,” said owner Matt Bradish.

More than 100 new and re-released titles will be put out for sale on Black Friday morning, selling on a first-come, first-served basis. Details on releases can be found at <http://recordstoreday.com>.

Sam’s Basic Clothing doesn’t offer a store-wide sale, but manager Peter Cole did reveal that he would be putting out some deeply-discounted items, saying Black Friday is “an important day” for downtown businesses.

Local dispensary, The GrasStation, will be offering Black Friday specials this year for new and existing patients, running through the entire holiday weekend.

Patients can expect to see 10 percent off all medicines, with an addition 5 percent off for members of NORML and Students for Sensible Drug Policy.

“We’ll have discounts for all patients,” said manager T.J. Rice, “with a bonus for activists.”

On top of the store-wide discount, the \$12 membership will be waved for the weekend and new patients who are also veterans will receive

\$40 off their in-clinic doctor recommendation.

Business owners and employees had mixed reviews about participating in Black Fridays of the past.

“Two-thirds of what we offer can’t be found anywhere else in town. We get totally squashed,” said Sullivan. “It’s great!”

“It’s busy,” said Cole, “and downtown shoppers stay downtown.”

Asked what attracts shoppers downtown, he added, “It’s a city. A mall is only good for shopping, but a city gives you stores, bars and restaurants.”

Bradish, meanwhile, likes to think his shoppers are just a little smarter than the rest.

“I already sell stuff as cheaply as possible,” he said. “Sales are manipulative. They just trick people into thinking they’re saving when they’re actually spending.”



# GAME ON

## ‘Battlefield 3’...

MATT DURR  
Editor

There is no denying the mass appeal and selling power of the Call of Duty franchise. Millions of gamers will flock to their local gaming supplier to “get their fix.” And while I believe that the better game for the masses is “Modern Warfare 3,” the real king of shooters is “Battlefield 3.”

What sets the gameplay in “Battlefield 3” apart is the realistic nature of how the game plays. Unlike in “MW3” your character cannot glide across the ground and stab a person from five feet away. Bullet damage is more powerful and doesn’t allow for players to absorb an entire clip of ammo in them before dying. That is unless you have one of the

trademark “MW3” perks that provide such an unrealistic advantage that calling “MW3” a shooting-simulator a stretch.

And while I’m sure that it happens occasionally in “Battlefield 3,” I cannot tell you how many times I spawned from a death only to start directly in front of an enemy only to be killed right away. The ability to “spawn-kill” in “MW3” is an inexcusable oversight by developers.

The new Frostbite 2 engine and ANT makes this game stand out in terms of graphics and playability. Destructible environments have been a feature of the series that gamers love, but now, Frostbite allows for a more authentic destruction to occur. Tired of that camper in the third floor? Pack some C4 on exterior of the

building and bring that sucker to the ground! Destructibility in “MW3” is essentially restricted to breaking glass and walking into a room.

The engine also allows for wide open maps and condensed maps to run at peak performance. Unlike the COD franchise, maps on “Battlefield 3” feel like warzones and not sandboxes. Too many times in COD, players are able to take control of a central area and filter opponents to one area that is inescapable. “Battlefield 3” allows for a multitude of entrance points and strategies based on the sheer size of an area.

The ANT animation technology lets your character behave more like a person and less like robots with minimal movement. Players can take cover and come out of it in a way that

resemble actual movement and not pre-programmed animations. You can also drag allies out of dangerous areas and interact with other characters like real people.

Sure the campaign is a stale and is nothing really groundbreaking in terms of story and plotlines, but most players will look at the campaign as a second game. Multiplayer is where it’s at and that’s where most gamers will spend their time anyway.

If you want a pick-up and play type of game, then by all means continue with what is essentially the same game you’ve been playing for years in “MW3.” But if you want an authentic experience filled with realistic gunbattles and environments that feel like the real thing, go with “Battlefield 3.”

## The ‘Skyrim’ is the limit in latest Elder Scrolls edition

DANIELLE RITTER  
Contributor

It’s been five years since Bethesda released Oblivion, the fourth installment of their Elder Scrolls, the role-playing video-game series. And in those five years, the producers have managed to expand on a great concept.

