



HASH BASH Still strong in the Diag **A8**



HARDCORE PARKOUR Ann Arbor club practices free-running **C4**

VOICE VS. FOOD Voice staffers take on 30-inch pizza **C4**



The Washtenaw Voice

April 23, 2012 WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN washtenawvoice.com

Washtenaw unveils details of three-year strategic plan

ADRIAN HEDDEN
Features Editor

Washtenaw Community College administrators have now begun to move forward with the three-year strategic plan implemented by President Rose Bellanca late last year.

Teaming up with selected consultants Rick Alfred and Patricia Carter, the President has taken it upon herself and the college's trustees to evaluate the needs of the school and community to keep budgeting and initiatives in line with her objectives.

The consultants were paid \$47,000 split evenly, meaning they each took home \$23,500 for the six months of work.

"I need to see goals before I can align a budget," Bellanca said at the April 10 meeting of the WCC Board of Trustees. "Our budget should be aligned with our plan. This will really benefit me as a new president to see what the college's goals are."

Beginning their efforts in November of 2011, the majority of the groundwork for the plan consisted of listening sessions both internal and external that took place through February. More than 125 people attended the external listening sessions, brought in from a wide range of business sectors, high schools, political and non-profit organizations as well as other colleges and universities in the state.

In attendance were 160 people at various listening

STRATEGIC PLAN CONTINUED **A7**

Timeless 'Masterpiece'

John E. Lawrence songs 40 years old find fame in Europe, Mexico; tour in works?



WCC instructor John E. Lawrence jams with Masterpiece in 1974.

BEN SOLIS
Managing Editor

When Washtenaw Community College guitar guru John E. Lawrence recorded his first 45 single in 1974, he didn't think the record's appeal would last more than a decade.

"We kind of let the album run its course and let it go," said Lawrence, who also serves as the head of the college's music department. "We made so many copies of it that didn't sell; we started using them as Frisbees, or melted them down into ashtrays."

Ironically, Lawrence and his former band The Masterpiece should have thought twice about abusing those presumably useless albums. The double-sided single is now gaining widespread popularity abroad after nearly 40 years of collecting dust.

Recounting a correspondence between ex-Masterpiece keyboard player and organist Mark Williams, Lawrence had no idea the magnitude his music had overseas—and with America's neighbors to the South.

"Mark sent me an email

about three weeks ago saying that the album is hot in Europe and in Mexico," Lawrence said. "They're playing it in dance clubs, on the radio and its selling as a collector's item in England. I couldn't believe it."

According to various links presented to Lawrence via email, the two songs "Love Affair" and "We're Gonna Make It" have been gaining attention on YouTube since 2008 and 2009, unbeknownst to the band for years.

In Los Angeles, a slew of Mexican DJ's created different compilations of classic soul hits

geared towards play in Latin American dance clubs. On one list, "We're Gonna Make It" is listed in *the top four hits of the 1970s*.

One website for a Leeds music shop known as Pat Brady Records put the album up for auction at £100, according to northernsoul45s.co.uk. The album's price went even higher when the auction ended a year ago, amounting to a payment of £300. In U.S. dollars, that equals about \$475—for a music-playing Frisbee.

MASTERPIECE CONTINUED **A3**

Trustees to amend Award of Merit policy

BEN SOLIS
Managing Editor

As Board of Trustees Chair Pamela Horiszny considers who should be given Washtenaw Community College's most prestigious award, she now includes "rock star" as a pre-requisite.

"I would want someone who can really connect with the graduates," Horiszny said. "Someone who students would consider a role model or an inspiration. I want someone who is really a rock star in the community."

With a proposed change to the title and distinction of the college's Award of Merit, the board could expand its choices to members outside of the fabric of WCC.



Pamela Horiszny

Each year before commencement, trustees and college administrators choose an outstanding member of the community who has made a lasting impact on the environment or culture at WCC. The individual chosen would then receive the college's Award of Merit during the graduation ceremony. Common choices in the past have been primarily former or existing board members, faculty, staff and other outside parties involved in exemplary community service.

The award is considered the college's most esteemed honor, however explaining the importance of the prize to the prospective recipient has become an unnecessary challenge, according to Trustee Richard Landau.

"One of the problems we've had whenever approaching a potential recipient is that we kind of have to explain what the award of merit is," Landau said. "You wouldn't think that would be a difficult thing, but it is. We have to say this really is that important and significant of an award. This is something that we bestow on very few people."

"There is a certain amount of preamble we have to take in order to make the pitch."

Picking the recipient has also become a bit of an obstacle, as well, he added. With time phasing out the founders and early leaders of the college, a new generation of movers and shakers within the community are now worthy options.

By changing the title of the rewarded honor from "Award of Merit" to "Honorary Associate's Degree in Community Service," Landau hopes to expel any needless confusion surrounding what the award represents when presenting the offer.

But what's in a name? A lot, Landau said.

"This award carries a lot of

AWARD OF MERIT CONTINUED **A6**

WCC to partner with K-12 more aggressively

ANNA FUQUA-SMITH
Staff Writer

As the admissions recruiter for Washtenaw Community College, Julie Killich spends a lot of time these days visiting high schools throughout the county and conducting multiple tours as part of an initiative to strengthen WCC's presence.

"From the standpoint at the high school, I let the prospective students know that a two-year college can be a viable option upon graduation," she said. "They don't realize they can get all of the same things at WCC rather than a university."

While the program was put into effect this winter, WCC has also invited all of the Washtenaw County public high schools to offer sections of courses on their high school campuses.

"We've been contacting the high schools because when we had met with the superintendents and principals, a

College aims to cure WCC's 'lack of presence' in community

ADRIAN HEDDEN
Features Editor

After a series of focus-group sessions throughout the community, Washtenaw Community College officials came to an alarming conclusion: The college has an image problem.

For too many students considering college as an option, WCC doesn't exist, according to one local school principal.

That must change, WCC administrators vowed after getting an earful in the December and January sessions.

"It became apparent that to the school districts, the superintendents, the principals that Washtenaw does not have a presence in those schools," said Linda Blakey, associate vice president of Student Services. "I was sitting in one of those sessions and a principal said to me: 'You don't exist in our schools. Even the military has a presence. You guys are like, not there.' We need to address this lack of presence."

As part of a new strategic initiative, administrators are looking to re-tool the college's marketing program to better connect with traditional

students coming from high school, hoping to establish WCC as a more viable option.

"WCC is not often even on the radar," Blakey said. "We need some sort of marketing push."

Blakey is excited about the college releasing a publication similar to WCC's "Career Focus," entitled: "College Focus." This magazine would be geared towards high school seniors in the midst of making decisions regarding higher education, according to Blakey.

She also looks forward to a possible alumni campaign to inform potential students of past successes had at WCC. She even mentioned another publication featuring stories about successful alumni: "Alumni Focus."

Their stories could even be told on bus signage, she added.

"When people have had a positive experience, they want to talk about it," Blakey said. "The point is to make the community, as a whole, aware of the classes and services we offer, so that you can get an affordable, quality education."

Interim Marketing Director Wendy Lawson explained that

WCC AD CAMPAIGN CONTINUED **A6**



BRITTANY BARNHART CONTRIBUTOR

The college is creating a new ad campaign to 'go fishing' for incoming high school students.

K-12 CONTINUED **A7**

Twitter opening offices in Detroit

KELLY BRACHA
Staff Writer

Social media enthusiasts, prepare your résumés! Twitter has announced that it is opening its first Michigan office in Dan Gilbert’s “M@dison” building in downtown Detroit. “Detroit’s emerging mix of automotive and digital cultures made it a natural location for Twitter’s newest office,” said Adam Bain, Twitter’s president of global revenue. “We’re excited to work face-to-face with the city’s most established brands and happy to play a role in downtown Detroit’s digital renaissance.” Gilbert fittingly gave welcome to Twitter in a tweet saying, “Welcome @Twitter! Twitter opening office in #Detroit’s M@dison building on technology booming

WEBward Avenue. Detroit 2.0 is the real deal.” The move is widely viewed as a significant addition to the rapidly growing tech district forming in downtown Detroit. “Twitter coming downtown is exactly the kind of innovative company Detroit needs to advance our vision of becoming one of the most exciting high-tech and web-centered corridors of growth and activity found anywhere,” Gilbert said. “Twitter chose Detroit because of the city’s growing, young and energetic environment. This is further proof that the country is starting to wake up and take notice – if you want to create a thriving, growing tech business, downtown Detroit is one of the best places to be,” Gilbert added. Other tech companies have also moved into the region in

recent years. Google, the Web search giant, has offices in both Birmingham and Ann Arbor. The Ann Arbor office serves as the headquarters for AdWords, the company’s advertising system and largest revenue source. Google promised the state that it would generate 1,000 jobs over the next few years as part of a tax-break deal. Since opening its doors in Sept. 2006, only an estimated 300 workers have filled the office. The company’s personnel growth slowed due to the global financial crises in recent years. Facebook is also among the budding list of large tech companies expanding into Michigan. Its Birmingham office focuses on the auto industry, banking, retail apparel and quick service restaurants. Jason Withrow, Washtenaw Community College Internet



Professional instructor, welcomes the social media powerhouses. “I think it’s a positive when any technology company relocates to this area,” Withrow said. “With Twitter coming here, who knows what other companies may open a Detroit office.”

Twitter expects to hire more employees as it develops its Detroit presence. Job openings will be posted at <http://twitter.com/jobs> as they become available.

Your student ID is your key to savings

BENJAMIN KNAUSS
Contributor

Jese Marcum works hard both in her second term as liberal arts transfer student and at her part-time job. Money is always tight for the 18-year-old from Clinton, so she looks for ways to stretch her dollars – by arming herself with her student ID from Washtenaw Community College. “I just purchased a Mac at the Apple Store and got a student discount,” Marcum said. The Apple Store is not the only place students can find a discount on a computer or software. The campus bookstore, Barnes and Noble, has options available for purchasing discounted computers from manufacturers like Dell and others. Software packages, including a greatly discounted full edition of Microsoft Word, are also available from the campus bookstore at a student discount. You, too, can save more of your hard-earned money by

doing very little extra. Getting the student-discount benefit you’re entitled to will add cash to your pocket and is as simple as pulling out your student ID with your cash or payment card. For WCC students, that little plastic card with your photo and student number on it is your ticket to savings from movies and music to food and even perhaps a new (to you) sofa. The Ark, Pizza House and the Ann Arbor PTO are just a few places you can save a buck, or two or more, just for being a WCC student. Any time you pay for something in the Ann Arbor area, you may be missing an opportunity at saving yourself some money. Many stores offer discounts of 10-15 percent or more, but may not be openly advertising the discount. Be sure to ask if the store offers any kind of student discount; the worst they can say is “no”. Not every discount offered around town is of great value, but saving a buck is saving a

buck. The Ark, home to some great live music in downtown Ann Arbor, offers \$1 off to students at the upstairs concession stand, according to Tom Stoll, box office employee. On the other end of the spectrum, the Ann Arbor PTO store offers one of the most generous student discounts in the area. Every Saturday, your current student ID will earn you a whopping 25 percent off your purchase. The Ann Arbor PTO store is a resale shop that supports the Ann Arbor Public School Parent-Teacher Organization as well as other area 501(c)3 non-profit organizations. The Ann Arbor PTO store has furniture, books, music, electronics, appliances and material for a home remodel, repair and much more. Another local establishment offering student discounts is Pizza House. General Manager Chris Brotz says that Pizza House gladly accepts any current college ID for any of the

discounts offered including a free garlic bread appetizer with any large traditional or deep-dish pizza. “Eatblue.com is the best place for your readers to go to find discounts offered,” Brotz said. The website eatblue.com hosts current discounts and the most accurate, up-to-date information for restaurant deals in the Ann Arbor area and is a great resource for students. Brotz said upcoming specials, not just student discounts, are a big part of eatblue.com. Pizza House is a regular contributor to the site. Marcum also uses the student discount at Joanne Fabrics and is planning on using her WCC ID for some University of Michigan sporting events in the future. The discount Marcum received on the computer at the Apple Store in Briarwood Mall also came with a deep discount on the software she needed for school.

MASTERPIECE FROM FRONT

The website also describes the album as a “gem out of Detroit, Michigan (and) a proven rarity of the highest quality. A superb dancer that very few claim to own.” Lawrence, who regularly gigs with his own music and with a few of the old Masterpiece singers, had no idea that anyone owned a copy outside of the few that were left over. “At the time we put it out, it got some airplay around here, and it did OK for a while until the band kind of just let it go,” he said. However, the album got more than just “some” airplay and attention. Lawrence’s band was hailed as one of the hottest tickets for R’n’B music in the early ’70s. Formed out of the break-up of two groups from Ypsilanti, The Masterpiece was created by the singers of The Soulful Soul Mates and a few singers from The Emeralds, according to Lawrence. The Soul Mates and Emeralds bands combined into the juggernaut group Masterpiece in ’72, and included a total of 14 members on stage at one time – not uncommon for a group blasting out funk-laden soul. All of the members of Masterpiece were born and raised in Ypsilanti, and they all attended Ypsilanti High School in the same graduating class. The album’s production company was even named “Ypsi Label.” Other than being mere band mates, the Members of Masterpiece were first and foremost friends. “It was one of the highlights of my life,” said Dawn Roberson, 61, a female vocalist for Masterpiece. “It made me feel good to be around with other entertainers.” Aside from good times and worthwhile relationships strengthened by the love of

music, Masterpiece singer Ray Ward enjoyed the tight-knit quality that the band possessed on stage. “Our show was great,” said Ward, 60. “We had people in our group that could pull off and sound like anybody who was big at the time. The Temps, the Blue Notes, Al Green, The OJ’s – we had it all.” The Masterpiece sounded so much like those other bands that when they had the chance to open for each of them, things quickly turned sour backstage. “We were in Toledo getting ready to play at the Sports Arena opening for The OJ’s in ’74, and we had three OJ’s song in our act,” Ward said. “Out of courtesy they wanted us to take them out of our act.” Roberson can even recall times when big bands had blocked them from using their greenroom, from what she claims as pure jealousy. However good they were, The Masterpiece didn’t go very far, and after an unsuccessful audition for a Jerry Lewis Telethon in 1976, the band slowly decided to call it quits. Yet some glimmer of hope for return lays on the horizon for Masterpiece. With such burgeoning popularity in other countries, Lawrence is in the process of calling promoters in Europe and Mexico to set up a Masterpiece tour. Lawrence said that if the money is right, and the opportunity is sensible, a new tour could happen. Both Roberson and Ward admitted that while one member doesn’t play anymore, the band could get back together tomorrow and still sound as great. A new tour could also mean a chance for merchandising, like a one-of-a-kind Masterpiece ashtray. “If I would have known what I know now, we would have kept those suckers,” Lawrence said.



Front, left to right: Eric Addie, Dawn Roberson and Lee Osler. Middle, left to right: Ray Ward, Pam Brown and James Lee. Back, left to right: Michael Lewis, Kenny Taylor, Mark Williams, Russell Bailey and John E. Lawrence.

John E. Lawrence books/DVD bring Motown to the classroom

BEN SOLIS
Managing Editor

The music of Motown Records is considered to be the most hallowed soul and R’n’B sound to come out of Detroit’s rich sonic history. The songs, however, are often hard to play for beginners. With the help of WCC guitar instructor John E. Lawrence, students in his Jazz Guitar classes have learned to make it look easy. “I actually make it look harder than it is,” said David Daly, 15, a Washtenaw Technical Middle College student, shortly after playing an impressive one-man version of the classic Stevie Wonder tune “I Wish.” In order to teach the complex arrangements on guitar, Lawrence recently wrote two books exploring the compositions in a solo format. With the Motown Solo Guitar I and II books, which Lawrence has taught from this year, his students have been able to put the songs together themselves, playing melodies, rhythm parts

and bass lines all at the same time. Although the books came in handy, Lawrence thought that a CD accompanying them would help his classes learn faster. But why hear it, when you could see it as well, Lawrence asked. “A lot of the students didn’t remember the songs, so I thought a DVD would do better,” Lawrence said. “This way they can see my fingers, hear it and then play the music.” The DVDs are still in the editing process, but once they’re ready Lawrence plans on packaging the books and DVDs for sale to other colleges and

worldwide as standalone teaching tools. Other Washtenaw students have helped out in the process as well. The DVDs were even filmed by digital film student Jeremy Liesen, making the musical dissection an entirely WCC-driven affair. While the DVDs won’t be released until later in the year, Lawrence’s students had a chance to get a sneak peek. According to Daly, the DVDs offer exactly what they were made to. “John teaches in a very visual way, but even with the books it’s hard to get the timings

down,” Daly said. “You need to hear it and see it. And with all the cool melodies, he simplifies them but he doesn’t hold back either.” Aside from seeing his students understanding the famous tunes, Lawrence enjoys their enthusiasm while jamming most of all. “I like seeing them playing because they’re doing it in a whole new way,” he said. “I tell them ‘I’m only giving you a guideline. Once you’ve mastered it, you have to alter it and make it your own. It’s really cool having a chance to see them do it.”



Get web-only content and links to extra information about this story by viewing it on our web site using this QR code!
<http://washtenawvoice.com/?p=24007>

IN BRIEF

AU SABLE RIVER RAFTING
Student Activities is selling tickets for a canoe trip scheduled on June 28 down the iconic Au Sable River, starting in Roscommon, about three hours north of Ann Arbor. The trip includes a brief stop at the Civilian Conservation Corps Museum, a free lunch at Subway, roughly five hours on the water and transportation to and from the canoe livery. Dinner is not provided. Student Activities urges students who are interested in going to purchase tickets as soon as possible as the trip may be canceled if not enough tickets are sold. Tickets can be purchased in the Cashiers Office for \$25 a piece.

CEDAR POINT AND TIGERS TICKETS SOLD OUT
Students waiting until the end of the semester to purchase discounted tickets to Cedar Point or the June 17 Tiger’s game are out of luck. All tickets have been sold. Student

Activities urges students interested in going to these kinds of events to purchase tickets early due to their high demand.

AUTOMATION OPEN HOUSE
For those interested in learning about technical careers in manufacturing, an Automation open house will be held April 25, from 4-6 p.m. in the Industrial Technology building located on the hill west of the Business Education building. For more information, contact Gary Schultz at gscultz@wccnet.edu.

A2 MAIN STREET ONE OF NATION’S BEST
In an article in Travel & Leisure magazine, Ann Arbor’s Main Street is described as being always an active spot due to students who make up more than a third of the total population. The article also highlights South Main Street as being designed with pedestrians in mind. The article can be found at travelandleisure.com.

CAMPUS EVENTS

**MONDAY, APRIL 23
CLEARY UNIVERSITY VISITATION**
Representatives will be available to answer questions from students interested in transferring from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the second floor of the Student Center

MONDAY NIGHT JOE
Free coffee will be offered for students in evening classes on the second floor of the LA building from 5-6 p.m.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 24
TUESDAY NIGHT JOE**
Free coffee will be offered for students in evening classes on the first floor of the LA building from 5-6 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25
ALBION COLLEGE VISITATION**
Representatives will be available to answer questions from students interested in transferring from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on the second floor of the Student Center
**THURSDAY, APRIL 26
SCATTER BALL THURSDAY**
Students can enjoy a new take on dodge-ball in the Community Park behind the Student Center from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 27
OUTDOOR KARAOKE**
Karaoke will be played in the Community Park courtesy of Student Activities from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 28
WINTER SEMESTER ENDS**

SECURITY NOTES

RECKLESS DRIVING
A woman reported to Campus Safety and Security on April 17 at 3:08 p.m. after she said a driver threw a water bottle at her out of a silver Hummer in a parking lot, according to CSS’s crime log. The log did not specify which parking lot.

LARCENY
A theft was reported on

April 4 to Campus Safety and Security at 11:01 a.m. A Sony camera and some money was said to have been stolen, but the location was not included in the campus crime log.

LOST PROPERTY
A back pack was reported missing from the commons in the GM building on April 3 at 4:37 p.m.

EDITORIAL

Trustees strive to make transparency top priority

Washtenaw Community College’s Board of Trustees does some of the most important work on behalf of the students and staff at the college. From balancing an ever growing budget with dwindling resources, the job they do is a taxing and often thankless.

As they work, *The Washtenaw Voice* has had the pleasure of seeing them in action, and we take each meeting quite seriously. That’s why we send at least two and sometimes four reporters just to cover each meeting and the wide range of issues presented at them.

One of the highlights we have noticed while attending this year’s meetings is the open approach trustees take when deciding crucial issues facing the college. If anything, it is a refreshing change of pace for the board as a whole.

In years past, the board meetings have had an air of careful orchestration. In some ways, the meetings seemed almost choreographed. Whenever a hallmark issue was presented before trustees, an infinitesimal amount of discussion and consideration was followed with a unanimous vote. As lively debates arose, they were stifled quickly in favor of moving on and deliberating later.

Often those deliberations never happened in public, but were swiftly decided at the next meeting. Whatever discussion ensued before was not heard of again in public. While former President Larry Whitworth was willingly accessible to *Voice* reporters, it was obvious that he held a tight grip on board proceedings and would often stand up for his executive staff when grilled by trustees.

However, we have seen the board’s culture shift as a new president makes her mark on the campus, and as a new sense of accountability in leadership forms among the trustees.

Last year, nearly every meeting ended in a closed session. We understand the need for these private sessions, which usually involve contract negotiations or sensitive staffing issues. This year, there have been relatively fewer closed sessions.

Not once this year has President Rose Bellanca interrupted conversations about policy and new initiatives, many of which she has brought before trustees, in favor of moving on later. If anything, she seems to relish in the diatribe, even if the board does not share her opinion. Board Chair Pamela Horiszny has made it apparent that doing the college’s business in a public forum is her top priority.

Horiszny has gone as far as delaying votes on new programs and tuition increases just for the sake of presenting them at a regularly scheduled board meeting. While we impatiently await these decisions, the effort to avoid even the appearance of impropriety is commendable.

And when *The Voice* has asked for information that was initially denied, Bellanca and Horiszny made it their mission to make certain we had what we needed to make our stories as accurate as possible.

The term “seeing right through” someone often carries a negative connotation. In this case, we offer the words in high esteem when looking at our trustees. A board we can see through is one we and the rest of the student body can begin to trust.

Parents need to wake up or more than movie ratings will change



ADRIAN HEDDEN
Features Editor

Over the past few months, a high school student from here in Ann Arbor has been crusading to lower the rating of a film called “Bully.” Katy Butler, of Greenhills High, has argued that despite being strewn with graphic dialogue and violent subject matter, the film must be seen by her and her peers with or without parental consent.

Butler cites that the nature of the film addresses the travesty of adolescent harassment by a young student’s classmates and is thus more topical and relevant to her age group than any other. Quickly garnering media attention for her aggressive, large-scale petitioning, Butler has made claims that every child should see

this film.

Anyone could see the movie at will if not for the “R” rating that its “f-bombs” have earned. Accompanied by a parent or guardian over 18, children can always be taken to R-rated films and have been able to since the ratings were implemented.

It’s nice to think of children being brought to a highly artistic albeit adult-themed movie by their parents, and of them explaining the graphic nature. We love to picture them hoping to cultivate their offspring into adult personalities that are well-adjusted to the horrors of the modern world through years of sensitive exposure and cautious conversation.

Why then does Butler seem to think that this will not happen with “Bully?” Why does she want students to take it upon themselves to see the film and take for granted that they will not duplicate the behavior but learn from it?

Because she knows she is out of options.

The truth is that parents

don’t take their children to see films like this, hoping to derive some life lesson. In the age of the media blitz that is the Internet and the growing distance its obsessive use has created between families, the aforementioned communication sadly does not exist. Indifference in the family is alive and well – and rampant.

Parents simply throw their hands up when met with the complexities of Facebook and YouTube on top of their own difficulties relating to a generation they seem to have less and less in common with as time goes on.

So the rating gets changed and kids are left to educate themselves on right and wrong and the horrible impact bullying can have on their peers. My parents taught me this: no name-calling, no teasing. I resisted at first, but they stayed strong. I resorted to calling them names, but they never gave up being my friends and mentors.

True, I still enjoy a good rib here and there, but I know

where the border between sanity and “too far” lays. It started with my parents.

Now that the rating of “Bully” has been changed, children are to parent themselves in theaters as they watch. They are all they have left in this desert of parental apathy. I’m glad they get to see it and talk amongst each other, but parents need to re-evaluate what this could mean for future generations.

As the Motion Picture Association of America, one of the most secret and powerful parental advisory commissions has been brought into question by this lone teenager, parents must ask why?

Why has their power been stripped? What have they lost? Answer these questions, suck up your pride and request your kid be your “friend” on Facebook, or rather ask them how it works. It might change your relationship from provider to teacher and prevent the impending childhood anarchy that your “cool” and disturbingly removed parenting may very well cause.

TO THE EDITOR:

I am the attorney for Cole Jordan and your article shows serious misunderstandings of the law. The “dominant purpose” of the 1969 law under which he was sentenced was “rehabilitation.” Everyone, including the district attorney and probation department agreed he had already been rehabilitated, therefore there was no good reason under the law to send him to prison. The article’s

second mistake was to think that the judge had the authority to have given him 1-2 years in prison. Under California’s 1969 indeterminate sentencing law the judge could only give him an unspecific term of 1-15 years in prison (the parole board would then make the decision to give him five years or more), or the judge could give him county jail time (which she did).

The judge also sentenced

him to numerous hours of Community Service. And because of his proven skills as a counselor the judge specified that he work with at-risk juveniles at the Alameda County Probation Department which had offered him a community service position.

The judge specifically noted that Cole Jordan (Ronald Bridgeforth) had taken responsibility for his actions. She gave

weight to over 70 letters of support from Ann Arbor and Detroit, and 14 letters from public officials, religious leaders and community activists in the Bay Area who had interviewed Mr. Bridgeforth and impressed by his talents, experience and compassion had offered him community counseling jobs.

Paul Harris

VOICE BOX
STUDENTS TO COLLEGE:
“WE’RE HUNGRY!”

Photos and interviews by:
KELLY BRACHA
and
NATHAN CLARK
Staff Writers

The first floor of the Student Center has been shut down for renovation. Students have lost access to many of the helpful services provided in the SC. We asked the hungry students: How has the renovation affected your daily routine?



The renovation hasn’t affected me much because I usually don’t eat at school, but lines are a lot longer and it’s harder to find a place to sit. I still appreciate what the school is doing, though.

MARIE BARNARD
24, Ann Arbor, Elementary Education



Personally, I’ve been disoriented. I’m happy they set up something in the LA building, but it’s not the same. I used to hang out in Bakuzio’s and eat a muffin. We lost our hangout – and our muffins.

MATTHEW HUGHES
20, Ypsilanti, Fine Arts



I didn’t notice the first floor was shut down. I come to school and go to class. The shut-down really hasn’t affected my usual routine.

JAMES CRAWFORD
22, Flint, Business



We’re hungry. The food service being offered has limited hours that don’t help me when I take evening classes. I could grab something out of the vending machines, but that’s terribly unhealthy.

KYRA WILSON
19, Romulus, Nursing



This sucks. All the noise and chaos from the SC building has moved to where I usually sit down and study in the LA building. They should have shut down the SC building when this semester ended, not weeks before.

JOLYNN WILLIAMS
52, Brighton, Applied Science



I usually hung out with my friends in Bakuzio’s. With the shop shut down, I’m not sure where my friends are right now. The Ping-Pong table disappearing has also been rough.

LIAM BRANTON
17, Ann Arbor, Liberal Arts Transfer



Now I eat in the LA building. The food is more expensive and not as great in quality. I have to walk around the building or up the second floor for class.

CARISSA STURDIVANT
17, Ypsilanti, Healthcare Foundations



There’s no place to get food. I know the LA building has food, but the line gets so long and with the bookstore closed, I don’t know where to go.

STEPHEN ROWE
19, Jamaica, Liberal Arts



It’s really annoying to have no more tables. They’re in miscellaneous places around campus. But I do like the fact that they are renovating.

PAULA ALEXANDER
18, Ann Arbor, Biology



There’s no place to hang out, but it doesn’t bother me so much. There’s just nowhere else to go on campus, so instead I just go to Taco Bell.

JEREMIAH TROUT
18, Ypsilanti, Math

The Washtenaw Voice

Volume 18, Issue 17

4800 E. Huron River Dr.
TI 106
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
(734) 677-5125
thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com

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.

The Washtenaw Voice does not represent or endorse the accuracy or reliability of any of the information or content in advertisements contained in the newspaper or its website, thewashtenawvoice.com, nor the quality of any products, information or other materials displayed, or obtained by you as a result of an advertisement or any other information or offer in or in connection with the services or products advertised.

EDITOR
Matt Durr
mdurrwcc@gmail.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Ben Solis
bensolis1@gmail.com

FEATURES EDITOR
Adrian Hedden
ahedden@wccnet.edu

PHOTO EDITOR
Jared Angle
jared.angle@gmail.com

MANAGING DESIGN EDITOR
Josh Chamberlain
josh@vgkids.com

DESIGN EDITOR
Ashley DiGiuseppe
ashley.digiuseppe@gmail.com

STAFF ILLUSTRATOR
Hafsah Mijinyawa

oradium@gmail.com

AD MANAGER
Becky Alliston
ealliston@wccnet.edu

WEB EDITOR
Ikram Fatah
ifatah@wccnet.edu

STAFF WRITERS
Kelly Bracha
Nathan Clark
Bob Conradi
Anna Fuqua-Smith
Allie Tomason

CONTRIBUTORS
Brittany Barnhart
Jenniffer Danczak
Gino Detone
Erin Gunderud
Sean Handler
Amanda Jacobs
Jena Jenkins
Premek Ozog
Danielle Seering

Alan Traxler
William Isaac Winston

ADVISER
Keith Gave
kgave@wccnet.edu

Produce may not produce due to hot spring

Photos and words by
DANIELLE SEERING
Contributor

Kayaking. Sunburns. Shorts. Sunglasses. Coolers. Pontoon Boats. Grills.

Michigan in...March? According to The National Weather Service, this March was the warmest on record for southern Michigan, breaking the previous record, from 1945, by several degrees. That year had record-setting 70-degree temperatures, but 2012 had highs in the 80s.

And fun was had by all! That short span of warm weather was welcome after such a long, hard winter. Wait, we didn't get much of that either, not hitting below freezing many days and getting more rain accumulation than snow.

Which is terrific for commuters and warm-blooded Michiganders. Not so much for ice fisherman.

Or for farmers. "We depend on cold winters and snow-cover to kill off insects and diseases," said Mike Hildebrand, of Hildebrand Farms in Berrien Springs.

The winter of 2011-2012 was within the top-ten warmest on record for Michigan, resulting in very wet ground for an extended period of time, a great breeding ground for fungus, which can do heavy damage to

crops. In addition, the insects that usually die off didn't, creating concern that the population will be twice as heavy this growing season.

Of even greater concern is the impact on the bees. Most bees are not prepared for flight so early in the season, leaving the pollen lingering for those with allergies and many plants un-pollinated. For the large farms, there just aren't enough bees to go around at this time of year.

"Because we're so early, the bees in the south aren't done with what they need to do there," Hildebrand said. "We went from no crop development to bloom in nine days. There was no way we could move fast enough."

Beekeepers start in Florida, with the citrus fruits and work their way north, pollinating the crops as they go. The weather created a bee-panic and now there is no way to know what got pollinated until the fruit starts showing up. Or doesn't.

The pollination guessing game is secondary at this point, for most farmers. With such a warm stretch of weather, many plants bloomed early, leaving them vulnerable to frost and even freeze, for a much longer period than normal.

Bruce Upston, of Wasem Fruit Farms in Milan, worries about freeze at least until the

middle of May. "I've have had freezes on Mother's Day weekend that took out a lot of crop," Upston said.

With six more weeks to hold their breath, farmers have a lot to lose and a lot of time to wait. Depending on the area of the state, most tree fruits are still in danger from the erratic temperatures, as well as berries and grapes, which have a more tender plant tissue.

Most crops are three-to-five weeks ahead of schedule, which may not seem like much but Duke Donahee from Donahee Farms in Salem, northeast of Ann Arbor, helped put it in perspective.

"We don't usually see our first heavy snowfall until the first week in December," Donahee said. Just imagine if it were winter coming three weeks earlier, instead of spring.

Good point. We likely wouldn't all be enjoying that as much, would we?

The Michigan asparagus crop, the third largest in the country, has already taken a heavy hit, with most growers expecting to lose up to 25 percent of their produce. And what does survive is coming so fast, they hardly have time to get the staff lined up to harvest.

Most local retail farms, like those run by Donahee and Upston, hire locals to harvest,

keeping a small staff year-round and hiring a few extras during the peak season. But the larger farms, which often sell wholesale, depend on traveling seasonal workers. Most of those workers are still in the southern states, and, like the bees, they aren't quite done with that work yet.

On the bright side of the warm spring, Annie Elder, of Community Farm of Ann Arbor, a biodynamic community supported agriculture project, says that it may get twice the produce from some crops.

"A number of crops that we would normally let die off during the winter, like cilantro and green onions, survived, and we are getting a second harvest from them now," Elder said.

So, it's not all doom and gloom. In order to be a farmer, you have to be willing to roll with the punches.

"In every business and in life you get thrown curve balls. You just pick up the pieces and you figure it out," Hildebrand said. Upston agrees.

"Any long-time farmer really has to be an optimist. If not, you will stress yourself out about what you can't control," he said.

Those who love the fresh produce from farmers' markets and roadside stands will be happy to know that retail prices are not expected to rise substantially. The supply, though, may



Top, cherry blossoms damaged by a frost are darker and shriveled. Bottom, healthy cherry blossoms are bright with smooth petals.

not be what it usually is and the times that certain fruits and vegetables are available will be different, and shorter.

Commercial growers and gardeners alike are on the edge of their seats, watching the skies and the weather forecasts for frost and freeze warnings.

"It's a slow-motion natural

disaster," Hildebrand said. "A tornado comes through and touches down for 10 minutes and you know pretty quickly what the damage is. This just goes on. It's like a pink-slip: You know you still have to do the work and that you are going to lose money, you just don't know how much yet."

Empowering democracy—checking one fact at a time

BOB CONRADI
Staff Writer

Chain emails forwarded by friends inform us of little-known secrets that may inspire, create fear or evoke outrage. Spiders living under public toilet seats can bite and kill you. Drinking Mountain Dew causes men's testicles to shrink. Children's TV host, Mr. Rogers was a soldier in Vietnam and is credited with dozens of kills. Dr. Ruth Westheimer, the 4-foot-7-inch sex adviser, served as a sniper in the Israeli army.

Only one of these amazing "facts" is true. Dr. Ruth was a sniper.

Then there is the political disinformation. No fellow students from schools that Obama allegedly attended in his youth can remember him. Obama's State Department has given away seven Alaskan islands to the Russians. Welfare programs caused greater damage to Detroit than the bomb caused in Hiroshima.

All of these have a political agenda, and are false.

There may be hints of mendacity, but we can't know for sure without careful research. Fortunately, fact-checking websites do much of this work for us.

Two sites went on line in the 1990s to help assess the truth of urban legends and Internet rumors: Snopes.com and TruthorFriction.com.

Barbara and David Mikkelson started Snopes when the Internet was young. They used color-coded circles to rate stories as "true," "false," "multiple truth values," "undetermined" and "unclassifiable veracity." They also provided commentary on why a rating is given.

TruthorFiction.com was started in 1999 by Rich Buhler, an author, broadcast journalist, and pioneer of Christian talk radio. Buhler and helpers at Branches Communications, Inc. provide nuanced assessments of highly forwarded emails as well as simple true and false ratings.

But for help deciphering the glut of questionable information put forth in political campaigns other websites are more appropriate.

One of these is PolitiFact.com, a business unit of the *Tampa Bay Times*. PolitiFact was created to fact check statements in the 2008 Presidential campaign, at the urging of Bill Adair, Washington bureau chief for the newspaper.

"Back then, fact-checking

was not done by many people in the news media," Adair said. "Most of the mainstream media, including my own paper, was focused more on writing about the horse race, and to some extent the issues, than checking the facts."

There had been an earlier emphasis on fact-checking championed by David Broder of the *Washington Post* in the late 1980s, but that movement had lost its momentum, Adair said. Politifact.com and a few other sites were to become the go-to sites for fact-checking in the Internet age.

PolitiFact has three fulltime reporters and two editors that are employees of *Tampa Bay Times*. Beyond their national office, however, they have partnerships with news organizations in 10 states. With these remote reporters who have been trained in Politifact's style of journalism, the organization has 35 full-time journalists.

Adair takes pride in this successful extension of fact-checking to the local and state level.

PolitiFact is known for its iconic "Truth-o-Meter," with ratings of: "true," "mostly true," "half true," "mostly false," "false" and "pants-on-fire!"

In addition, the website provides the "Obameter" and "GOP Pledge-o-meter," to evaluate how politicians follow through on their promises. It also evaluates flip-flopping of politicians on issues with "Flip-o-Meter" ratings of: "no flip," "half flip" and "full flop." PolitiFact provides extensive commentary and references for every issue it evaluates, explaining how it chose its rating.

Of course there are fact checkers checking the fact checkers. PolitiFact receives criticism from both sides of the political spectrum accusing them of bias. This criticism reveals deeply passionate feelings reflective of our country's partisan divide.

"We take the criticism seriously," Adair said. "If we get something wrong, we correct it. If we decide we made a bad judgment we'll change our rating."

In spite of the flak, Adair believes the site has made a difference. He believes that members of congress pay attention to PolitiFact ratings and are motivated to be more accurate.

But the mission of PolitiFact is not to make politicians honest.

"The goal is to empower democracy," Adair said. "We are



trying to inform people so they can make smarter decisions about their elected officials."

PolitiFact is not alone in this business.

FactCheck.org was started by the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania in 2003. This was actually the first website to specialize in analysis of political TV ads, debate points, speeches and assorted political content with the goal to reduce confusion and deception.