The newest installment of the series, Skyrim, takes place in a mountainous kingdom in the throes of a bloody civil war. The sheer scale of the world available to play in is amazing, with soaring mountains and towering waterfalls. The level of detail present in everything from the pebbles on a rocky path to the snow-capped peaks that always seem to be looming is incredible. Each city and town has its own flavor, and every dungeon is unique, unlike the cookie-cutter caves and forts players experienced in Oblivion.

Of course, one of the most talked-about aspects of the game are the dragons, which appear in force in Skyrim, often without any warning aside from a deafening roar from above. Then it will swoop into view, destroying everything in its path with

fire or ice breath. Armed with huge teeth, claws and capable of snatching victims off the ground and dropping them from great heights, these are some mighty foes.

Walking into any village on the map, children can be found playing tag with each other, while men and women go about their work at the resident sawmill or farm. Bards play songs and sing in the taverns, and villagers have conversations with each other, based on previous events.

Outside the villages lurk saber cats, wolf packs, trolls and bandits – not to mention giants tending herds of mammoths making their way slowly across the tundra. It seems that Skyrim manages to include fan-favorite aspects of the previous game, while side-stepping its pitfalls. Rather than creating hundreds of villagers with the same eight voices, Bethesda has expanded its cast, creating a bit more variety. Quests tend to be creative, rather than repetitive and while the guilds for fighters, mages and thieves still exist, the quests they give are more interesting and their stories each have their own



Batman: Arkham City

MCT COURTESY PHOTO



Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3

MCT COURTESY PHOTO

## ...vs. ‘Modern Warfare 3’

TIMOTHY CLARK  
Contributor

Every year since Nov. 5, 2007, one video game series comes out that smashes sales records and goes above and beyond expectations. This series is the “Call of Duty” franchise. This year “Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3” released and has already reported 6.5 million sales on day one, which breaks its predecessor’s record. If you’re a gamer looking for a military first-person shooter, you don’t need to look for anything other than “Modern Warfare 3.”

Why does “Modern Warfare 3” stand head and shoulders above its competitor this year in “Battlefield 3”? The simple answer is no shooter has the silky smooth controls, robust online community, and fast pace shooting mechanics that “Modern Warfare 3”

has nearly perfected this time around. Sorry to tell the fans of Battlefield who bought it in October, you should just trade your copy of “Battlefield 3” in for a copy of “Modern Warfare 3” Maybe you aren’t sold on this yet, maybe you need more reason than my word; let’s just stick to the facts.

In the graphical department “Modern Warfare 3” runs at 60 frames per second on Xbox 360 and PS3, while “Battlefield 3” only runs at 30. This means that you’ll notice a much smoother experience in the shooting and the graphics as a whole. It never dips below 60 no matter how many explosions, buildings crumbling, and enemies on screen. In a competitive game like this, it can be one of the biggest deciding factors in a battle.

Multiplayer is one of the main focal points of these games and looking at the

numbers you may get excited about “Battlefield 3”. 64 players in one match, giant fields and vehicles to use, it sounds like a recipe for success. Sadly these numbers are for PC versions only, and if you’re stuck with a console you’ll be reduced down to 24 players, smaller map sizes and fewer vehicles. For Modern Warfare 3, nothing is trimmed and every map is perfect for the size of the squads. While it has no vehicles outside of killstreaks, it keeps the focus on the speed and ferocity of the shooting. With the enhancement of Call of Duty Elite for stat tracking and chances to see everything in your past matches, “Modern Warfare 3” marvelous multiplayer is better than it ever been.

Many will see the cooperative play and campaign as an extra to multiplayer of these

games, “Modern Warfare 3” trumps “Battlefield 3” in both of these modes. The Campaign finishes the story from the previous Modern Warfare titles and can only be described as a summer blockbuster of video-games. In “Battlefield 3” the story nearly rips many components that we saw in “Call of Duty: Black Ops” last year. On the cooperative side of this, “battlefield” only includes 6 co-op missions compared to the 16 spec ops missions that “Modern Warfare” has. To top it off, “Modern Warfare 3” also includes a survival mode as you face increasingly difficult enemies and provides more value than you’re already getting.