FactCheck.org is a group effort, having six employees. Though it doesn't sport a graphic truth-rating scheme like PolitiFact, it does provide insightful analysis and references to source material.

Another fact-checking site that is part of a newspaper is Fact-Checker in the *Washington Post* (washingtonpost.com/blogs/fact-checker). Fact-Checker was started by Glenn Kessler in 2008 and is a one-man operation.

Like PolitiFact and FactCheck, Kessler focuses on statements by politicians, pundits and political ads. He rates the truth of their pronouncements with a system similar to movie ratings. The highest mark is the coveted "Geppeto checkmark," while degrees of falsehood are rated with one to four Pinocchios (nose extended). The ratings are coupled with expert news reporting.

The three major political fact-check sites usually agree when they evaluate the same issue, Adair says. Disagreements do occur, but they are usually minor. For example, Fact-Checker may award a statement four Pinocchios while PolitiFact only rates it "false," not "Pants-on-fire!"

Much is said in political campaigns that reverberates through the echo chamber of the Internet. A trusted friend may send an incredible email that cries out to be forwarded. Fortunately, fact-checking websites are there to test the truth of the story before the send button is struck. These sites can save a lot of embarrassment—and empower democracy.

Computer Security Club places 2nd in state competition



PETE ANDERSON COURTESY PHOTO
Cyber Defense team members from left to right: team MVP Nick Maxwell, Max Ramirez, Kenji Aoki, Hans Kokx, Nick Clarke, team Captain Rob Woolson, Mike Steklac and John Parrott.

WILLIAM ISAAC WINSTON
Contributor

At 5 a.m. on a Saturday in March, members from the student computer security organization, CompSec, packed themselves into a white van at Washtenaw Community College. Their destination was Grand Rapids, where they represented the college at Michigan's Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition.

The CCDC gives teams of full-time college students from across the country, from 2-year and 4-year institutions, the opportunity to test their ability to defend a computer network against trained computer security professionals.

The Washtenaw team finished second, attributing its success to their preparation and no-quit attitude.

The competition—one of several state, regional and national events, kicked off at 9 a.m. and the teams were supposed to be given approximately 30 minutes to secure their computers and network before the attacks started.

"The premise was that a whole IT department just got fired," said Rob Woolson, the president of CompSec studying computer security. "They are disgruntled and upset so they left a lot of ways to get back on the network. They want to screw up the new team that is coming in to defend the network, which was what our team represented."

"Our whole game plan got thrown out of whack because

they started messing with our routers within the first 15 minutes of the competition," said Jon Parrothan, a computer security student from Westland.

Also, Parrothan said they were bombarded with attacks throughout the day. However, the team adapted all of the situations it found itself in.

Throughout the competition the team of hackers took down computers, network devices and added suspicious accounts to stations. Ultimately, they brought down every team's network.

At 6:15 p.m., the competition was called to a close and it was followed by a ceremony where they teams learned how they performed.

"I was shocked to find that we came in second because we got beat on pretty hard and pretty fast," said Nicholas Maxwell, a WCC computer security student from Freeland. "We had machines going down from 10 a.m. in the morning until 6 p.m., except for the 45-minute lunch break, and it didn't stop until they called time."

"Nobody was able to completely defend against the attacks of the professional hackers," said Neil Gudsen, a WCC computer information security program manager. "The reasons for our team's success were that our team hung in there and they kept their cool, they prioritized well, they split up their responsibilities well, and they stayed in the game even when things got tough."

WCC had not sent a team to this competition for several

years. Also, none of the current members of CompSec had participated in a CCDC event.

"Most of us have not been in a situation where we had been attacked or defended a network," Woolson said.

To prepare, they used the Friday night CompSec meetings to plan and prepare for the CCDC event.

"We were meeting every Friday for about a month prior to the competition, and we worked on replicating the infrastructure at the competition," Maxwell said.

Two WCC computer security instructors, Mike Galea and Doug Cox, volunteered their time to help fill in the gaps of knowledge in defending a network.

"Doug and Mike gave the students a framework for prioritizing the first half hour of the competition before they started to get slammed by the professional hackers," Gudsen said. "The two of them guided the students as far as researching vulnerabilities and suggesting strategies for protecting the systems."

Already, they are gearing up for a CCDC event slated for next fall.

"We came away with a breadth of knowledge that you don't receive in class, possible defenses and attacks," Maxwell said. "This really showed us what it would be like in a work place."

CompSec meets Friday from 6-10 p.m. in TI 240. For more information, contact Woolson at rwoolson@wccnet.edu.

Distance learning—a viable option?

DANIELLE SEERING
Contributor

It’s a sign of the economic times that those who were once secure in their employment are now returning to college to improve their skills or to change careers altogether. These students often include those who are working one or more full-time jobs, as well as meeting family obligations, while trying to fit school in between.

It’s a challenge that Washtenaw Community College is trying to help students meet by offering evening classes, both on the main campus and at extension sites in Brighton, Dexter, Hartland and Ypsilanti, as well as online classes. However, most courses offered are general requirement courses, with many overlapping in availability.

For example, to meet a general-education requirement for any degree, you must take English Composition 1. This course is available on the main campus on evenings and weekends and online at three out of four of the extension sites. Publication and Design, on the other hand, required for a graphic design degree, is available on campus only, from 9-11:55 a.m., on Tuesdays and

Thursdays; there are no alternative options.

So how does a student who works daily from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. get that course and degree completed?

“See your department chair,” said James Egan, dean of Distance Learning. “We really want to serve all students,” he said, adding that administration can’t help juggle schedules if they don’t know that there is a problem.

According to Egan, WCC is looking to provide as many options as possible for its students. The highest-enrolled courses are the most likely to be added as distance-learning options first, due primarily to resources. However, many courses are being offered as blended, which is both online and face-to-face, giving yet another option to busy students.

“Much of the nursing program is now online,” Egan said, “and we are working to get accreditation to offer more full programs online.”

Accreditation is through the Higher Learning Commission, which certifies that online course content matches both the content and quality that is taught in traditional face-to-face courses.

Adam Martin, a sociology

student from Hartland who takes courses at both the Hartland and Brighton campuses, will likely take all of the courses he can take off-campus before transferring to another school.

“I am able to get all of my basic classes out of the way for cheaper than I could get them done at another college,” said Martin, crediting the in-district discount.

It’s easy to wonder, especially when walking through the halls of Brighton High School heading toward the WCC office, if distance-learning options offer the same education as those at the main campus, or if they are really just a repeat of high school, as the lockers and poorly maintained restrooms may indicate.

Professor David Orr, who teaches courses in Brighton and on the main campus argues that while the course content is the same, the resulting education may not be.

“The classes are more culturally diverse (on the main campus), and in teaching sociology, this is a great asset when it comes to discussions,” Orr said. And what of online courses?

There are those who argue that face-to-face teaching will always trump that driven by

technology. But, by requiring the Introduction to Online Learning Course or GPA requirements, WCC works to ensure that students who are well-prepared are able to enroll in online or blended classes. The short online class will determine if a student is not only able to handle the format, but also driven enough to manage their own progress.

Between 12-20 percent of students have at least one online course, while 4-10 percent are exclusively studying online, according to Egan. And those who are taking online classes meet or exceed the performance of those in face-to-face classes, he said.

Professor Donna Wasserman, who teaches her government classes both online and on campus, said that while more of her face-to-face students finish the course, the level of participation is higher in online classes.

“I think the online sections force students to be more involved in the discussions because it is required,” Wasserman said. “In my on-campus class, I have many students who would prefer not to contribute at all to the class discussions.”

So, who is your department chair?

Department
Business (BUSD)
Business Office Systems (BOS)
Computer Instruction (CISD)
Culinary and Hospitality Management (CHMD)
Digital Media Arts (DMAD)
Apprenticeships
Community & Business Services
Conference Services
LifeLong Learning
Public Service Careers (PSCD)
United Association Programs (UASD)
Academic & Career Skills (ACSD)
Behavioral Sciences (BEHD)
English/Writing (ENGD)
Foreign Language (FLGD)
Humanities (HUMD)
Performing Arts (PERD)
Social Science (SSCD)
Allied Health (ALHD)
Life Sciences (LIFD)
Mathematics (MTHD)
Nursing & Health Science (NHSD)
Physical Sciences (PHYD)
Automotive Body (ABDD)
Automotive Services (AUTD)
Construction Institute (CIND)
Heating, Ventilation and A/C (HVAD)
Industrial Technology (INTD)
Motorcycle Technology (MOTD)
Welding & Fabrication (WAFD)

Chair*
Collette Young
Joyce Jenkins
Clem Hasselbach
Terri Herrera
Jennifer Baker
Mike Griffith
Linda King
Patrick Downey
Monique James
Ruth Walsh
Scott Klapper
Bonnie Arnett
Starr Burke
Carrie Krantz
Juan Redondo
Dena Blair
Tracy Komarmy-Jaffe
Randy LaHote
Connie Foster
Marvin Boluyt/Anne Heise
Kristin Chatas
Gloria Velarde
Kathy Butcher
Scott Malnar
Allen Day
Cristy Lindemann
Les Pullums
Gary Schultz
Shawn Deron
Glenn Kay

*Subject to change; appointments valid for Fall 2011-Winter 2012 semesters

Requirements for registration to online classes

- Less than 50 percent withdrawal rate
- At least 15 college credits in academic classes, with a 2.7 GPA
- Returning online students, with a GPA of 2.3 or higher*
- Fewer than 15 college credits or a GPA of 2.3 to 2.6 can enroll in online classes after completing the Introduction to Online Learning class.*

*If your GPA is lower than 2.3 and you want to take an online class, speak to an adviser.

Source: Washtenaw Community College

Lifelong learners

Emeritus Scholars keep their minds fit in WCC classrooms

JAN BENDOR
Contributor

It may be the best-kept secret at Washtenaw Community College. Residents of Washtenaw County who are 65 and older can attend college for free.

Students who qualify must apply for the Emeritus Scholar status at the Student Connections and show a driver’s license with a current address to verify their age and residency.

Once admitted as students, Emeritus Scholars can enroll for free noncredit or credit classes. There is one hitch for the credit classes: on the last day to register, there must be empty seats remaining, or the student will have to pay tuition. Emeritus students also pay applicable course fees.

Peggy Jones is the Special Populations Technician at Enrollment Services and assists seniors with their applications. According to Kathy Currie, Director of Student Records, Winter Semester has 80 Emeritus Scholars enrolled in credit classes, and 174 in noncredit classes.

WCC’s senior-friendly

policy is unique among colleges in the area. The Board of Trustees originally voted to institute the program about 25 years ago. According to the published Admissions Policy, the addition probably came in with a revision in 1988, not long after the college had created an Emeritus status for staff and faculty with 15 or more years of service.

Emeritus students praise the education made possible by the scholarship. Judy Bonnell-Wenzel, of Ann Arbor, has four degrees, including an associate’s earned when she was past the age of 65.

“WCC is by far the best school I have attended,” she said. “I have always been treated well here. The teachers are excellent—they really help you.”

Her first experience, a B.S. in biology from the University of Texas, left her “shell-shocked.” A master’s program later left her with a bad taste of ageism. The late Richard Bailey, a WCC trustee, encouraged her to try Washtenaw, where she found other older students, free tutoring in chemistry, and refresher in her old subjects.

Dan Ayres, of Ypsilanti Township, likes the opportunity for environmental education from adjunct teachers who are working in the field. He started with classes

in small-engine repair as a youngster in his 50s and enjoyed the group of Emeritus students who returned every semester.

“They contributed to the training of the younger students, and had a great social benefit, as well as unique access to facilities,” Ayers said.

Jerry Kruse, of Ypsilanti, a retired university department head and veteran college teacher, takes classes in a broad spectrum of subjects. He likes to challenge himself and explore new worlds of knowledge that the hustle-bustle of his career had left him no time for.

With studies showing that mental functioning does not have to decline with age, given brain stimulation from learning new and difficult skills, Washtenaw Community College is poised to add another accomplishment to its long list of community contributions.

Former President Gunder Myran once told Bonnell-Wenzel: “We take students with trouble in school, and make them into good students.”

Now he could as well claim: “We take students at all stages of life, and keep them sharp and healthy.”

Interested students can contact Jones at (734) 973-3607.

For some, 2 + 2 = 5

Math levels just don’t add up for some students

ALLIE TOMASON
Staff Writer

Mathematics might be the most procrastinated subject by college students across the country. It requires a lot of reasoning and calculating, and can be intimidating in the extreme.

“I seriously had nightmares with statistics,” said Jamie Wisniewski.

The 25-year-old physical therapist assistant major from Ann Arbor doesn’t have to worry though, because Basic Statistics is the only math class required for her program. However, there are other students who are concerned that the new Math Level Expiration Policy, implemented by Washtenaw Community College, may impede their academic progress.

The policy was put in place at the start of the Fall semester, and with little notice according to Tom Hopper, 49, a pre-engineering transfer from Ann Arbor.

“We’ve been trying to push it before we even put this limit in, and about one or two years ago we started emailing instructors when registration opened telling them, ‘hey, today’s a good day to talk to your students about registering for their next math class,’” said

Kristin Chatas, chair of the college’s Math Department.

Hopper doesn’t buy it.

“What good is that if you aren’t in a math class?” he asks.

Working full-time and attending classes, Hopper is focused on his goal of getting his engineering degree, but being a non-traditional student is making it hard for him to comply with the school’s policy of one year expiration – due to work constraints.

“If I would have known this was coming, I would have waited to take chemistry,” he said.

As a participant of “Achieving the Dream,” a nationwide initiative to improve success for students who enter college at a developmental level, WCC knew it was coming. The question is what prompted the change?

“Sixty-seven percent of students entering WCC have to take remedial math, and that isn’t just a problem here. It’s nationwide,” said Linda Blakey, associate vice-president of Student Services.

“Achieving the Dream” college refers, on average, 56 percent of their students to developmental education coursework, with individual institutional referral rates ranging from a low of nine percent to a high of 97 percent of all entering students,” according to research conducted by Achieving the Dream.

Additional empirical data supporting Washtenaw’s case for the change in policy,

however, was not available on request from *The Washtenaw Voice*.

“A lot of what we used was anecdotal experience,” Chatas said. “We were finding that many students would take a math course and then wait, potentially several years, to take the next required course. This was prolonging their academic paths, and oftentimes led to poor performance from the long layover between classes.”

That is of little consolation to a student, like Hopper, who isn’t at a developmental level.

“I think expiration is needed, but a blanket of one year seems a little extreme,” said Andrea Waite. In her experience, the Chemistry 111 instructor believes that it depends on the student.

But there is a way for students to keep math levels current without having to repeat a class. Take the Compass test.

Becky Alliston, a business major, found that she needed to drop her required math class when she realized that it was too much in her schedule. Her math level wasn’t due to expire until the Fall of 2012, but she was still unable to register for her math class for the Summer semester because the registration system wouldn’t allow it, so she went ahead and took the test.

“I passed for the level I needed, but before I took the test the proctor told me it was harder due to the expiration policy,” she said.

AWARD OF MERIT FROM FRONT

weight,” said Landau, who in addition serves on the award’s governing board. “The key distinction that we want to make with an honorary associate’s degree is truly recognizing someone who has made a contribution to the college as a graduate at commencement. It has the effect of creating a type of intimacy between that person and the college.”

Even though the title may receive a facelift, what is required of the awarded recipient will remain the same. These qualities include “outstanding contributions to the advancement of Washtenaw Community College, dedication and devotion to the idea of education for all people, and extraordinary achievement in a vocation which directly relates to the mission it represents.”

Changing the award to an honorary degree, much like the awards given to politicians or other figures who speak at university commencements, however, does not offer any sort of educational achievement outside of an award. What it will do is expand the types of potential candidates.

Landau expressed a will among the deciding parties to extend these offers to politicians, activists or other political figures.

“This allows us to not be necessarily confined to internal candidates. We’re looking for more external candidates as well,” he said.

While succinctly outlined to narrow down a list of potential candidates, trustees have their own ideas on what qualities deserve the merit.

“I would still want to choose someone involved with the college,” said Trustee Stephen

Gill. “If not WCC, at least someone who is an advocate for community colleges. Changing these requirements is terrific, because no matter who we pick, it’s another way of saying a degree from a community college is a respected recognition.”

An individual who has helped improve the quality of life in Washtenaw County and its economy additionally topped Gill’s bill.

For Horiszny, the deciding factor will rest on the ability for the honoree to wow Washtenaw’s departing population. But don’t expect any members of Mötley Crüe sending them off, either.

“I want to bring someone in who is going to empower and excite our graduates,” she said. “What I’m looking for is someone who can show students that they can be anything that they want to be.”

WCC AD CAMPAIGN FROM FRONT

past pushes have been primarily to promote how the college can fill certain jobs with its academic and vocational programs.

She believes students coming in from high schools have been ignored in the shuffle for job placement and that a campaign focusing on enrollment is now necessary and imminent.

“In the past, we have only advertised specific programs,” Lawson said. “To be honest, we haven’t done a campaign based on enrollment like this.”

Lawson looks to President Rose Bellanca as having led the charge this year toward better interactivity with possible customers of the college.

“We have a new president who is very engaged in the community,” Lawson said. “She is very interested in

creating partnerships and being the community college for the community.”

Trustee Richard Landau is convinced that the college must now deploy more fashionable and communicative means of reaching future students via multiple forms of media.

“What we’re looking for is trying to speak more directly with potential constituents,” Landau said. “And in a way that encourages them that WCC is a first choice.”

Landau charged the college to be more aggressive in bringing in new students and contended that the days of relying on recommendations from guidance counselors be brought to an end.

“From billboards to social media, we need things that speak more directly to people rather than relying on other schools’ administrators to tout

us,” Landau said. “It’s time that we tout ourselves. Sometimes, the best way to get a kid on the bus is to take his hand.”

Lawson intends to take that hand on as many platforms as possible, even turning over social media efforts to select, interested “student ambassadors.”

“We will use Facebook, tweeting and blogs for this,” Lawson said. “Our ambassadors will be tweeting and blogging about their experiences to create a good image for the college.”

To other administrators, an evolving marketing campaign follows an ever-shifting tide of student inclinations and will continue to evolve over time.

“As the demographics change, so do their interests,” said Board of Trustees Chair Pamela Horiszny. “Things tend to get stale. Sometimes you have to shake things up.”

View more content at washtenawvoice.com

New blood donation system shakes up ‘Be a Life Saver Week’



NATHAN CLARK THE WASHTENAW VOICE
Hanaan Abouzahr, 17, donates to the Red Cross during a recent blood drive on campus.

NATHAN CLARK
Staff Writer

The Red Cross blood drive held at “Be a Life Saver” week earlier this month, failed to meet previous donation numbers by 31 pints.

“We usually get about 80 to 90 pints when we have a blood drive,” said Rachel Barsch, Student Activities event coordinator. “This time we only got 49 pints donated.”

The reason, in part, may have been the location—the Morris Lawrence building, which doesn’t see a lot of student traffic on a typical weekday. But the Red Cross said there might have been other factors, as well.