So stop wasting your time trying to decide which one to get, the answer is simple. “Call of Duty Modern Warfare 3” is the best value in gaming; prepare to be addicted once again.



Modern Warfare 3

MCT COURTESY PHOTO

## ‘The Dark Knight’ blows your mind with a well-placed bat-grenade

NATHAN CLARK  
Staff Writer

After the events of the runaway hit Arkham Asylum, Batman could sure use a vacation. But being the world’s greatest masked vigilante is a job that doesn’t offer vacation days. Crime never sleeps so neither does the Bat.

Batman once again fights criminals and deranged lunatics in the new game Batman: Arkham City, a third-person, open-environment action game in which you play as Batman, and occasionally Catwoman, using the best technology Wayne Tech can provide. The goal – beat down criminals with Batman’s vast martial-arts skills.

Months after the events of

Arkham Asylum, Arkham psychiatrist, Dr. Hugo Strange constructs the massive open-air prison named Arkham City in the middle of Gotham, populated by every lunatic from Arkham Asylum and every violent criminal from Blackgate prison. It’s a melting pot of psychopaths, murderers, criminal masterminds, thugs and generally nasty people.

While speaking at an anti-city Arkham protest, Bruce Wayne, who Strange knows is really Batman, is abducted by Strange’s men and thrown into Arkham City. The prison is an every-man-for-himself-fight-to-survive-kind of correctional facility, with no guards, no cells and no rules – a place where only Batman is law.

Aside from the common

thugs scattered throughout the city, Arkham City is also now home to many of Batman’s more notable nemesis, such as the Penguin, Harvey “Two Face” Dent, Poison Ivy, the Riddler and the Joker, who is once again voiced by Mark Hamill.

The graphics put in to Arkham City are nothing short of superb. The lighting and gritty detail put into every character and environment is so sharp you can almost smell the fear pouring from your enemies as you stalk them from the shadows.

Arkham City is rated T for teen, but don’t let that rating fool you. This is not your Saturday morning Batman; this is the Dark Knight. The idle chatter of criminals throughout the game by itself speaks

of harsh realities that no one would openly talk about around children.

Arkham City may not seem that different from the previous game Arkham Asylum, but after playing it for an hour, you won’t want to stop playing.

With the many side missions, collectibles and challenges are scattered throughout the game, Arkham city is well worth paying full price for – and then some.



XBOX 360, PS3  
EA  
RATED M FOR MATURE  
\$59.99



Battlefield 3

MCT COURTESY PHOTO

## ‘Modern Warfare 3’ makes enough changes to stay on top

MATT DURR  
Editor

As the reigning champion in the “shooter wars,” the “Call of Duty” franchise is the measuring stick for first-person shooters. After years on top, though, the series is starting to become a bit stale for many fans.

However, with “Call of Duty Modern Warfare 3,” subtle changes and upgrades have made this newest installment a must-own.

Nobody buys the COD games to play the off-line story mode exclusively; we buy this game for the online multiplayer. Fans of the series will notice a few minor tweaks to the largely unchanged formula, but these tweaks refine the gamers’ experience.

The first thing I noticed was the new kill-streak reward choices. In past versions, kill-streaks were usually only of fensive in nature, but this year

defensive strategy comes into play when choosing your kill-streaks. You can now choose a “support” package of streaks that can help not just you, but your teammates. Ballistic vests and better radar are just some of the things that come with having support as a kill-streak option.

New weapon leveling gives players a chance to make major changes to their weapons as they progress through the game and modify how the guns behave. As you progress, you can add features like less kick to improve accuracy or how powerful the bullets are.

As far as the offline story mode is concerned, the game offers roughly six hours of new game-play that looks and plays a lot like previous versions.

The “special-ops” mode gives players some new challenges, including a hoard-like mode where constant waves of enemies are unleashed on the

virtual heroes, with the goal being to last as long as you can. “Special-ops” can be played offline or with an online partner.

Sadly, the graphics remain the same with a few nice visuals, but really they are the same – tired animations that gamers are already used to. Critics of the series also say the bullet damage and shooting physics are not nearly as accurate as “Battlefield 3,” and for the most part, those critics are spot on.

Still “Modern Warfare 3” has made enough improvements and slight adjustments to remain as the “go-to” game for games with an itchy trigger-finger.



XBOX 360, PS3  
ACTIVISION  
RATED M FOR MATURE  
\$59.99

## Looking for a realistic shooter? ‘Battlefield 3’ is worth a shot

MATT DURR  
Editor

It takes a lot of guts to call out the second highest-selling game of all time, but “Battlefield 3” and the people behind it have done just that. With their sights set on the “Modern Warfare” franchise, Electronic Arts has gone all-out to give gamers a worthy alternative to MW3.

As with every first-person shooter game, this one will be judged for its online multiplayer and how it holds up. First let me say that “Battlefield” is not a game for “newbs.” Meaning that unlike its competition, there is a much sharper learning curve. It takes time for players to learn the expansive maps and how vulnerable they are at all times.

Unlike other FPS games, the environment is all-destructible,

which means players are not safe if they decide to camp and wait for opponents to come to them. Players can’t survive an entire clip being shot into them only to recover moments later, either.

Also, players can take control of vehicles that only add to their arsenal of destructive weapons. When used properly, the vehicles can truly change how a match plays out.

Where “Battlefield” truly shines is in its beautiful visuals. The scenery at the varying venues looks like you’re playing on the actual places the maps are modeled after. Small details like bullets sitting in the wall only add to the realistic feel of the game.

Unfortunately “Battlefield” gets a little too complicated for the average gamer. Unless you have endless hours of time to

put into the game, you’ll never truly get to experience everything that it has to offer.

While “Battlefield 3” is not for everybody, it definitely made strides that fans of the series will truly enjoy. With more realistic game play and deeper options during online multiplayer mode, “Battlefield 3” is the perfect alternative for gamers who’ve become bored with “Call of Duty.”



XBOX 360, PS3  
EA  
RATED M FOR MATURE  
\$59.99

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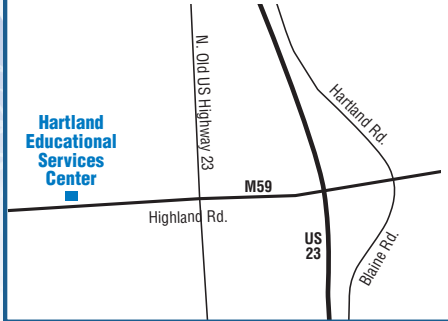
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# WCC returns to HARTLAND

**Educational Services Center**



Because of economic conditions that have affected all of us, as a public institution WCC felt an obligation to save costs by consolidating Livingston County programs into one location – Brighton. Although we will continue to hold classes at Brighton, WCC students and Livingston County residents have told us that WCC was still needed at Hartland as well.

So, starting January 2012, the college will again offer some of the more popular classes at the Hartland Educational Services Center.

**For dates and times of classes go to**  
[www.wccnet.edu/schedule](http://www.wccnet.edu/schedule)

**Washtenaw Community College**  
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## Behind the chaos of those never-ending lines

**NICOLETTE SALAGEAN**  
*Contributor*

The atmosphere is reminiscent of a tailgate party at a football game. Call it “Black Friday night lights.”

The crowd is excited and charged with electricity as the wait in line with an adrenaline rush in the early morning hours, hoping to score a good deal.

“Black Friday equals crazy people that are completely irrational and will do anything to get some stupid item that they could probably find online for cheaper anyways,” said Josh Trif, a Best Buy employee.

While some shoppers may seem bonkers on Black Friday, they have good reason to be. With big-ticket items going for unheard of prices, and always in limited quantities that sell out fast, most people can’t resist the temptation.

With lines of several people long at smaller stores to thousands huddled outside larger big-box stores, the night air is full of expectations what deals

lie behind locked doors.

“We didn’t even bother waiting in line, we just watched the people in the line that wrapped all around the building,” said Rachel Pantis, a student at University of Detroit-Mercy.

Some of the shoppers waiting in line are less than kind when it comes to getting themselves a deal. It may be the time of night that causes some to be more aggressive, but for others just the thought of someone else getting their deal is enough.