Recently, the organization implemented a new computer program called BioArch to manage and control the blood donation process.

“The system isn’t working as well as expected,” said Gerry Abejuro, a donor resource representative from the Red Cross, referring to the new paperless system donors must use to register to donate blood. “The system is only a few weeks old, so

naturally there will be a few hiccups here and there. The process will improve in time.”

By noon on the first day of “Be a Life Saver” week, nine scheduled donors and six walk-ins had given blood. By the end of the first day, only 21 pints of blood were collected when there were 37 donors scheduled to come.

The blood drive had a large amount of donors who didn’t schedule an appointment. Students can’t show up to a blood drive and not expect to wait for a while, Barsch said.

There was an unusual number of students being deferred from donating this year. Many students were unable to donate blood due to dehydration or low iron levels in their blood.

“Women make up roughly 60 percent of our donors. Women also seem to have low iron levels more often,” Abejuro said. The Red Cross screens out donors who have low iron levels or are dehydrated, but no longer screens out donors with tattoos, Abejuro said.

Even with the new system causing some issues in the donation process, students still

found their way to the ML building willing to donate.

“I used to be scared of needles,” said Hanaan Abouzahr, a 17-year-old criminal psychology student from Ann Arbor. “I had a bad experience once with needles, but donating blood is a good cause.”

The Red Cross workers explain the entire process, Abouzahr said, adding that she would gladly donate blood again.

While the blood donation part of the week may have had a few bumps, students and staff curious about organ donation had the opportunity to ask questions and sign up at the event.

“So many people need organs,” said Ashley Kissella, 26, nursing student from Willis. “It’s good to have prior consent. Without it, family members bear the burden of determining if you would be okay with donating your organs.”

Even if you think your organs are not usable, like if you have hepatitis or other health problems, your organs could be useful to a patient who already has hepatitis, Kissella said.

STRATEGIC PLAN FROM FRONT

sessions, including trustees, faculty, staff, administrators and WCC students.

Among them, Trustee Steven Gill is now excited at the expedient nature at which the college has pushed the strategic planning initiative. The conclusions drawn from the sessions were presented to board at the April 10 meeting.

“It’s great that we’re already moving ahead,” Gill said. “We didn’t even wait for the ink to dry.”

The results of the sessions are contained in a document entitled: “Shaping Our Future.” Pegged as a living document by Bellanca to be altered as needed, the plan has been ironed out into eight major priorities and will be available in print on campus as soon as it has been proofread.

“Shaping our Future” details the college’s internal needs for student success and faculty innovation as well as external needs to foster relationships with outside industries, businesses and universities, catering to their needs for employment and articulation when developing new programs for WCC students.

The plan and Bellanca are ready for the task undertaken. But Trustee Richard Landau was skeptical of involving external influences. He addressed his concerns directly to the president at the meeting.

“My concern is that in this process you unnecessarily involve external stakeholders and you take a risk because the next step is action,” Landau said. “You raise their expectations. I’ve seen many law firms go through these processes, and they often sit on the shelf and feel like a complete waste of time.”

However, Landau is optimistic that officials at WCC and his peers will prevail due to the president’s direct involvement with the plan.

“The reason I don’t think that will happen here is that you, Rose, are the driving force behind this,” Landau said.

- WCC’s top priorities in its strategic plan**
- Sustain and enrich organizational culture and health with emphasis on building and leveraging a learning community
 - Strengthen and enhance student success
 - Increase institutional agility and responsiveness to external needs, forces and trends
 - Place a concerted emphasis on institutional visibility and branding
 - Pursue a workforce development and in partnership with business and industry employers and community organizations
 - Leverage and pursue academic partnerships with K-12 districts and four-year colleges and universities
 - Optimize existing and potential sources of funding with a focus on priorities and core mission
 - Become a key player in community development

K-12 FROM FRONT

message that came through clearly was that we could best partner with them by offering classes on the high school campus,” said Linda Blakey, associate vice president of Student Services

In addition to the initiative, Killich is also working with the high school students on the possibility of enrolling into dual-enrollment classes whether they are at the WCC main campus or one of the extension sites.

“They are coming to the campus, taking the compass test and seeing if they’re ready for dual enrollment,” she said. “There are even talks of possibly offering a class on how to be a dual-enrolled student.”

While visiting area high schools, Killich is often asked about WCC’s sports department and class sizes.

“The students support the small class sizes,” she said. “A lot of students are interested in knowing that we have Club Sports at the college level. They think they have to go straight to university for that.”

Although the Admissions Department is becoming more aggressive in the recruiting process through high schools, Trustee Richard Landau believes that resources like social media such as Facebook and Tumblr are being under used.

“We rely largely on guidance counselors who may be focused on placing students in four-year colleges rather placing students at WCC,” he said. “We have all of these students at the college who have tremendous contacts, and I’ve always thought our students are our greatest ambassadors.”

And while Killich has confirmed that social media can be a viable option when recruiting high school students, Landau also believes that WCC will see more customers with the increase in dual enrollment sections.

“I think social media is a viable option and it’s a direction we’re heading,” Killich said.



Open to the Public
Seven Days
A Week!

Lease almost up?
Time to downsize?
Don't throw that stuff out!

Donate it to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore!

Free pick-ups in Washtenaw County for most large items! Call 734.323.7028.
Your donations are tax-deductable!



Furniture &
Storage Items!



Appliances
& Electronics!



Lighting &
Home Décor!



Windows
& Doors!



Paint, Tools,
& Hardware!



Plumbing, Lumber
& Flooring!



Store Hours:
Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm
Sunday 11am-3pm

Location:
170 Aprill Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
734.822.1530
www.h4h.org/restore

In town for the summer?
Volunteer at the ReStore!
Call 734.677.1558 x108
to sign up!

Drop off your old electronics
at the ReStore and we'll
recycle them at no cost to
you!

\$10 off purchase of \$30 or more*
at the Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley ReStore

* Ann Arbor Warehouse location only.
Cannot be used on GRIP tools, new area rugs, doormats, carpet tiles,
Everybody's Paint, SpeedPro Paint, Lawson products, new laminate
flooring, and cannot be combined with other offers, coupons, or sales.
Other restrictions apply. See store for details.

Expires May 31, 2012

WV3-4/12





A cloud of smoke above the crowd at Hash Bash 2012.

PRZEMEK OZOG THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Politics, apathy rein at 41st annual ‘Hash Bash’



AMANDA JACOBS
Contributor

Most people think that Hash Bash is a silly hippie festival where people just walk around Ann Arbor smoking pot. And in some ways, they’re right.

But for many who attend each year, Hash Bash is about people coming together to protest for what they believe in: the legalization of cannabis.

Of every Hash Bash I have been to, this year’s was by far the most political. This year, people passed around petitions, trying to get enough signatures to legalize pot in Michigan. Speakers urged everyone in the crowd to go out, sign petitions, vote, and stand up for what they think is right.

“Let’s just legalize it!” Matt Abel said, a Detroit attorney and leader of the petition drive.

The petition needs 322,609 signatures by July 8 in order to see it on the Michigan ballot in November.

The bill that Abel is trying

to pass says to “repeal marijuana prohibition for persons at least 21 years of age, who are not incarcerated.” This bill also states that, “marijuana acquisition, cultivation, manufacture, sale, delivery, transfer, transportation, ingestion, presence in or on the body, religious, medical, industrial, agricultural and commercial use shall not be prohibited.”

Steve DeAngelo spoke to the crowd about the many years he has attended Hash Bash. He thanked Ann Arborites for staying true to their beliefs and continuing to throw Hash Bash for 41 years.

“(We are) standing up for our rights as Americans, no matter who tries to stop us!” said DeAngelo, director of Oakland’s Harborside Health Center in California.

Sadly, however, many of those who attended Hash Bash were unable to do much about the drive to legalize marijuana – like signing a petition – because they are not registered voters. In fact, most of the young people there were hardly interested in the cause at all.

Many people showed up after the actual “Hash Bash,” mostly to attend the Monroe Street Fair. They missed much of the point of the rally.

The first Hash Bash was held in 1972, when local activist John Sinclair was arrested and sentenced to 10 years in prison for selling two joints to undercover police.

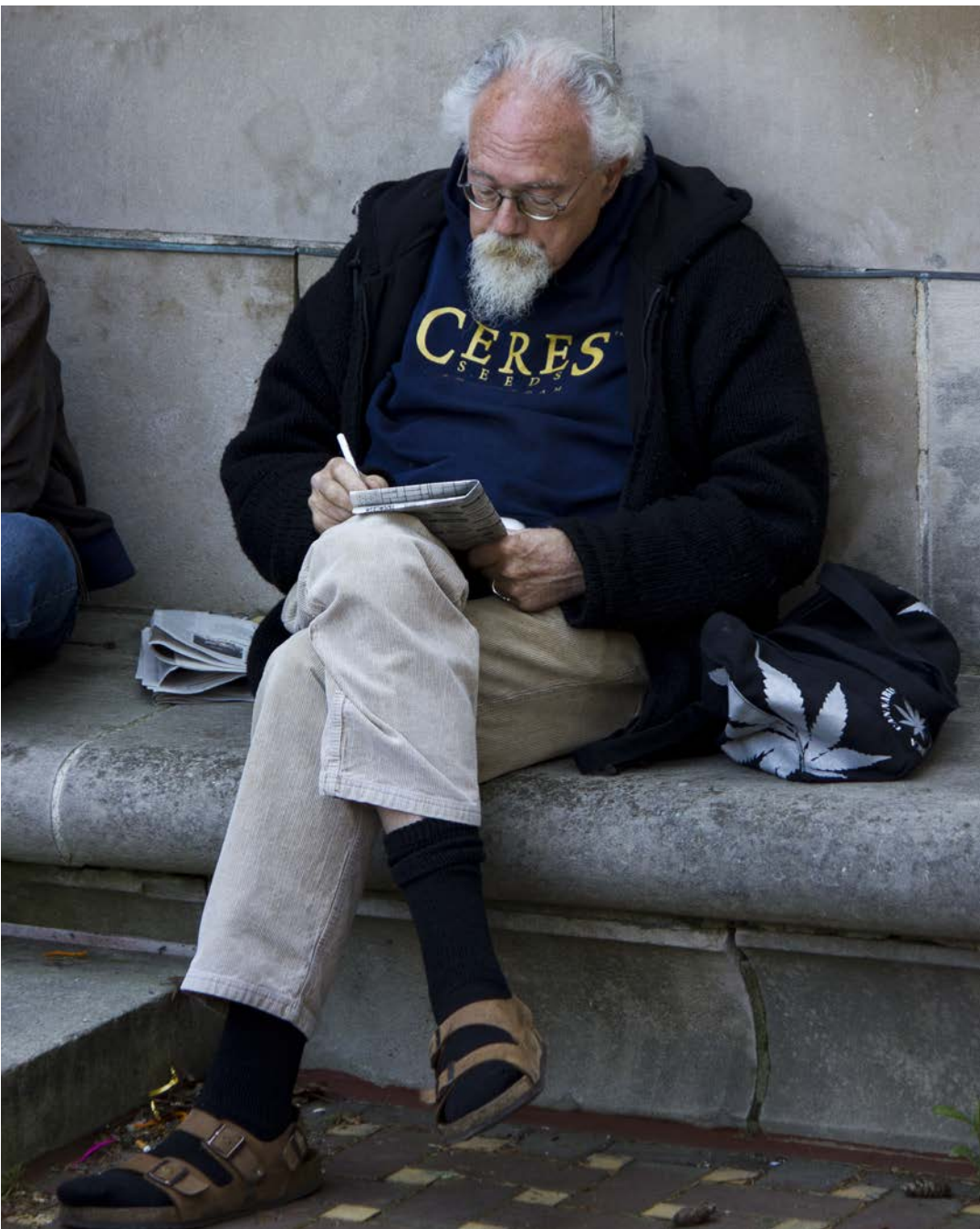
Which is why Hash Bash is about more than just smoking pot. It’s about making a change to federal laws that many people find unnecessary. These laws have put people like Sinclair behind bars for relatively minor crimes, and it’s up to the American people to change these laws.

Regardless of our political beliefs, it’s not only our right, but also our responsibility to pay attention and contribute to what is happening around us. If we see something wrong with our system, we need to be willing to change it.

We may not all agree on what needs to be changed, but I’m sure that like me, many students would like to fix some of the mistakes that generations before us have made. Voting and staying educated is the only way that we can successfully make a change.

“When people like ourselves vote, we win,” Sinclair told the crowd in Ann Arbor’s Diag at this year’s Bash. “We can make it happen!”

We can start by registering to vote.



PRZEMEK OZOG THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Longtime Hash Bash speaker and activist John Sinclair does a crossword puzzle as he waits for his turn on the microphone.



KELLY BRACHA THE WASHTENAW VOICE

A Hash Bash attendee, holds a marijuana leaf made from cardboard with the word ‘Legalize’ written on it.



KELLY BRACHA THE WASHTENAW VOICE

A young man is attended to by Ann Arbor police amidst the large crowd on the U-M Diag. The man fainted and was taken to a nearby ambulance for care.

‘Jamm’ing across the globe



Cheikh Lô prepares to strike a pair of drumsticks together while performing recently at the Michigan Theater.

Senegalese artist Cheikh Lô blends African music with Latin flair

Photos and Words by:
JARED ANGLE
Photo Editor

A mix of sounds drifted onto Liberty Street from the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor – smooth guitar melodies, exotic drums and the sultry call of a saxophone. At the front of the stage stood Cheikh Lô, a thin man with dreadlocks reaching the belt of his striped robe. As the drums reached a rapid crescendo, Lô approached the

microphone, singing in Wolof, the language of his people in Senegal, West Africa.

Born in Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso to Senegalese parents, Lô grew up speaking French, Wolof and Bambara, the language of Mali – a country bordering Senegal. Influenced by Cuban and Congolese music from an early age, Lô performed as a drummer and singer in Burkina Faso before moving to Dakar, Senegal in 1981 to advance his career.

Lô spent time as a studio drummer in Paris before returning to Senegal to focus on his own music – a move that caught the ear of Grammy-winning artist Youssou N’Dour, who produced some of Lô’s early albums.

Lô’s style of Mbalax music

incorporates his early Cuban influences; his complex guitar melodies compete with saxophonist Wilfrid Zinssou’s relaxed tones. A range of rhythms fill in the background of Lô’s music, including percussion by Samba N’Dokh, Khadim M’Baye and Ndiaye Badou. Thierno Sarr and Baye Mahanta Diop polish the sound with bass and electric guitar.

“In the ’60s, just before and when I was starting, I was impressed and influenced by a lot of Afro-Cuban music, such as Barosso, and also music from Congo, Guinée, Mali and Senegal – basically all of western Africa,” said Lô in a translated email interview with *the Washtenaw Voice*.

Lô’s music has been popular in West Africa and abroad.

He has won several awards in South Africa and earned a National Order of Merit from former Senegalese President Abdu Diouf.

“I think people listening to my music understand it and also its message about love and peace, and that makes me very proud,” Lô said.

Most of the songs Lô performed in Ann Arbor on April 13 hail from his most recent album, “Jamm,” which is the Wolof word for peace – a feeling invoked in the relaxed sound of his music. For Lô, “Jamm” came about as a response to violent international events.

“Côte d’Ivoire was inflaming and violent, and I had also been watching America’s 9/11, so it was kind of an intuition that maybe things could also

A vibrant African Dance lesson at the U-M Alumni center

JARED ANGLE
Photo Editor

More than 30 dancers of all ages and walks of life attended a lesson of African Dance on April 13, taught by renowned dancer Idy Ciss, 47, of Chicago.

In collaboration with the University Musical Society and the Detroit-based Heritage Works, the lesson served as a pre-show event to the concert later that night by Senegalese musician Cheikh Lô. Ciss, born in the West African nation of Senegal, demonstrated the traditional Jola dance – an eclectic mix of aerobic dance moves and fast-paced drumming from the Casamance region of southern Senegal.

Dancing since childhood and professionally from his early 20s, Ciss said that the Jola dance is popular because it is very social and intended

for community participation. Both the dancers and Ciss were in good spirits, showing large grins as they rocked and swayed to the beat.

“The heartbeat is the drum,” said Ciss, alluding to a spiritual connection between dancers and the staccato rhythms of the Jimbe and Dundu drums.

The fast beat of the dance was intense for some, with several dancers sweating profusely as they sat on the sidelines after a few rounds of dancing.

“It keeps you in shape. Your whole body participates,” said Ciss, adding that the dance movements both exercise the body and release stress.

The hour-long dance session ended with stretching before the exhausted participants made their way to the Michigan Theater on Liberty Street to attend the Cheikh Lô concert.

President Macky Sall after losing his re-election bid.

Throng of concert-goers filed out of the Michigan Theater onto Liberty Street following Lô’s performance. University of Michigan seniors Chris Crawford and Kim Grambo, both 21, stayed behind in the theater lobby, chatting with friends after Lô’s concert.

“Fantastic,” Crawford said.

Both students were enamored with Samba N’Dokh’s performance with the Tama, a traditional ‘talking drum’ of the Wolof people that mimics human speech. They were also impressed by the camaraderie between musicians.

“You can tell how much fun they have playing together,” Grambo said.

Local band brings folk flavor to Ann Arbor

Photos and Words by:
KELLY BRACHA
Staff Writer

On a warm spring day, in the center of the University of Michigan campus, a small crowd forms around an unlikely group of five young men and women playing instruments. The deep notes of a bass, quick strums of a violin, tangy plucks of a banjo and sharp clicks of a washboard create a distinct and familiar sound: folk music.

American Folk Jazz, to be specific.

A large sign sitting in front of the band, adjacent to an open guitar case/tip jar, reads “The Appleseed Collective.” Andrew Brown, of Ann Arbor, mans the resonator guitar while singing lead.

“I was heavily influenced by a trip to New Orleans, and came back looking to start a project that played that type of music,” Brown said.

Joining Brown in The Appleseed Collective are Sophie Tulip (bass/vocals), Brandon Worder (violin/mandolin/vocals), Vince Russo (washboard/vocals) and Katie Lee (banjo/vocals).

The band formed somewhat randomly, Smith described his meeting with Brown as, “two cosmically coincidental car crashes.”

“Vince’s car hit Sophie and

Andrew’s car, which forced Andrew to quit commuting and move to Ann Arbor,” Worder said. “My previous band fell apart after a car crash I wasn’t involved in, so I was looking for a new project.”

Brown and Worder met randomly at Café Ambrosia in November 2010 with instruments in hand, and right then and there began the gestation of the band.

The band’s very first unofficial gig was at a Kombucha Speakeasy (shortly after Kombucha was made “illegal”). Brown brought his longtime friends Tulip and Russo to the show.

“Appleseed played their true debut at The Getup, Ann Arbor, on Dec. 1, 2010, and headlined the Blind Pig shortly after on Dec. 23,” Brown said.

The band was recently declared “Rookies of the Year” by radio DJ Matthew Alturda of Tree Town Sound.