“This guy tried to go in front of this one lady, and she flipped out!” said Pantis.

“People are not nice on this day,” said Penny Haragos, a registered nurse. “They will push you out of the way to get what they want. But yet I go every year with my girlfriend. It’s fun getting things that are a little bit cheaper.”

But if you drive, be extra careful, too.

“Parking is also horrible,” Haragos said. “You have to be a New York driver to survive.”

## Cyber Monday is the real deal

**BEAU KEYES**  
*Contributor*

The thought that Friday is better than Monday may well be a thing of the past. At least one weekend a year.

Although many retailers continue to offer online deals on Black Friday to capture the stay-at-home customer, the real hot shopping day for the online community is the Monday following the Thanksgiving holiday.

The term “Cyber Monday” was first used in November 2005 by Shop.org, and the concept quickly became popular with both retailers and shoppers alike. Online sales have grown steadily over the last several years as awareness increased.

ComScore, a research company specializing in digital marketing intelligence, reported that the 2010 Cyber Monday total shopping revenue reached a record \$1 billion, an increase of 16 percent over 2009. This one-day shopping total was bigger than either Black Friday or the following weekend sales and showed average buyer spending to be growing.

Many retailers often pull out their best deals and offers while hoping for impressive sales numbers on the Friday after Thanksgiving, and several now include an online component to their Black Friday sales to capture elusive stay-at-home shoppers.

Toys-R-Us heavily

promotes its sales for both online and in-store sales. Many other stores do the same thing, including Walmart, Meijer, Target, and Best Buy. While the stores still offer door-busters, perks, free add-on products or other incentives to get people into the stores, many retailers make purchasing online an inviting alternative.

Retailers know who has the power on this day, and understand it’s just not going to make it worth the early hours and crushing crowds for some shoppers. For this reason, they’ve made it easy for customers to just stay in.

While not as widely known by the public, Cyber Monday is gaining ground on its more popular Friday sibling. Also, with the increasing use of mobile shopping via smart phones and tablets, Cyber Monday may one day surpass Black Friday in popularity.

In general, stores position different items for the Cyber Monday crowd and avoid simply rehashing the same Black Friday deals. Many retailers promote their sales in advance on CyberMonday.com, and this is a valuable resource for anyone interested in shopping on that Monday.

ComScore also noted that nearly 50 percent of Cyber Monday sales came from work computers, indicating that a large number of shoppers are still willing to continue shopping started over the holiday weekend, regardless of the fact that they are at work.

## A ‘Black Friday’ with less drama, more fun



**AMY  
MCMICHEN**  
*Contributor*

Why would any sane person take four kids with two strollers out on Black Friday? The answer is like the lyrics of “Fiddler on the Roof:” Tradition!

Coming from a broken family, I wanted to establish with my husband certain roles and compromises to keep the peace with our competing family members. We set certain boundaries for the holidays so that our families could not dominate the time and create serious holiday drama. We also had very little money.

Our solution was to create our own family tradition of going to the largest mall we could find every Black Friday to break

the drama and to window shop while searching for crazy good specials. This was also the best way for each of us to find out what the other really liked for Christmas.

The first year we went to Atlanta, we did not need to spend money to have a fabulous time. Watching the people alone was like enjoying a thrilling circus of entertainment. It presented the perfect party atmosphere with popcorn and helium balloons given out by the competing jewelers.

The mall had several lounges located in the middle of the hustling shoppers. Taking a break, we seated ourselves and watched our first “mall lizard,” as we affectionately called all the bored men waiting on their wives. He sat with his head tilted back spitting his tongue out like a hissing snake.

A small boy, about 3 and

playing with his ball, was also intrigued by our mall lizard. The youngster came over and began trying to throw his little bouncy ball into the sleeping man’s mouth while the boy’s unsuspecting mother shopped. The gentleman awoke when the ball finally made contact with his nose. Both the man and the boy were so shocked they jumped and walked hurriedly away, trying to be as inconspicuous as possible.

We were hooked. A holiday custom was born.

The tradition of simple window shopping morphed through the years as children were added to the mix to include the newest Disney or kid-friendly Christmas movie along with a bucket of popcorn. As the kids became “public proof,” we also added lunch or dinner at their favorite restaurant.