The whole band is influenced by a variety of old time music such as The Hot Club in Paris. Although Appleseed may be categorized as folk music, the basis of its sound is drawn from 1920’s-40’s swing/western swing, Dixieland or gypsy-jazz.

The group recently released its first album, “Baby to Beast” thanks to a crowd-funded effort via record label, Kickstarter. With 132 backers



The Appleseed Collective, playing outside of the U-M campus near Espresso Royal Cafe.

and a donation of \$7,829, the funding was a success and the band recorded its new album, “Baby to Beast,” with Brown’s brother, Eli, and his company, Sick Boy Productions.

“Eli has a way of dissuading the feelings of stress that can sometimes be coupled with recording and breaking down the process in logical sequence steps,” Andrew said about working with his brother. “He is an incredible sound engineer as well as a producer, and he brings his own opinions to the table with much respect for the aesthetic goals of the artist.”

The Appleseed Collective also has a philanthropic side

to it. The Ann Arbor band has decided to donate half of the proceeds from sales of the first pressing of “Baby to Beast” to Selma Café, which runs a local non-profit that builds hoop-houses to bolster the local food scene.

Lee, the band’s banjo player and female vocals, recently underwent surgery to restore her voice to normal after getting polyp, a condition that restricts vocal expression and range.

Lee was unable to speak for two weeks after the surgery, but was recovering quite well and was on schedule to be singing again around mid-May or early June.

With Lee regaining her voice,

the band is going to continue playing gigs, writing music and recording albums.

“We would love to be playing 200+ dates a year. One of our goals is to get a diesel vehicle that we can convert to run off of vegetable oil and travel the continent and beyond,” Brown said with a smile.

“We want to spread our music. We work really hard at what we do. Anyone who says musicians are lazy should spend a week with us! We hope to all be able to make a decent living as musicians.”

To listen to The Appleseed Collective’s entire album, “Baby to Beast,” visit: <http://theappleseedcollective.com>



Brandon Worder, violinist for The Appleseed Collective, while playing for a crowd outdoors near the U-M campus.

Bowling with the Bellancas rolls in donations

Photos and words by:
NATHAN CLARK
Staff Writer

Washtenaw Community College students and staff gathered recently at Colonial Lanes for a night of charitable bowling with President Rose Bellanca and her husband, Joe. Students and staffers paid \$20 a ticket for two hours of bowling, pizza, beverages and a raffle ticket for a chance at winning a basketful of candy and other goodies.

They helped raise \$300 in a United Way fundraiser for families affected by the Dexter tornado.

“The bowling was Mary’s idea,” said Joanne Bellfi, a United Way representative attending the event, referring to WCC United Way Chair Mary Faulkner. “Money raised to-night will be going towards cleaning up and replanting trees in Dexter.”

Money donated to the United Way stays in the community, according to Bellfi. The donations go into a community fund used for homeless housing, senior assistance, early childhood education, hunger aid and school-aged youth in Washtenaw County.

To date, the United Way has donated more than \$16,000 to residents of Dexter.

“I’ve been involved with the United Way campaign for over 20 years now,” said Faulkner, executive assistant to the college’s Board of Trustees. “We do something like this every year to help raise money. Last year, we raised \$2,800 with charity brackets having every department compete to raise the most money.”

Some students came to the bowling alley unaware that it was a fundraiser.

“I was surprised. I didn’t know the president was going to be here,” said Tom Dochoda, an 18-year-old math and science major from Ann Arbor. “It has been a busy week. Two hours of bowling for \$20 just sounded fun.”



President Rose Bellanca talks with students Mazy Sadaghiani (left) and Tom Dochoda (center) at Colonial Lanes.

Dochoda’s attendance at the event won him one of the baskets from the raffle.

Bellanca was unable to bowl due to a recent injury, but came to support the fundraiser and mingle with students and staff.

“We have some of the best and most interesting students I have ever met,” Bellanca said as she shook hands with Samantha Mamarow, 19, an animal science major from Saline.

Mamarow said her family owns a dairy farm in Saline, where they milk more than 100 cows a day.

“Bowling seemed like a good time,” Mamarow said. “If some of the money raised here goes to help other people, we should do this more often.”



President Rose Bellanca talks to Rachel Barsch about her recent experience donating bone marrow.



To All December 2011 Graduates and
April, June and August 2012 Graduate Candidates:

2011-2012

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
May 19, 2012, at 9:20 a.m.

Are you ready to Graduate?

There are things you need to do

For more details go to www.wccnet.edu and type “graduation” in the search box.

If you’ve already applied, look for your letter and attire coupon in the mail.

- ☐ Fill out Graduation application
- ☐ Buy Cap, Gown, Tassel
- ☐ Announcements
- ☐ Rehearsal
- ☐ Ceremony

For More Information
Contact a Student Records Technician:
Mary Singer 734-973-3546
Nancy Farmer 734-973-3658



Washtenaw Community College

834 friends on Facebook? **Wow.**
128 followers on Twitter? **Nice.**

14 people in your
accounting class?
Perfect.

Visit us.

Take our virtual tour anytime at
www.udmercy.edu/virtualvisit.



We want great things for you.
udmercy.edu/great

Gears turn while kids learn at 826michigan

KELLY BRACHA
Staff Writer

When first stepping foot into 826’s East Liberty Robot Supply and Repair Shop, it’s easy to be fooled by its façade of gadgetry, clockwork mechanisms and array of homemade-style automaton but concealed beyond this small store is a room much larger.

It is filled with students and their volunteer tutors, working hard on schoolwork and independent writing projects.

Ann Arbor mom Tracy Henry works part-time and appreciates the value of free tutoring. Unable to afford tutoring for her 9-year-old son Anthony, Henry found 826michigan. She was absolutely overjoyed when she saw how much it was helping him.

“I really appreciate the fact that it’s free and they take a lot of time with my son,” said Henry. “He gets a better understanding here. He’s starting to understand his work better since he started here in such a short amount of time. It’s great.”

One of eight chapters in the 826national organization, 826michigan is a non-profit organization aimed at supporting 6 to 18-year-old students’ reading and writing skills.

“We were part of the early effort. Shortly after a chapter opened in Valencia, Calif., we saw that the model worked,” said Amanda Uhle, creative director for 826michigan. “We were inspired by the way the different chapters engaged adults, the community and volunteers to give young people more one-on-one attention that was very much lacking in a lot of classrooms and homes,” Uhle explained.

Harib Moheyuddin, a 12-year-old from Forsythe Middle School in Ann Arbor is pleased with the quality of

tutoring he receives at 826.

“My Mom found this place through my school counselor. It was really painless. You just have to walk in, sign up and you will get help finding a tutor,” Moheyuddin said. “If it doesn’t work out you just get help and you go step by step. I usually finish all my homework here and have no homework left to do at home. It’s really great.”

With no homework left to do at home, Moheyuddin finds more time to be with his family.

Christine Kwierant has been bringing both her children, Ben, 10, and Melanie, 7, to 826 since the beginning of the school year.

Ben Kweirant expressed his enjoyment about coming to 826.

“I think it is nice being here because there are lots of people here that try to help kids with their homework,” he said. “It’s really cool.”

The organization is driven by programs that are stimulating and entertaining for young students, create an environment that motivates children to improve their writing skills, help English language learners and even craft independent literature.

A drop-in tutoring program allows for parents to simply dropoff their child without an appointment and be tutored that very moment. Available Monday through Thursday from 3:30-5:30 p.m., tutors are available for whoever may need them.

Volunteer tutor Alyssa Selasky, 20, of U-M, began volunteering two years ago. She came on as an intern in Sept. 2011.

“I decided to do the internship when I was simply having too much fun. I wanted to be here more,” said Selasky. It was the best way to have an excuse to hang out with the students and other volunteers. It’s a blast,”

Volunteering to tutor is just

as simple as stopping by.

“If you want to volunteer you can pick up an application. We contact individuals when orientation is near. The orientation is only 1 ½ hours. It explains what we do, what programs we have and you can choose if you want to tutor or do

workshops. You just jump right in,” Selasky explained.

The works that the students create while at 826 may become published and distributed. Two professionally bound books are published yearly: an annual student journal and an in-school publication tied to one

of 826’s in-school residencies.

With residencies in five schools, volunteers aid teachers with struggling students by offering workshops and helping with graded assignments.

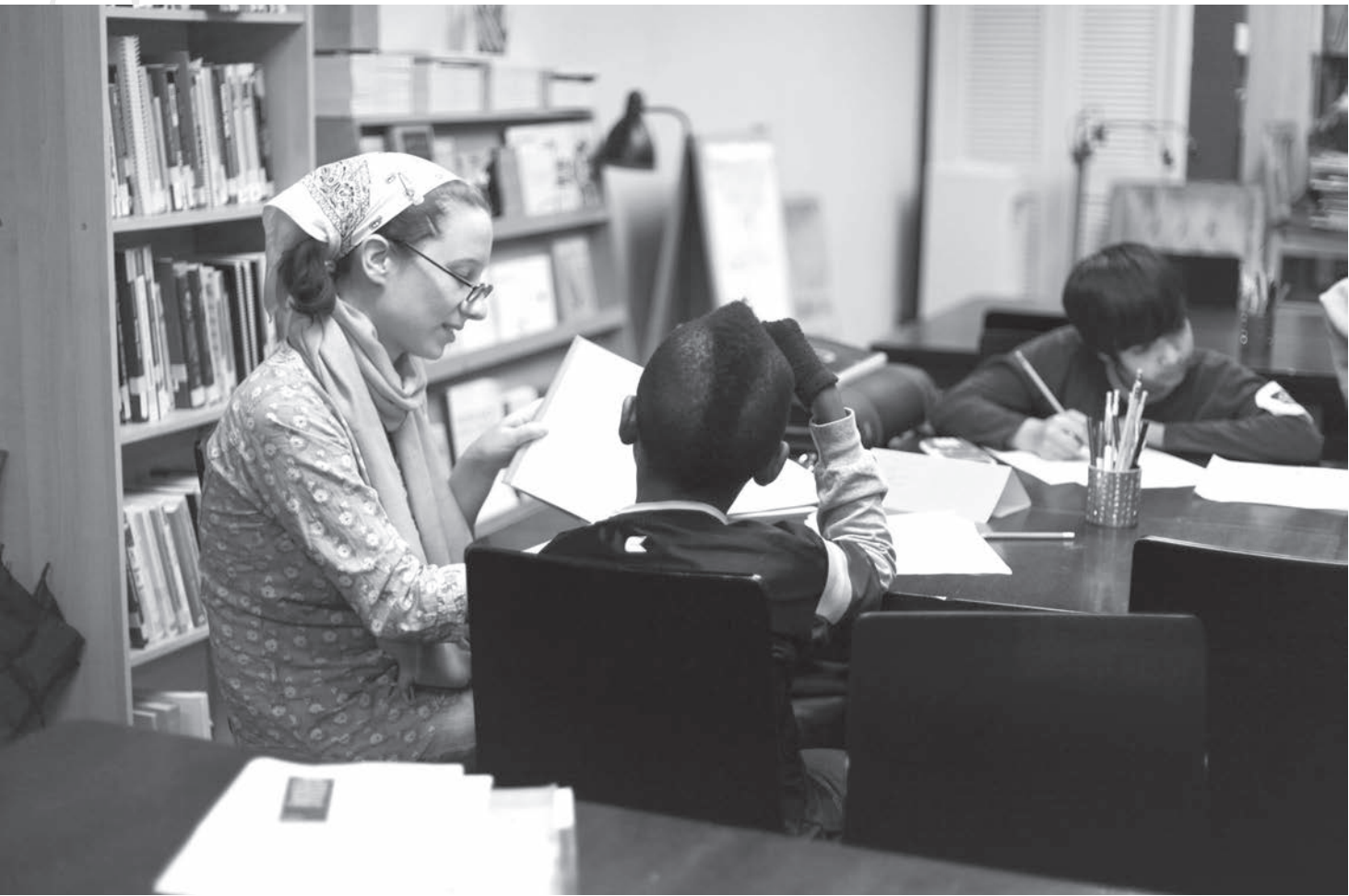
All proceeds made from fundraising, nighttime and weekend workshops and seminars

for adults go directly to student programming while revenue from the shop funds the chapter.

For more information on 826michigan, or to volunteer or donate, visit 826michigan.org



Inside 826michigan, the ‘Robot Repair Shop,’ where robot-themed products and gadgets are sold to help fund the organization.



Lia Wolock, an 826 tutor, holds a book for a young student as he reads the pages aloud.



‘Liberty Street Robot Supply and Repair’ at 115 E. Liberty Street in Ann Arbor.

Bellanca turns to old colleague in first major hire

KELLY BRACHA
Staff Writer

Washtenaw Community College welcomed a new member to its staff last month, Michelle K. Mueller. She will be taking on the role of Associate Vice President for Economic Development & Community/Corporate Alliances.

Mueller has worked with WCC President Rose Bellanca earlier at St. Clair County Community College for five of the 26 years Mueller was present there. Several attempts to reach Bellanca for comment by telephone and email were not successful.

“The president and I have worked together previously, so she has a sense of my

leadership style and workforce development opportunity,” Mueller said.

Shawn Starkey, executive director of Public Relations, Marketing and Legislative Affairs, worked with Mueller at St. Clair.

“Michelle was in charge of workforce development and marketing and public relations. We worked together extensively for seven years,” Starkey said. “She was very involved with communicating statewide and with groups on organizing workforce training. She was successful at getting grants.”

In her first week at WCC,



MUELLER

Mueller had the opportunity to meet with the executive team to talk and begin building a relationship. She also spent time working with IT and HR.

“The second week I spent doing one-on-ones with the deans,” Mueller said. “I wanted to understand what the deans are excited about and what they consider to be their flagship programs and how they are interested in helping students.”

Mueller also plans to explore working with business and industry.

“I think what’s really neat about this position is it gives you the opportunity to really help identify what the needs of employers are and try to create opportunities for the students,” Mueller said.

She is responsible for expanding WCC’s programs and partnerships in the business sector, as well as build new relationships with educators, executives and government agencies.

“There are opportunities not just for our students, but regional employers and community colleges. There’s not a shortage of things to do,” Mueller said.

Having worked in community college administration for 26 years, her experience in recruitment, admissions, academic records, student activities, regional and international partnerships and workforce and economic development are well-advanced.

“I like the idea of listening to

people... what is it they need,” Mueller said. “We need to listen to what it is employers are looking for and what the students need and match those things to maximize our success.”

Mueller grew up in the city of Croswell, within the eastern part of Michigan thumb. She graduated from Crowsell-Lexington High School with a class of 125 students. Very interested in music, she attended Brevard College in North Carolina on scholarship for singing and graduated with an associate of fine arts in voice performance.

She then transferred to University of Michigan, where she received her bachelor of arts in communication. Mueller also attended

Michigan State University for her master of arts in college and university administration and is almost finished with an enrollment management certification from the University of Florida.

Mueller has two sons. Her son Colton, 14, is about to enter high school, and her son Tyler, 18, who graduated from high school last year and now attends St. Clair, where he’s finishing an associate’s degree in engineering.

Mueller looks forward to her time at WCC.

“I love the people here, there’s a great group here,” she said. “I can’t say enough about the quality of service here and the care for students and employees.”

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS

up to **\$11,000** for qualifying students!




Opportunity **U**

SIENA HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY



admissions@sienaheights.edu • 517.264.7180 • www.sienaheights.edu



Help with depression, anxiety and relationship issues.

Secure and confidential.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

www.goodepsych.com

Robert Goode, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist
734-223-4202

Ann Arbor Office:
2035 Hogback Road, Suite 102
Ann Arbor, MI 48105



CTE3.COM

Student Performance Tracking

Administrators, Instructors & Students...

Tired of the endless paper work and reports that tell you nothing?

Need a quick and easy way to document student learning?

Then CTE3 is for you!

A web based Career & Technology Education program that links
Educators, Students & Employers

Advantages of CTE3 for Schools:

- Follow-up survey done automatically through email
- Calculates % of task completed
- Emails certificate of completion to the student.
- Shows AYP (Annual Yearly Progress) Vocational reports for administrators
- Green initiative - saves districts money on paper cost
- Data entry with any computer or smart phone - no software interface problems
- Use data to evaluate programs

Student Benefits:

- No 3 ring binders to lose or turn in
- View finished and unfinished tasks
- Self-evaluation
- Accessible from home or school via smart phone or computer
- Tasks completed can be sent to multiple instructors
- Working portfolio
- Gives students an advantage for employment
- Forgotten password gets emailed to the student
- Certificate of completion sent to the student
- Students view their own reports

Automotive Technology
Allied Health & Health Occupations

The Kettering Advantage

Scholarships up to \$15,000 • Transfer friendly

Take your education to the next level

Apply for admission today!

Generous Scholarships available

**Schedule an appointment
for your personal consultation
by contacting:**

Roger Smith, Associate Director of Transfer Admissions
rsmith1@kettering.edu 800-955-4464, ext. 7865

Learn more. Experience more. Achieve more.

Kettering University

Coaches not pleased with defense in U-M spring game



Michigan's kicker Brendan Gibbons, left, and his holder, Drew Dileo (26), celebrate Gibbons' game-winning 37-yard field goal.



Quarterback Denard Robinson celebrates Michigan's victory at the 2012 Sugar Bowl in New Orleans.

WTMC students excited to finally participate in sports

JENA JENKINS
Contributor

Rachel Cook is looking forward to a recent rule change that makes it possible for Washtenaw Technical Middle College students to participate in sports offered by the college.

Now students under the age of 18, typically WTMC students are allowed to play – but with two important stipulations: They must have parental consistent and meet with the school's dean, Karl Covert. They also must have a 2.0 grade-point average or higher and be enrolled in at least three credit hours.

"I think it's really cool that I'm able to play," said Cook, 15, a math and science major, "especially because not being able to play sports at WTMC was a huge deal to me."

As of last week, about a dozen WTMC students had expressed interest in joining intramural teams and more planned on playing as

different sports come into season.

"I'm waiting for fall, so I can play men's volleyball," said Tyler Hoffman, 17, a liberal arts major.

Erica Lemm, the WCC sports coordinator, had a lot of positive things to say about the change.

"There is a lot more participation, plus WTMC has some talented student-athletes," Lemm said, "It's especially nice if WTMC students plan to continue here at Washtenaw. It gives them a chance to meet more students and faculty and then they can join club sports when they turn 18."

This change was welcomed by a majority of WTMC students, particularly those who have tried before to join club sports or start their own team. Now those students that missed their old favorite sports can play, meet new people and have back a little bit of the normal high school experience.

MATT DURR
Editor

At the annual University of Michigan Spring Game last week, the defense made an interception, didn't allow a single pass downfield and stopped quarterback Denard Robinson in his only series.

And all head coach Brady Hoke and defensive coordinator Greg Mattison did was complain about it.

"We've got a long way to go," Mattison said. "We've got to become a lot more physical."

Last year's team was one of the most improved defenses in the country, with Hoke and Mattison at the center of the turnaround.

Hoke especially pointed to the lack of strength up the middle, saying his defense was too lateral in its playmaking and did not attack the football the way he likes.

But he also acknowledged that the unit was improved over last year's team.

"I think we're tougher as a team than we were this time last year," Hoke said.

Mattison was pleased with the way his defensive line responded to some changes he has made this spring, pointing out the play of defensive end Craig Roh especially.

"I feel very comfortable with the moves. That might be one of the bright spots of the spring," Mattison said. "I wanted to see

how they're going to play under the gun. I think this group wants to be really good."

Despite the criticism of their coaches, the defense was the better of the two sides. A pre-season Heisman Trophy candidate, Robinson played the opening series before sitting for the rest of the day. With Robinson on the bench, backups Devin Gardner and Russell Bellomy had a chance to showcase their skills.

Gardner clearly struggled during the game, throwing an interception and fumbling two exchanges from under center. His passes were often inaccurate, and the junior looked tentative during his time on the field.

The running game carried the load for the offense;

both Fitzgerald Toussaint and Thomas Rawls found their way to the end zone. Hoke has been impressed with Rawls throughout spring practice.

"I think Thomas has had a good spring. I really like his physical-ness, he's hard to tackle. He's a good football player," Hoke said.

With four months left until the team and its coaches will be allowed to start working together, the coaching staff is confident that the players will improve on their own before the start of the next camp.

"Our staff and this program believe in working very hard at improvement in the summer," Mattison said, "and not just lifting weights."

MORE
CONTENT
ONLINE
WASHTENAW
VOICE.COM

If the Tigers fail, blame will be obvious



Detroit Tigers manager Jim Leyland, right, congratulates Brandon Inge after he scored on a sacrifice fly in a game against the Kansas City Royals.

'The Student Athlete' set for bigger things

Club Sports' top pitcher signed to Cornerstone University

ADRIAN HEDDEN
Features Editor

Washtenaw Community College's Club Sports program is sending its first prospect into university play this year.

Right-handed pitcher, Chris King, 21, of Grand Ledge, signed a letter of intent to play baseball at Cornerstone University earlier this Spring-season.

He still has four years of eligibility since WCC's recreational leagues run unsanctioned by any intercollegiate athletic organizations.

Coach Brian Moeglin wrote letters about the pitcher to several schools last year after King recovered from reconstructive surgery on his left ankle eight months prior to the first pitch of 2011. In the three years that King pitched varsity for Grand Ledge High, he was undefeated with 15 victories.

"He sold himself with the way he played and his hustle," Moeglin said. "He's got a live arm. I'm sure they'll use him as a starter."

Redshirting at Concordia prior to his WCC tenure, King broke a bone and tore every ligament in his ankle playing basketball in 2011. He was studying at WCC when he noticed flyers from Club Sports, encouraging interested students to play ball.

"He had a defeated attitude at first," Moeglin said. "But he came out here, he saw the competition and that's when he realized: 'I can play.'"

Moeglin was impressed by King's aggression on the mound and his team spirit.

"He has a nice curve and a

lot of movement on his fastball; he throws hard and he throws strikes," Moeglin said. "He works well with the defense."

According to Moeglin, King comes to practice when his schedule allows, assisting and joining in drills to help the team and stay in shape before his first season of university-level competition.

King's coach believes he will succeed in more than just baseball at Cornerstone.

"School has always come first for him," Moeglin said.

Director of Club Sports, Erica Lemm toiled with King at furthering his studies in sports management while he was at WCC. She sees King as the quintessential success story to come out of Club Sports, her first player signed to a university.

"He truly is the student-athlete," Lemm said. "He's an excellent team player and very teachable."

King believes Cornerstone is the right place to further his abilities on and off the field. He feels a connection, both athletically and internally to the



CHRIS KING

Grand Rapids school and its Golden Eagles.

"I look forward to the opportunity to continue my education at a four-year school," King said. "And spiritually, to represent God through baseball."

King will be given a scholarship of \$2,000 a year to play at Cornerstone. If he plays well, he believes the school will grant him more funds to continue. A lover of baseball his whole life, King looks forward to a life steeped in the sport.

"I would just like to work in baseball, even in ticket sales," King said. "Just to be around it. I love the game."

MATT DURR
Editor

The baseball season is barely two weeks old and none of us have any idea what lies ahead for the boys of summer.

Odds are that the Tigers will run away with the Central Division and probably contend for a World Series. Should they falter, however, I know exactly where the blame will lie: Jim Leyland.

Since becoming manager prior to the 2006 season, Leyland, 67, has captured the hearts of diehard Tigers fans by leading the team to the

playoffs twice. Because of those post-season appearances, Leyland has falsely earned the reputation of being a good manager.

Leyland has a history of giving players days off and essentially throwing in the towel for those games by not playing the best lineup possible. So far this season, he has not done that, but he has trotted out a different lineup in almost every game. Simply put, you never know what to expect from Leyland's lineup card.

On Sunday, April 15, as the Tigers prepared to play the Chicago White Sox, Leyland filled out his lineup card for the day and at the designated hitter spot inserted Brandon Inge. The highly controversial third baseman has a staggering career batting average of .232, and last season hit a

myopic .197. Yet Leyland saw fit to have him as the designated hitter.

Leyland in his career has won just as many games as he lost, and he has a history of mishandling talented teams. In 2008 the Tigers failed to make the playoffs after being the preseason favorites. In the early 1990s, he led three straight Pittsburgh Pirates teams to the National League Championship Series, but failed to win any of them.

Defenders will be quick to point out that he won a championship in 1997 with the then Florida Marlins. But to be fair, that team was in place before he got to Florida.

With all the money spent on this team, it shouldn't fail. But based on the history of the manager, it will – and you can blame the skipper.

‘The Cabin in the Woods’



ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM COURTESY PHOTO

★★★★★☆☆

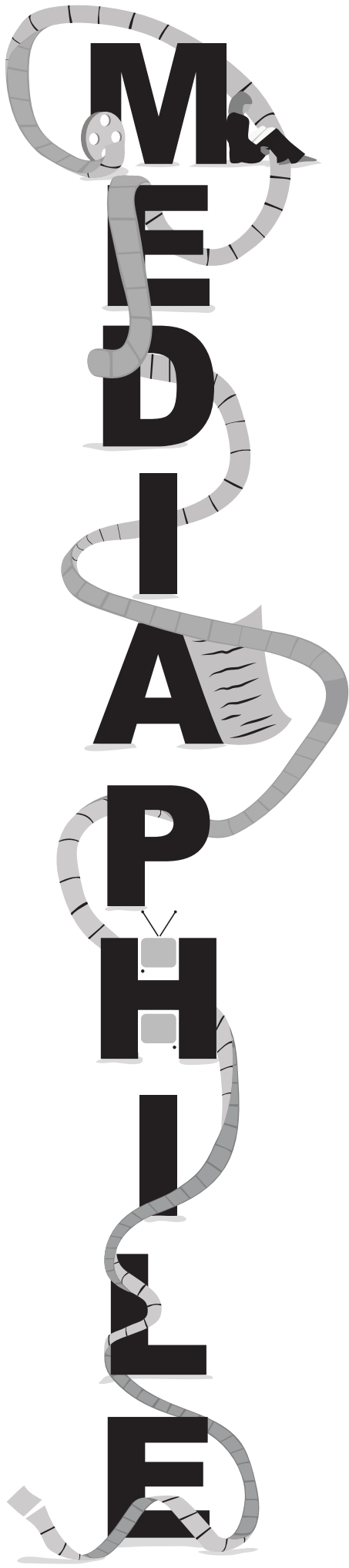
Come for the slaughter, stay for the laughter

NATHAN CLARK
Staff Writer

College students being violently slaughtered while on vacation is a concept that has been seen far too many times. The latest horror flick to hit theaters, “The Cabin in the Woods,” destroys all preconceptions of naive college students spending the weekend in a creepy cabin with new plot twists and morbid humor. Similar to other horror movies, this one follows five friends off to spend a weekend in an isolated cabin to get away from it all. But unlike the typical horror movie, the friends are unaware that they are being watched by an unknown group of people observing and manipulating everything in and around the cabin. From the unknown group’s control room, they direct every aspect of the environment, slowly leading each student to their demise. Even though “The Cabin in the Woods” is a horror film, moviegoers can’t help but laugh during much of the

movie. Hearing a character explain that there’s a difference between zombies and pain-loving redneck zombies is just one bit of dialogue in the movie that makes the theater burst into laughter. Visually, the film has a perfect mix of computer-generated effects, makeup and scenery that makes everything look very realistic. “The Cabin in the Woods” looks how “Evil Dead” would if Sam Raimi decided to do a remake. Although the movie is littered with hilarious moments and clever dialogue, by no means would I recommend letting impressionable children see it. The movie has graphic scenes of people being killed in horrible ways by nightmarish creatures while other people watch the violence apathetically. Granted, the scenes look amazing, but I wouldn’t want my kid seeing it until he or she is old enough to have a part-time job. With a creative plot, believable visuals and its mix of bloodshed and laughter, the movie satisfies every moviegoer’s cravings, making this film well worth seeing.

GENRE **HORROR**
RATED **R**
RUNTIME **105 MIN**



HAFSAH MUJINYAWA THE WASHTENAW VOICE

‘The Three Stooges’



ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM COURTESY PHOTO

★★★★★☆☆

Cheapened for a new generation

ADRIAN HEDDEN
Features Editor

Kings of comedy, Peter and Bobby Farrelly, made their careers crafting topical and often romantic slapstick comedy films throughout the 1990s. Having until now dodged the remake bug that has swept Hollywood, the duo’s films were seen as uproarious and original as they tickled America’s funny bone year after year. They would not maintain that originality for long. Perhaps they hoped to dispel the modern appeal of the romantic comedy from dominating their careers. The stoic, no-nonsense and often violent “Three Stooges” seemed like a good choice for them to get back to comedic basics. But what flashed before the eyes of movie-goers when “The Three Stooges” came on-screen for the first time, in decades was a cruel sham and a modernized shell of what once was a proud and hilarious act of the early 20th Century. To their credit, the actors did look like the original trio and once in a while they sounded like them, too. Moe and Larry were both played fairly accurately as the leader and goofball of the group respectively. Retro sound effects are sprinkled in as the three get bonked repeatedly

with a variety of foreign objects and tools. Curly, played by Will Sasso of “Mad TV” semi-fame, was painful to watch. Sure he was fat and bald like in the old show, but the mannerisms were forced and over-acted. Sasso’s Curly played out just like any chubby kid’s impression of the iconic overweight oddball has in school cafeterias for decades. As the movie proceeds through a loose script involving the brothers raising money for an orphanage, there is – thankfully – no romance with a Hollywood hottie to add cheese. The cheese is saved for the Stooges’ internal drama as they realize how much they love one another. This poor attempt at emotional brotherhood in no way reflects the belligerent performances of Stooges past. Viewers are left to watch the characters they’ve come to love for their stoicism forced into the today’s cinema of over-worked emotions and drama. These heroes of aging comedy flicks have a strong track record of cracking up audiences wherever a poke in the eyes or tug of the nose is warranted. The Farrellys added far too much emotion and drama into the mix and thus only one word can describe the end result: cheapened.

GENRE **COMEDY**
RATED **PG**
RUNTIME **92 MINUTES**

‘Lockout’



ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM COURTESY PHOTO

★☆☆☆☆

Futuristic film has dim future with moviegoers

MATT DURR
Editor

Starring Guy Pearce and Maggie Grace, “Lockout” is the story of a wrongly convicted man who is given a chance at freedom if he can save the president’s daughter from a gang of psychotic criminals. Set in 2079, the film begins with ex-government agent Snow (Pearce) being interrogated for a crime he didn’t commit. Soon, he is sentenced to 30 years at a futuristic prison in space called Maximum Security One. It just so happens that while he is being prepped to go to MSO, the president’s daughter, Emilie Warnock (Grace) is at the prison looking into the practices of MSO. Through a boorish series of events – including a prison riot – Warnock’s safety and Pierce’s acting ability both come into question. Instead of storming the prison, the government decides to send Snow on an extraction mission in exchange for his freedom, and so begins the two-hour snore fest. The action scenes in this movie play out like a bad

Japanese cartoon. The viewer can’t tell what the hell is going on because of the shaky camera work and quick, back-and-forth cuts. The acting is just as bad with Grace being the only one who turns in a performance that doesn’t seem forced and over-the-top. Pearce is witty at times and isn’t bad in the lead role, but we’ve seen this character a million times. Visually the film looks fantastic as long as there isn’t a fight scene going on. It’s clear that we’re watching a movie set in the future, but the design and look of the film doesn’t seem unrealistic for 60 years from now. The film plays out in a predictable fashion and any action film fan will see where the story is going long before the final scenes play out. With a ridiculous plot line, poor acting and even worse production, this was one of the worst action movies I’ve seen in a long time. I actually found myself dozing off at points and wishing the film would just end. For those who enjoy action films regardless of how bad acting and plotlines can be, “Lockout” might be worth a look once it hits the bargain-bin at your local video store.

GENRE **ACTION**
RATED **PG-13**
RUNTIME **95 MINUTES**

‘Game of Thrones’

Waking the dragon, ‘Thrones’ returns HBO hit off to rousing start in Season Two

★★★★★☆☆

SEAN HANDLER
Contributor

HBO’s hit series “Game of Thrones” brings us back to Westeros for a second season premiere that totaled more than 3.9 million viewers – not counting those who tuned in for the two extra airings of the episode immediately after the premiere. In returning to the world of Thrones, characters old and new make a comeback, some of them more dramatically than others. The episode starts with a quick recap of the first season: House Stark has been broken and its members scattered while House Lannister is preparing for war, with the cruel and malicious young prince Joffrey being crowned king and taking his place upon the Iron Throne. At the start of the episode, Joffrey is thoroughly enjoying being ruler of King’s Landing, with two men fighting to the death before his eyes. Once Tyrion Lannister (Emmy and Golden Globe winner Peter Dinklage) steps in and eventually declares that he has been made Hand of the King. However, we soon see who the true power in King’s Landing is. He knows that the

Lannisters are losing the war. Fighting against the Lannisters is Robb Stark, who has gathered the lords of the north loyal to his house in preparation. Across the sea, Daenarys Targaryen has begun her journey to truly embody her family’s creed of “fire and blood.” Children end up being an overarching theme to the episode, and tying into that is the order that Joffrey gives to purge King’s Landing of all the bastard children born to Robert Baratheon, his father. Joffrey, too, learns of the rumor going around that he is not the son of Robert Baratheon, but Cersei and her brother, Jamie. He doesn’t believe it, and his disbelief is cruel to say the least. Several children are killed on-screen, but the most brutal is near the end of the episode, providing a chilling way to lead into what the next episodes holds. This premiere episode does a great job of bringing back the series, and in doing so proves that “Game of Thrones” is here to stay and continue to be a hit as we see more of the story unfold in later episodes.

CHANNEL **HBO**
GENRE **FANTASY**
AIRTIME **SUNDAY 9 P.M.**



MCTCAMPUS.COM COURTESY PHOTO

NORTHWOOD UNIVERSITY

Transfer friendly. Employer desired.



NORTHWOOD
UNIVERSITY

Apply Today!
www.northwood.edu
800.622.9000

- Future-focused business curriculum
- Courses offered evenings, weekends, online, and on campus
- Credits for work/life experience and military training
- Expert, industry-experienced faculty
- Small class sizes



CHECK US OUT ONLINE
WASHTENAWVOICE.COM



SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

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



Get puzzle answers!
washtenawvoice.com

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers.

There are three very simple constraints to follow: Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order; Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order; Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14					15								16	
17				18									19	
20							21				22			
23					24	25	26				27			
			28						29					
30	31	32			33		34	35		36			37	38
39				40					41					
42						43						44		
		45			46			47		48				
49	50					51	52					53	54	55
56					57					58	59			
60					61				62	63				
64					65							66		
67					68							69		

Classifieds

Students and WCC employees: Classified ads in *The Voice* are free.
Local business owners: Looking for help? Post your free help wanted ads in *The Voice*.
Send ads to thewashtenawvoice@gmail.com.
Deadline for the May 7 issue is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 1.

SERVICES

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

Below 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.

Physical Therapy Assistant (2577164). Must be a graduate of an accredited Physical Therapy Assistant Program certified by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education and licensed and/or eligible for licensure as required by the state of practice. Full-time in several states, including Michigan.

Delivery Driver (2268708). All shifts are available, from lunch to late night. Only accepting applications from experienced, safe drivers who have an outgoing personality and are a proven team player. Driving record must not have any serious violations, or more than two moving violations in two years or three

in three years. Full-time and part-time in Ann Arbor.

CustomerServiceRepresentative (2593910). Insurance agent desires assistance with professional office marketing efforts. Provide quality service to clientele. Use a variety of computer applications, particularly Windows. Frequent contact with people requires excellent communication skills – written, verbal and listening. Part-time and full-time in Ann Arbor.

Production Fuel Systems (2586750). Assemble blow-molded fuel systems. Perform multiple jobs within the production area on automated and semi-automated equipment. Work environment is fast-paced, light industrial. This is an hourly, non-exempt position. Seasonal in Milan.

Caregiver/HNA/CAN (2591923). Seeking reliable caregivers who take pride in giving the best quality of life care. Responsible for providing companion care, meal preparation, light housekeeping, transportation, bathing and more based on past experience and skill level. Part-time and full-time in Washtenaw County.

Search Marketing Specialist (2521324). Work toward the continued growth of the client base. An ideal candidate has 2-4 years of relevant search-engine marketing experience, loves to dissect online metrics, is thrilled by the process of testing copy/creative to find optimal performance, understands the role of PPC and SEO in the marketing mix, and can demonstrate specific expertise having applied to client accounts in Adwords, adCenter, Facebook, and LinkedIn. Full-time in Ann Arbor.

Dental Assistants (2592198). Dental staffing agency and has permanent,

temporary, and temp-to-hire dental assistants positions. Full-time and part-time in Washtenaw, Wayne, and Oakland counties at a variety of great practices.

Bookkeeper (2582433). Responsible for all aspects of processing payroll and expenses including preparing, transmitting ACH payroll files and transmitting payroll stubs to staff electronically. Responsible for all accounts receivables and accounts payables. Prepares bank deposits and delivers to bank weekly. Processes credit-card payments from donors and clients and transfers credit-card payments from PayPal to checking account weekly. Enters and reconciles petty-cash transactions. Allocates all payroll, expenses, and receipts to program. Maintains client/employee confidence and protects operations by keeping information confidential. Uses time effectively by following assigned daily schedule in a punctual manner. Part-time in Ann Arbor.

Front Desk Clerk (2586768). Seeking a compassionate and self-motivated person to work the front desk. Duties include financial transactions, checking guests in and out, answering switchboard, making reservations, and providing quality guest service, 8-16 hours per week. Weekends required; shifts are 7 a.m.-3 p.m. and 3-11 p.m. Part-time in Ann Arbor.

Advanced Studies Technician (2590488). Required experience with Adobe Photoshop. Needs experience with CorelDraw or Adobe Illustrator. Also experience working with computers. Knowledge of metal-cutting tools, car parts, and benchmarking experience. Will train the right individual. Full-time in Ypsilanti.