The children grew up looking forward to the one day a year of family shopping and the assurance that if they don’t know what to get that difficult sibling for Christmas, they will know by Black Friday.

We have traveled a lot through the years and the one thing they count on is shopping on Black Friday. We have shopped in Atlanta, Chicago, Lexington, Ky., Detroit, San Antonio, Frankenmuth, Toledo, Indianapolis, Southgate, Novi, and Milwaukee. One year, we even took a special trip to the Mall of America in Minneapolis which is not for the first-time Black Friday shopper.

Tradition is the single thread that ties our hearts to special holiday memories. I encourage you to make your own, or I will be glad to match you up with mine.

## How a couple found the ‘best buy’ of their lives on Black Friday

**KHATJA MCKAY**  
*Contributor*

You never know who you’ll meet or what might happen in line outside a big-box store on Black Friday.

Edward Burbo and Jennifer Dykstra, both from Southgate, met in line on Black Friday 2003 at a Best Buy store in Allen Park, and they eventually married – six years later, in line on Black Friday at a Best Buy store.

For some employees, that story tops the list of all the crazy things they’ve experienced among customers on the busiest shopping day of the year.

“I enjoy working Black Friday,” said Cordell Tipton, 33, a portable electronics sales associate at the Ann Arbor Best Buy on Lohr Road. He has worked the past 10 holidays at Best Buy and has had his fair share of craziness. But he tends to look on the bright side of customers running around like chickens with their heads cut off.

Other employees don’t share his sentiment, with the majority of them scheduled for 12-hour shifts that day, it’s easy to see why.

Eric Okon, 34, of Garden City, who works in the

warehouse at the Lohr Road store and also teaches at Oakland Community College, remembers fondly one year when a customer came rushing in the store upon opening looking for a bathroom. The customer had soiled his pants waiting for the store to open.

Before Best Buy began its crowd control on Black Fridays, violence would regularly break out in the lines.

“In the past, we had a fight breakout within the first 10 people in line over the coupons being handed out,” said Kelsey McGuire, 22, a customer service representative from

Britton. “Managers had to call the Pittsfield (Township) Police for back up. That’s why we have police officers all the time now” on Black Friday.

While things can get quite chaotic, employees agree that Black Friday goes by relatively quickly. The crazy stuff has died down in recent years, and employees are coached weeks in advance on how to handle demanding customers.

“People wait in line – and have no idea what they’re waiting for,” Tipton said. “It’s surprising how people value electronics more than their health or common sense.”



## Despite changes for safety, Black Friday chaos still reigns at big box stores

**KAREN BEDORE**  
*Contributor*

Linda Griffin can testify that prices aren’t the only thing to drop at the Ypsilanti Walmart on Black Friday, when things can get pretty crazy at the big-box store.

The longtime floor assistant recalled an incident from three years ago when a customer was tripped up at the entrance as the store doors were opened.

“He went all the way down and his (sweat) pants come off,” Griffin said. “He did get trampled, but wasn’t seriously hurt.”

Patsy Becerra a vision center associate, who is looking forward to working her 19th Black Friday this year, thought she’d seen it all until witnessing that scene.

“Can you imagine sitting there with your pants down – all the way down – and people walking all over you?” she asked.

That’s what can happen when a large crowd of shoppers who had been waiting in line out in the cold rushes the

entrance.

“One of the doors was broken off its hinges,” said Scottie Brown, a front-end associate and veteran of numerous Black Fridays. “We’ve had arguments about dolls and TVs, but nothing really serious. I don’t think it’s that bad anymore. It’s fun. I like it.”

Tammy Waite, a customer service manager, said she loves working Black Friday because “people are hilarious.” But when it comes to being one of the crowd on the other side of the cash register, she doesn’t hesitate to emphasize how she feels: “I shopped one year on Black Friday and couldn’t stand it!”

At least one Ypsilanti Walmart associate isn’t happy with her holiday work schedule. Dortha Smith is upset because she is not working on Black Friday this year.

“That’s my main day,” she moaned. “I wait all year for this one.”

Lorenza Matthews and Rubie Jones, soft lines

associates, recall pre-dawn openings on Black Fridays from only 3-4 years ago, when they would watch the bustling crowd push through the store at opening, flowing like a swarming mosh pit, all wanting to be first to secure their deal of the day.

Crowd-related injuries during special retail sales and promotional events have increased during recent years, prompting OSHA to establish the “Crowd Management Safety Guidelines for Retailers,” and causing retailers to take creative steps to keep things safe for everybody, while still maintaining the excitement of the “main event.”

No longer do shoppers have to bundle up and prepare to sit outside for hours before the opening. Walmart has resorted to allowing people to line up in the stores on Thanksgiving night, waiting for shopping to officially start. They’ll still wait in ridiculously long lines, but not out in the cold, and there is no mad rush of hundreds or thousands of people trying to

squeeze in all at once for the race to the deals.

Subtle marks are already on the floor and down certain aisles marking paths to where the deals will be staged and waiting for Black Friday purchase.

Meantime, anticipation is building for the associates, who are scheduled to work the event. They look forward to it like hockey players waiting for the referee to drop the puck. Employees say they can actually feel the adrenaline starting to pump through their veins.

The Ellsworth Walmart will be open overnight on Thanksgiving Day, accommodating determined power-shoppers, and hopefully keeping things under control. It’s not a 24-hour store, except from Thanksgiving through midnight on Black Friday.

For more information on OSHA-imposed safety standards for crowded shopping areas, visit: [http://osha.gov/OshDoc/data\\_General\\_Facts/Crowd\\_Control.html](http://osha.gov/OshDoc/data_General_Facts/Crowd_Control.html).

## Students watch their wallets

**NICK YOUNG**  
*Contributor*

Emily Samar is skipping the big, post-Thanksgiving shopping day this year – for a very good reason.

“I work and plan on making lots of money on Black Friday,” Samar said, a liberal arts major. She’s a waitress at a Brighton restaurant, and knows a good opportunity when she sees one.

“Money is to be made from the crowds of people that feel obligated to go out and spend this year,” she said. “Many people will be out and about scurrying around to get the latest deals, and they will be very hungry and in need of a good meal.”

Major stores such as Sears, Kohls, Lowes, JC Penney, Target, Best Buy, Walmart and Kmart are all offering tremendous discounts on a variety of “needed” items like kitchen appliances, refrigerators, washers and dryers, and electronics.

Students can save on major brands such as Kitchen Aid, LG, Electrolux, Maytag, Brita, Keurig, and General Electric. Typically, a consumer can expect savings of up to 25 percent off on kitchen appliances during Black Friday sales. But they’re also paying closer attention to their wallets.

“Unlike last year, I am

definitely going to be out looking for items that I can get a good deal on,” said Kat Leitza, who is majoring in human services. “I have an idea of the things that I am going to look for, so I don’t spend frivolous money on items that which I don’t need.

“I’d rather have the feeling of saving a ton of money and get my shopping done early rather than rushing to get gifts for my friends and family at the last minute and spend more than I would prefer to.”

Retailers nationwide are predicting that Americans will spend just as much this year as last, but there will be a higher demand for popular products that consumers can save with the holiday discounts.

However, here in Michigan the recession is still in session, and shoppers don’t have the extra money to spend on things that they don’t need. With unemployment rates still high, consumers don’t seem to have a lot of confidence in the economy. Consequently, they’re prone to spending less and avoiding unnecessary purchases.

“Money is tight right now,” said Ben Rogers an undeclared student. “I am not a Black Friday shopper and will definitely be staying in and sleeping off my turkey coma from the day before.”

### ‘Team’ Black Friday

*Editor’s note:* Content for this Black Friday postage was produced by the following students in the Journalism 111 class on Monday nights: Karen Bedore, Tucker Biallas, Jamie Fletcher, Sean Handler, Beau Keyes, Khatja McKay, Amy McMichen, Anna Potter, Nicolette Salagean, Eric Steiger, Rachel Tuthill and Nick Young. The class is taught by *Voice* adviser Keith Gave.

check out [washtenawvoice.com](http://washtenawvoice.com) for more Black Friday stories