Window and Gutter Cleaner (2481023). Must have reliable

transportation and phone. Must be able to lift 65 pounds. No fear of heights. Hard worker who is honest, dependable, trustworthy, and has natural leadership ability. Full-time seasonal in Ann Arbor.

Programmer (2590227). Responsible for planning, developing, testing and documenting computer programs using programming lifecycle management practices. Work with staff to develop programs to provide expedited processes through automation and accuracy through validation. Primary programming development to be performed using a core financial system- providers proprietary software package. Provide evaluations and recommendations on programming projects and write programs assigned to the department related most specifically to the core financial processing system, but also including ancillary systems and programs. Full-time in Ann Arbor.

IMPORTANT CAREER TIP:

When writing a cover letter, developing a resume, or interviewing for a new position, make it all about the employer. Always speak to employer's needs and how your background, skills, and talents can make a positive impact on their company. The more informed that you are regarding the company, the department, and the specific position for which you are applying the better you will be able to convey this in an interview. Also, when you are interviewing come prepared with questions to ask them regarding the job and the company. This will convey that you have done your homework and truly want the job! For assistance with your job search, contact Employment Services at (734) 677-5155.

Across

- 1 Altar vestments
- 5 Not back down
- 11 Screw up
- 14 Boor
- 15 Shortening name
- 16 __ Paulo
- 17 A falsehood in every respect
- 19 Basinger of "Batman"
- 20 Congo River beast
- 21 Arson-investigating org.
- 22 Three-time WNBA MVP __ Leslie
- 23 Beast of burden
- 24 Chuck Connors title role
- 28 Condemn
- 29 Passable
- 30 Common crossword clue ending
- 33 Piper's followers
- 36 D.C. hearings broadcaster
- 39 Risky activity, and what certain four-letter sequences in 17-, 24-, 49- and 61-Across are doing?
- 42 Badly cooked
- 43 Reasonable
- 44 Pilot's prefix
- 45 Summoning gesture
- 47 Plenty
- 49 "Scream" or "Halloween"
- 53 Sis, say
- 56 They're mostly fairs
- 57 Tijuana relative
- 58 "Three inches is such a wretched height to be" speaker
- 60 Si, in Paris
- 61 Actor's liability
- 64 __ pro nobis: pray for us
- 65 Mid-size Nissan
- 66 Latin 101 verb
- 67 Athlete's supporter
- 68 Have it in mind
- 69 Ad amount

Down

- 1 Top dog
- 2 Joe the boxer
- 3 Baby's achievements?
- 4 Baby book first
- 5 Here, on the Seine
- 6 Atomic energy org.
- 7 Solo instrument in "Norwegian Wood"
- 8 Last Supper question
- 9 Jeers (at)
- 10 Heavy weight
- 11 Ice cream treat since the 1920s
- 12 Mrs. Gorbachev
- 13 __ numeral
- 18 Snapshot, commercially
- 22 Heart-healthy food claim
- 25 Rhino feature
- 26 Webzines
- 27 Scott's sailing site
- 28 Wine quality
- 30 LAPD alert
- 31 Primary colore
- 32 Neanderthal type
- 34 Former carrier with a JFK hub
- 35 Historic peninsula
- 37 JFK posting
- 38 "The Matrix" hero
- 40 Reason to scratch
- 41 Archer of note
- 46 Boiling point?
- 48 Bridge master Sharif
- 49 Parody
- 50 Dr. with advice
- 51 Cowboy's rope
- 52 "Oliver Twist" villain
- 53 S, as in Socrates
- 54 Mac messaging program
- 55 Actress Davis
- 59 One to whom you might say, "I doubt that"
- 61 Wanted poster uncle?
- 62 CPR expert
- 63 __ Schwarz

CONSTRUCTION • DEVELOPMENT • MANAGEMENT

(734) 662-6133 ext. 101
apartments@gobeal.com
www.GoBeal.com

- Short-term lease options available
- Pet-friendly
- Pre-leasing for Spring / Summer 2012
- 24-hr maintenance

STUDENT LIVING AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE!

A different ‘way’ down Packard Street



JARED ANGLE THE WASHTENAW VOICE
Peter Beyer, better known at the temple as Bopyrok, stands in front of the altar in the main room of the temple.



HAFSAH MUJINYAWA STAFF ILLUSTRATOR



JARED ANGLE THE WASHTENAW VOICE
Students and worshippers gather around Peter Beyer, left, at an 8 a.m. meditation session.

Ann Arbor’s Zen Buddhists talk Dharma; a beginner’s guide for the average student

BEN SOLIS
Managing Editor

Between all-nighters and term papers, the life of a college student can be anything but “Zen.”

“There are all these obstacles associated with school and work,” said Eric Kroepel, 21, a generally stressed-out mechanical engineering student attending Wayne State University. “You have deadlines and all these things to do, just to see it all happen again the next day.”

Fortunately for students like Kroepel, the monks at the Zen Buddhist Temple of Ann Arbor are helping burned-out students attain peace of mind in the face of never-ending stress at college.

Nestled cozily at 1214 Packard St. and hidden behind an archaic brick wall stands one of the few Buddhist temples in America, let alone in the state of Michigan. What may look like an old flop house to an inattentive passerby is a place where spiritual seekers have sought—and found—refuge for more than 30 years.

At the heart of the temple are the Rev. Haju Sunim and her host of fellow monks who live and work on the temple grounds. Sunim—known formerly as Linda Murray—founded the temple with her then-husband Sanbul (Alexander Lundquist) in Ann Arbor in 1981. The two bought the land where the temple now resides in the early ’90s.

While there are many different forms and practices of Buddhism, the Ann Arbor temple teaches a type of South Korean Zen, modeled after the teachings of Sunim’s master, the Venerable Samu Sunim, based out of Toronto. It was Samu Sunim who directed both Sunim and Sanbul to build a temple in Ann Arbor because of the religion’s growing influence and curiosity in the area.

The practice of Zen is a Chinese and Japanese version of the original religion, which began nearly 2,500 years ago in Nepal, India.

In Buddhist mythos, a young prince named Siddhartha Gautama left his pampered lifestyle behind to find a greater understanding of human suffering. Buddhists believe that through concentrated meditation, Gautama became the Buddha, the enlightened or awakened one.

All of Buddhism’s core teachings stem from the small group of monks who followed Gautama until the time of his death.

Essential to Buddhism are two major facets, according to Sunim. These include the Eight-fold Path and the Four Noble Truths. Both detail the Buddha’s teachings of suffering, and how to snap out of and away from the pressures and stressors affecting our continued existence throughout multiple life cycles, or karma.

Zen teachings recommend finding the most direct path to enlightenment. Instead of suggesting monastic studies and education, the Sunim school of Zen focuses on experience and practice over knowledge.

“Suffering, or the Dukkha, is always around us,” Sunim said. “Those other teachings are very helpful, but in Zen Buddhism, there is this kind of scholarship to the sutras and the teachings. The approach to practice is experiential. It’s not just in the head. We try not to be disembodied.”

Through courses in guided meditation, basic sitting classes and week-long retreats filled with manual labor and maddening silence, patrons get a first-hand education on what it takes to achieve a sustained sense of enlightenment throughout all the rigors of daily life.

Yet there is another aspect to the temple that has made the building so visibly attractive as a haven for those with just an inkling of interest as well as full-on practitioners of Zen: the Sunday morning and afternoon services.

During these sessions, anyone from the outside world can come in to meditate and engage in the most basic precepts of Zen Buddhism. While many

religions have a cosmic connection to Sunday as the Sabbath, Sunim said they chose the day out of convenience for patrons and families.

“It was quite a change at that time to have the services,” Sunim said about the unorthodoxy associated with the temple’s church-like atmosphere on Sundays. “Even today, I’m not sure that many Buddhist groups offer Sunday services. We like to say that every day is a good day for practice, but as Buddhism spreads around the world, we have to adapt. In this culture it is convenient to attend on Sundays.”

Certain aspects of experiential Zen are practiced on Sundays. Attendees take part in meditation, chanting and a Dharma talk similar to Christian sermons at the end.

Upon entering the service building, which lies directly left of the monastery’s main house, visitors must first take off their shoes to show respect and to tread lightly, according to Mike Umbriac, one of many students greeting new faces at the door.

Known to other monks and students as Magamok, Umbriac bows before patrons as they enter the building. He speaks softly as he informs newcomers of the itinerary.

After being welcomed with hot tea, the patrons enter the meditation room, but not before bowing once more in front of the door.

The bowing, Sunim said, is to show respect and an understanding of human duality. By bringing your hands together, students acknowledge the spiritual need for oneness in their lives.

In the center of the room are four rows of cushions with small pillows, each for a student to comfortably sit—the foundation of Zen Buddhism.

Before even attempting the practice of meditation, Sunim said that a student of Zen must first learn to sit still and shut up.

For young Americans, Sunim concedes the challenge in this very simple task.

Although it is widely understood

to each of the students that by taking time out of the day for mindfulness, practicing what they preach can be a much harder endeavor according to Peter Beyer, 67, a door greeter. Beyer led a Sunday session in place of Sunim.

Known to many as Bopyrok (pronounced Bom-yAK), Beyer suggests a bit of advice for college students either too busy or not interested in attending the services.

“Stop!” he said. “Put the books aside for just a second and take time out for yourself. Just five-to-10 minutes a day can help you break the structure of every day stress.”

Beyer also suggests staying away from books on Buddhism.

“Just do it. Develop a meditation practice or come in on Sundays to see how others do it,” he said. “You can read about it until your head falls off, but the point of Zen is to have an experience.”

By coming to a Sunday service on April 1 for the first time, Kroepel’s Zen experience was made that much better.

“This is all about actively engaging in self-improvement,” Kroepel said.

Kroepel began by reading and doing his own meditation after becoming disillusioned with the dogmatic qualities that came with Catholicism, the religion he was raised in.

While Kroepel admits that collegiate stress has not gone away, practicing Zen has been beneficial to his sense of purpose, esteem and time-management skills.

“It helps to see all of your assignments clearly,” he said. “If you find a positive in it and are mindful of your work, the burden disappears.”

For Sunim, the most important lesson a college student can learn about course-load enlightenment is the very first lesson she was taught by her master long ago.

“In this very moment, there is nothing to worry about,” she said. “In this very moment there is nothing lacking. In this very moment, there is always something to be grateful for.”

ILLUSTRATION BY **ALAN TRAXLER** CONTRIBUTOR

Vegans, Buddhists and Patrick McLean: WCC’s counter-culture trustee

BEN SOLIS
Managing Editor

Of all the things that Washtenaw Community College Trustee Patrick McLean has to worry about at his day job as the treasurer of Toledo, finding a place where he can eat a healthy meal is near the top of his list.

“I was in San Antonio once on a business trip, and I told the restaurant that I was vegan,” McLean said. “The chef came out and told me he understood, but they ended up bringing out a plate of bacon.”

Last April, McLean decided to take dieting to a new plateau: he doesn’t eat meat or any other product made from animals. This includes cheeses and other dairy, as well. His diet now consists of fruits, vegetables, nuts and beans.

For the past year, McLean has made the eating habit of consuming no meat or animal products a normal part of his everyday life.

But the transition from omnivore to herbivore wasn’t easy.

Suffering from high cholesterol and blood pressure in 2002, McLean was given strict orders from his doctor to lose weight. Not one for taking pills or other pharmaceutical remedies, McLean saw going vegetarian as a quick a way to solve his ailments.

He was amazed at the results. And so was his doctor.

“I lost 20 pounds fairly quickly,” McLean said. “My cholesterol and my blood pressure got better. My doctor at one point even accused me of using someone else’s blood.”

Since moving toward cutting out animal products entirely, McLean has found himself in good health.

In a town like Ann Arbor, finding the right kind of foods locally is never a challenge, he said. With the city’s multitude of vegan and vegan-friendly restaurants, the only time he worries is when he begins his drive to Toledo.

He can’t stop at a run-of-the-mill burger joint, and even if he could, McLean professed that he hasn’t eaten fast food in more than 30 years.

While improving his health and weight were among the driving factors of going vegan, his decision ended up relying on his moral responsibilities as a practicing Buddhist.

“I don’t like the idea of factory farms and the way that they go about the production of food,” he said. “I don’t like the notion that animals are brought up for the sole purpose of being slaughtered and eaten.”

McLean considers himself a lifetime “religious seeker,” and eventually took up the Eastern religion 10 years ago because of its comfortable nature and spiritual fluidity.

“The reason I like Buddhism is because it focuses on people having the power to change,” he said. “My connection to it is more personal, but I often visit the Buddhist temple on Packard Road.”

With Buddhism and a freshly minted vegan lifestyle, McLean has even proven to the other board members that the power of will can help with any major life transition.

“I think generally speaking, talking about requiring a special diet, he has helped to increase the health consciousness for the rest of us on the board,” said Trustee Richard Landau. “His willingness to stick to this regiment is admirable to me. I have dieted for a year now and he has had an impact on that.”

Landau added that if McLean could do it, so could he.

However, with McLean still acting as the new kid in town—appointed to replace State Rep. David Rutledge (D-Ypsilanti) as treasurer in 2011—his fellow board members still dish out robust, yet gentle hazing to his diet.

“At one point, I was on a liquid diet because of an injury,” Landau said. “I told Patrick, ‘now I’m more of a vegan than you are.’”

McLean laughs at the jokes himself, and knows that when his stomach starts grumbling, his fellow trustees have got his back.

“We do talk about it all the time, but especially at dinner after the board meetings,” said Vice Chair Diana McKnight-Morton. “We all say, ‘Oh look Patrick, here’s something you can eat!’ We look out for him that way.”



Patrick McLean

INSIDE:

RACHEL KING local musician gets stage time

VOICE VS. FOOD in the Battle of the Pizzas

HANDICAP PARKING controversy in the lots

HIGH FASHION Voice fashion expert weighs in



Photos and Words by
KELLY BRACHA
Staff Writer

CONQUERING THE CONCRETE JUNGLE

‘Free-running’ sport goes viral with boost from Internet; local club celebrates its popularity

Outfitted with nothing more than a pair of ultra-light training shoes and loose street clothes, Mike Metze is able to transform the unforgiving concrete and steel of almost any urban environment into an improvised playground.

Metze is a 22-year-old computer science graduate from University of Michigan and a “traceur,” a title given to those who practice parkour.

Parkour is a physical discipline in which an individual uses strength, technique and physics to pass over, under and through obstacles. The goal is to quickly and efficiently traverse any environment, from alleyways to rooftops. Most often, this entails climbing or vaulting over walls and jumping gaps using a variety of techniques.

Parkour’s popularity has gone viral through Internet videos and, recently, Hollywood films such as “Casino Royale.” Metze was one of the first to join the University of Michigan Parkour Club. Founded in 2006 by Michael Friedman and Travis Graves, now former U-M students, it was one of the first college-based parkour clubs in the country.

Club members and other local enthusiasts hold practice sessions together in and around Ann Arbor, including the annual “Parkour Jam,” which attracts the top traceurs from around the Midwest.

Last year on Sept. 17, the club met outside the Biomedical Science Research Building at U-M. Over 50 traceurs showed up for the event. The group would switch locations throughout the day to practice on a variety of environments and surfaces.

Metze began practicing parkour when he came across a YouTube video of David Belle, the founder of parkour, flipping and jumping from rooftop to rooftop.

“I was continuously at the pool on the diving board practicing flips. I always had an interest in ‘extreme’ type sports,” Metze said. “Soon after seeing the video of Belle, I discovered a website with tutorials on

basic vaults and rolling. My friends and I would go practice the moves, jumping over and between everything possible.”

Metze heard about the club at U-M when meeting Friedman at a Parkour Jam in Washington, D.C., the summer before he began at U-M in 2007.

Although Metze graduated last spring, he still manages to find time to practice several days a week.

“Having experienced people there to help guide your training makes it much safer and you’ll likely progress faster,” Metze added. Also, you’ll meet new like-minded people that will open up more opportunities.”

Aubrey de Cunha, a 29-year-old U-M student from Ann Arbor, is also a member of the U-M Parkour Club. Cunha joined shortly after Metze in 2007.

“I had been vaguely aware of parkour for a number of years, but I really got into it when I found out about the club. That’s when I started coming to training sessions,” Cunha said.

The U-M Parkour Club welcomes anyone interested in learning about or practicing parkour. With more than 500 members on its Facebook page, it is easy to find others to practice with, not just in Ann Arbor, but all over Michigan.

“The best way to start is to find other people in your area to train with. Even if they haven’t been doing parkour very long themselves, it gives you someone to develop your fitness and skills with,” Cunha said.

It’s not all fun and games, however. As with other “extreme” sports, parkour carries the risk of injury, for those just starting out and experienced traceurs alike.

“I broke my collar bone once when practicing rolls. I couldn’t train for about six months, which was really disappointing,” Cunha said.

Jereme Sanders, one of the most influential members of the American Parkour community, believes people often have a misperception about the sport.

“It’s not really about doing crazy movements, it’s about the control of movement,” he said.

Sanders, a 22-year-old native of Texas has been involved in parkour since 2004. In that time, he has competed as a member of his parkour team, The Tribe, in a parkour-based reality show, *Jump City: Seattle*, which aired on G4TV.

“I think parkour is still trying to find its place here in America,” Sanders said.

Apart from his career as a professional traceur, Sanders is also a parkour teacher at the American Parkour Academy in San Antonio. As an instructor, Sanders stresses the importance of learning proper techniques from someone experienced.

“[In the beginning] we were pretty much just figuring out how to do what we saw. I had no idea how to train safely, condition or anything like that,” Sanders said.

Sanders hopes to see more people get involved with parkour, and offers tips for beginners: “Find someone more experienced to help show you the ropes, go to a class with an instructor that you trust and do a ton of research.

“Also, staying away from high impacts is a great idea when you are first starting out as you have to give your bones, joints, ligaments and tendons time to build.”

The U-M Parkour Club maintains a regular schedule throughout the summer. The next Michigan Parkour Jam will take place in September in Ann Arbor. Traceurs, novices and experts come together to train, socialize and share knowledge and experience.

For more information, become a fan of Michigan Parkour on Facebook.

History of Parkour

The modern version of parkour began in the 1920s. George Hébert, a French physical educator, trained French marines in “parcours,” an obstacle course form of physical training, and is now the military standard.

David and Raymond Belle, of France, expanded on Hébert’s work. In the 1980s, David and 8 others founded the Yamakasi group, the first group dedicated to parkour. Yamakasi, a word taken from the Lingala language, can mean “strong body,” “strong spirit,” “strong person.”

Feb. 15, 2001: “Jump City: Seattle,” a reality-TV show following four top teams including Belle’s, The Tribe, debuted on gaming channel: G4. Parkour had arrived in America.

Learn to speak ‘parkour’

PARKOUR Derived from the French word *parcour*, meaning journey, route or course

TRACEUR One who practices Parkour, slang term derived from the French word “*tracé*,” meaning “one who traces.”

PARCOURS DU COMBATANT Obstacle course used in Parkour events

TIC TAC using an obstacle to “gain position” on another obstacle. For instance if you want to jump over a wall that is too high, but there is a bench you can jump to first, then you could “Tic-Tac” off the bench to clear the wall

MUSCLE-UP Parkour version of chin-ups, where the participant’s waist is brought to all the way up to the bar

LACHE the act of swinging from a bar, branch or similar object, letting go and catching on to another object. It can also refer to the release phase alone.

UNDERBAR the passing between two objects, in which you jump, pass through the obstacles, and land on the other side. The most common situations to use an underbar include through rails, trees, or scaffolding.

Terms provided by <http://americanparkour.com>

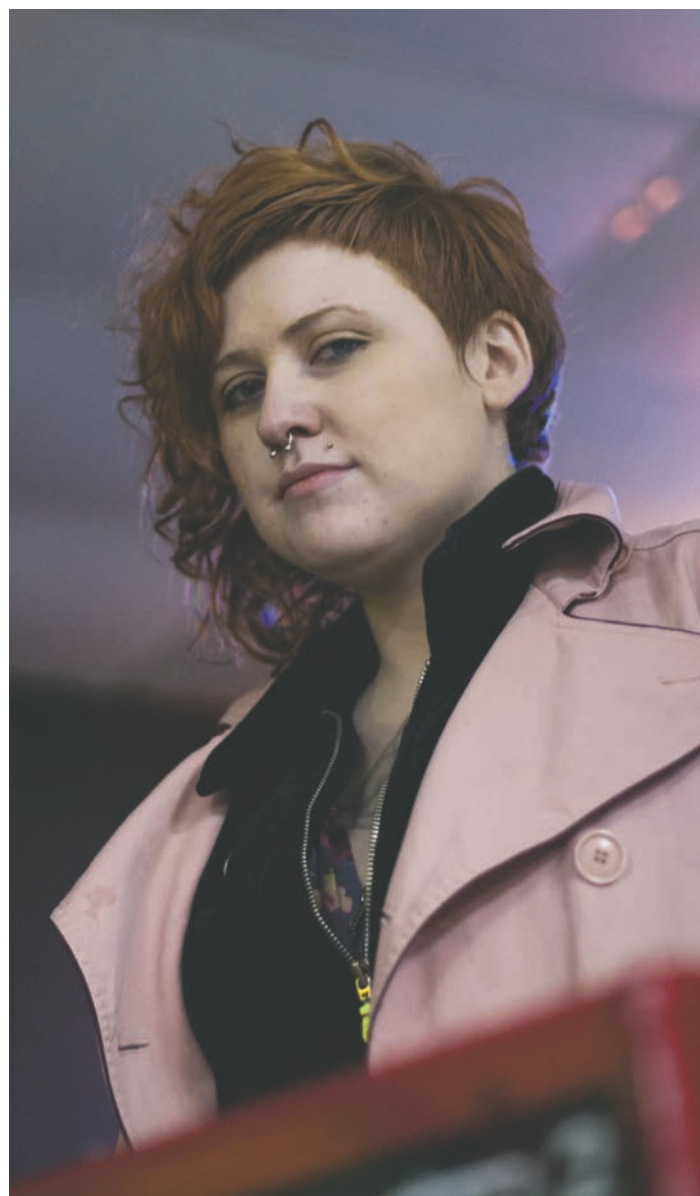


Members of Michigan Parkour practice jumps and vaults around downtown Ann Arbor and the U-M campus. Left, a member prepares to roll out of a fall. Right, another leaps over a concrete barrier.

Photos and words
CHARLES MANLEY
Contributor

The hidden gem in her performance is subtext. The less she has to say is more she has to sing. For a nascent artist with such a modest wake, she makes big waves onstage.

For more information and a recording of her final WCC performance, visit: <http://racheleliking.tumblr.com>.



Rachel King, 23, of Linden, took the stage to perform solo at the Michigan Compassion Center in Flint on April 14.



THINKSUCCESS
THINK MADONNA

- Livonia's premier university – est. 1937
- Career-focused undergrad and graduate programs
- Environmentally-friendly, high-tech Franciscan Center
- Small classes mean personal attention
- A reputation for academic excellence
- Professors dedicated to your success



We know you by name at the M with the flame!

Accounting • Addiction Studies • Art • Biochemistry • Biology • Broadcast & Cinema Arts • Business Administration • Chemistry • Child Development • Clinical Laboratory Sciences • Computer Science • Criminal Justice • Deaf Community Studies • Diagnostics • Education • Emergency Management • Fire Science • Forensic Science • Gerontology • Graphic Design • Hospice • Hospitality Management • Journalism & PR • Marketing • Merchandising Management • Music • Nursing • Religious Studies • Sign Language Studies • Social Work • Sport Management



**MADONNA
UNIVERSITY**

36600 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, MI 48150-1176
734-432-5339 ■ 800-852-4951 (ext. 5339)
madonna.edu

CLEAN WATER BEACH 49 YEARS

Why do Thousands come to our Beach?

Opening May 28

Check us on Facebook

60% of our customers are between 18 & 27

Alcohol Permitted • No Glass, No Kegs, No Pets

8 Volleyball Courts • Private, but open to the Public

Easy to Find - Quick to Reach

Exit 22 Cone Road off US 23 Expressway

15 Miles South of Ann Arbor or Ypsilanti

Go to: CleanWaterBeach.com • Call: 734-439-1818

\$300,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NEW WALSH STUDENTS



Walsh College has over \$300,000 in scholarships available for new undergraduate students who enroll in summer classes. Summer registration begins May 14.
WALSHCOLLEGE.EDU

WALSH[®]
COLLEGE
LIVE. BREATHE. BUSINESS.



I WORK. I PLAY. AND I SAVED ON A CAR THAT HELPS ME DO BOTH. The Best In Class Alumni & Student Discount¹ is the best discount from any car company for college students, graduate students or recent grads like me. And it can help you save too: hundreds, even thousands, on a new Chevrolet, Buick or GMC. I found a vehicle that helps me do it all. Now it's your turn...



GMC

find your ride at bestinclassdiscount.com



2012 Chevrolet Malibu
(discount example)

Malibu LS MSRP starting at	\$ 22,870.00
MSRP of Malibu 1LT as shown ²	\$ 24,230.00
Preferred Pricing ²	\$ 23,474.06
Consumer Cash ³	-\$ 4,000.00
Price You Pay	\$ 19,474.06
Your Discount	\$ 4,755.94

1) Eligible participants for the Best In Class Alumni & Student Discount include college students (from any two- or four-year school), recent graduates who have graduated no more than two years ago, and current nursing school and graduate students. Excludes Chevrolet Camaro ZL1 and Volt. 2) Tax, title, license, dealer fees and optional equipment extra. See dealer for details. 3) Not available with some other offers. Must be used toward the purchase of a vehicle. Take retail delivery by 4/30/12. See dealer for details.
The marks of General Motors, its divisions, slogans, emblems, vehicle model names, vehicle body designs and other marks appearing in this advertisement are the trademarks and/or service marks of General Motors, its subsidiaries, affiliates or licensors. ©2012 General Motors. Buckle up, America!

find us on



This is the **actual size** of one 1.125 pound slice of pizza.

THE THRILL OF VICTORY

...and the agony of pizza

The challenge:

It sounds easy enough, three people get half an hour to eat a 30-inch cheese pizza. Last year three staffers from *The Voice* tried and failed miserably. This year, two teams made the decision to go head-to-head and square off to see which team were the champion pizza eaters.

The teams:

TAKING CARE OF PIZZA (TCP)	DISCOVERY CHANNEL
Ben Solis	Matt Durr
Josh Chamberlain	Ashley DiGiuseppe
Nathan Clark	Adrian Hedden

Pre-game thoughts:

Prior to the competition some of the eaters revealed what went into their preparation and how they were feeling prior to sitting down.

“I trained by eating tons of rice and beans to get my Puerto Rican blood flowing and I watched three hours of Ninja Turtles so that I could be one with the pizza,” said TCP team captain Solis. “We’re gonna see the pizza, observe it and put it in our stomach with no pain!”

Others were not so confident in their ability to take down the

gigantic Sicilian wonder.

“My entire strategy is to try not to die while eating this,” Clark said. “It’s always been part of my bucket list to eat a table. This thing is a monstrosity, look at it.”

On the other side, Team Discovery Channel captain Matt Durr was banking on his experience to help carry his team. As the only returning eater from last year’s competition Durr was confident in his team.

“Being the most experienced

eater, I told my team we need to take it one bite at a time. We can’t think too far ahead or else you’ll screw up on the slice in front of you,” Durr said. “I really don’t think they know what they’ve gotten into. They talk a good game, but I think once they get out on the field and have to perform, I don’t think they’re going to live up to their own expectations.”

When asked what the key to winning was going to be, Durr quipped, “The champions can finish the crust.”

The competition:

As the eaters dug in, each cut a fast pace devouring their first slice in less than six minutes. As they dove into their second slices, the pace slowed down as their stomachs expanded and their appetites shrank.

Hedden in particular looked and sounded like a man ready to explode.

“Agony, sheer agony,” Hedden said. “I didn’t think it was going to stay in my stomach when I got that second slice down.”

At the 15-minute mark, it

was clear that neither side was going to finish the pizza in the 30-minute time limit. However, there was still newsroom pride to be won. The eaters tried switching up their strategies in hopes of finding a way to overcome the obstacle in front of them.

“I tried eating just the crust for a while,” Durr said. “I was hoping to give my palate a break from the cheese and sauce combo... it didn’t work.”

Twenty minutes into the competition and it was clear that Team Discovery Channel had folded under the weight of the enormous pizza. Being forced to swallow their pride (and they barely had room for that) and give up was too much for DiGiuseppe.

“I don’t like to lose, so that was tough,” DiGiuseppe said. “I looked over the pizza, and realized that it just wasn’t going to happen.”

The results:

Team TCP was left with just two full slices to devour, while Team Discovery Channel had roughly two-and-a-half slices left. It was hard fought battle, but in the end Solis and his team were the victors.

“It got hard there for a minute. We all got the sweats, as the other team did too. There was a moment there where I almost puked three times,” Solis said. “We did what we had to do and we attacked it the way we needed to attack it. The crust... that was nothing, I don’t know

what the big deal was.”

As the Most Valuable Eater, Chamberlain was thrilled with the victory, pointing out that he didn’t train at all for the event. Instead he focused on drinking lots of water and getting a good night’s sleep the night before—like any great eater-athlete.

“I just decided I was going to eat, and then just not stop,” said Chamberlain, a 6-foot-7 (and still growing) 18-year-old. “That’s how it works out for me on a day-to-day basis.”



Clockwise from upper left: team Taking Care of Pizza Captain Ben Solis tackles his first slice of pizza; team Discovery Channel Captain Matt Durr begins to lose steam halfway through his second slice; team TCP’s pizza after each member has taken a slice; Solis contemplates a bit of pizza towards the end of the competition.

College strives to enforce handicap parking

CHUCK DENTON
Staff Writer

ADRIAN HEDDEN
Features Editor

Despite a sea of parking lots sprawled across Washtenaw Community College’s campus and a four-level structure erected this year to house vehicles, WCC’s 131 handicap parking spots have been breached.

Alvaro Medina, a 56-year-old business major from Ann Arbor has been frustrated with able-bodied motorists parking in the more conveniently located handicap spots.

“Everybody should have a special sticker to prove it is you because some people are cheating,” Medina said.

The most common threat to the sanctity of handicap parking, according to Director of Campus Safety and Security Jacques Desrosiers, is the use of legitimate handicap-registered vehicles by drivers without any physical health complications.

“Our biggest problem with handicap parking is young people who borrow cars from possibly a grandparent for the convenience of using the spots,” Desrosiers said. “That’s a little selfish.”

Despite implications of morality, or lack thereof, when parking in handicap spots to save time, many students

brazenly insist on taking these liberties anyway.

A female student in clear violation of the rule was confrontational when speaking with *Voice* reporters. Unfriendly and annoyed, she would provide no personal information as she sat defiantly studying in her Suzuki atop and between the blue lines painted in the asphalt.

“I don’t have time to find a spot,” said the violator. “Please go so I can do my homework.”

Desrosiers asserts that CSS routinely patrols the lots, searching for any of the multitude of violations to policies in place. Although handicap parking violations aren’t the most common of infractions, Desrosiers says his team does not take them lightly.

“If we see it, we will enforce it and write a ticket,” Desrosiers said. “We’ll generally look around the dash board to see if they have any tags or stickers.”

When issuing a ticket, CSS officers file it to the local court system immediately for processing. In Ann Arbor, the fine for parking in a handicap parking spot is \$125, according a2.gov. The fine also increases depending on the time after the ticket is issued.

Leaving tracking and punishment to the judicial institutions depending on what county the car is registered to.

“We take it right to the court,”

Desrosiers said.

But the problem still remains, according to some students.

“There clearly is a need for more – and closer – handicapped parking,” handicapped student Kate Conat wrote in an email to a *Voice* reporter. “I love being a student at WCC and enjoy most of my classes immensely, but just getting to and from them can be a real test of endurance.”

Conat said she feels there isn’t enough handicapped parking close enough to some of the buildings.

“The three that seem to me to be hardest to get to are the Student Center, the Gunder Myran building and the Crane Liberal Arts and Science building,” she added. “Generally speaking, I’ve been able to find handicapped parking at both the Business Education and Technology and Industrial buildings. As SC, GM and LA are three of the busiest areas of campus, however, the lack of close handicapped parking for these buildings creates a true hardship.”

Eastern Michigan University takes care of handicap parking misuse a little differently. Sporting a larger campus and more lots, campus police at EMU require that handicap drivers register with the university to make tracking of



CHUCK DENTON THE WASHTENAW VOICE
Alvaro Medina, 56, of Ann Arbor, business is frustrated and vocal about handicap violations.

improper tag-use less difficult. There are 117 students registered for free handicap parking of the more than 20,000 enrolled at EMU this year.

“I have written hundreds of tickets for misuse or fraudulent use of H-tags,” said an EMU campus police officer, Donna Carcone “I don’t think the students know how serious it is. It makes my job easier when EMU issues handicap tags, because the student has been validated.”

According to Carcone, violators can be fined up to \$500 and be sentenced to 30 days in jail.

Although WCC’s security officers are on the case as well and out in full force to stop the abuse of handicap parking spaces, students whose conditions beg the use of such spots continue to find themselves trolling the lots in search of adequately close parking.

“I feel I got lucky today,” said a registered handicap driver and nursing major Doug Etcher, 32, of Ann Arbor, as he exited his vehicle in one of the specially marked spaces. “Usually I have to drive around to find a (handicap) spot.”

But school administrators are certain they have done everything possible for handicap drivers. Director of Facilities Management Damon Flowers told *Voice* reporters that the

campus is actually lush with the sectioned-off spots, but admits that their placement is not always ideal.

“The school has plenty of handicapped parking spaces,” Flowers said. “They might not be where everyone would like them, but we have more than enough.”

Flowers points to lax guidelines from the government and the fluidity of lot layout at WCC making it difficult to assign adequate H-spots to certain buildings. The only lot specifically tailored to a building on campus sits across Huron River Drive at the Health and Fitness Center.

“By law, building codes and the Americans with Disabilities Act, handicapped parking spaces are close to buildings,” Flowers said. “But there’s really nothing that talks about where they should be located by elevation.”

The number of handicapped parking spots is determined by how many plots of land are in use and what they are being used for. There is no finite number of parking spaces required based on the building.

According to Flowers, the college uses a formula to determine the number of regular parking spaces needed. Roughly, 278 square feet of

campus building equals one parking space.

“If this place was a McDonalds, the regulation would tell us exactly how many spaces were required,” Flowers said.

Flowers suggested moving handicap spots from the third floor of the parking structure down to its ground-level where seven already reside.

*Voice staff writer Nathan Clark contributed to this report



CHUCK DENTON THE WASHTENAW VOICE
Campus Safety and Security patrol parking lots, seeking violators.



CHUCK DENTON THE WASHTENAW VOICE
A sticker issued to legitimate, handicap drivers allows them access to the coveted spots

‘Empty lives’ filled with sweat, camaraderie

ADRIAN HEDDEN
Features Editor

Before the first stretch of a day’s education is even a twinkle in the eye of most students, Jim Coleman of Ann Arbor and his friends are wide awake and raring to go.



ADRIAN HEDDEN THE WASHTENAW VOICE
A group of Health and Fitness Center members begin waiting as early as 4:30 a.m. for the doors to open.

Meeting in front of the Health and Fitness Center, preempting the gym’s 5 a.m. opening, Coleman’s band of exercise aficionados are ready to attack the weight machines, treadmills, swimming pools and other facilities offered at the HFC.

As the sun is just beginning to warm the morning air, members of the group are chuckling at their own dedication to early morning fitness.

“We have empty lives,” Coleman said. “This fills that great big void. It’s a loosely knit group that meets about five days a week.”

Approaching the HFC already dressed in swimming trunks and sandals, Coleman is one of the later arrivals at 4:50 a.m. The group typically begins congregating around 4:30 a.m. in numbers varying from small bands of six to larger congregations of more than 20, according to security officer David Cluverhouse, who typically monitors the opening of the HFC’s doors each morning.

“Some days, there’s a half a dozen by five, other days, you’ll find 20-something people just waiting to get in the door,” Culverhouse said. “Some people keep those New Year’s resolutions and some don’t.”

Linda Perry, operations manager at the HFC, is happy to accommodate such commitments. The group has been

readily served at the wee hours of the morning since the facility’s opening in 2008.

“They’re here at the crack of dawn,” Perry said. “Here without fail regardless of the weather. Most of them are early risers and have positions that require them to be places early in the day. They want to get their workouts out of the way.”

Over the years, as the gang’s

daybreak patronage has continued, a familiarity has been established that Perry and her crew have grown to cherish.

“They’re mostly regulars,” Perry said. “We pretty much know them by name. It’s absolutely a good thing; we’re happy to have people come this early.”

Steadfastly waiting for staff at the HFC to grant them access to the amenities, many

members of the group are shy about speaking of their workout habit, only offering first names to *Voice* reporters.

A patron from Plymouth who introduced herself as Char has been a customer of the HFC since the beginning in 2008. She is proud of the camaraderie that has been built through the meetings under the day-commencing sunrise.

“It’s a little group, but we’ve become great friends over the years,” Char said.

A Dexter patron, Mary, uses the center on a daily basis, and when a recent broken stepper machine was replaced on March 21, she rejoiced although slightly indigent at how long her routine had lacked that necessary piece of equipment.

“We’ve been missing our

steppers for a long time,” Mary said. “It’s about time they were replaced.”

While often embarrassed by the self-professed obsessive nature of the group, Mary encourages others to join up with her friends outside the HFC entrance to exercise before the sun has risen.

“It’s wide open,” she said. “Come on in; it’s a great group.”



DEARBORN

TRANSFER OPEN HOUSE

MAY 9, 2012

6:00 - 8:30 PM

Check-in begins at 5:30 pm



Find out what this **Top-Ranked** public university offers!

- Explore our 100 degree programs, transfer scholarships, and financial aid
- Meet with representatives from our academic programs
- Tour the campus
- Apply and receive an admissions decision*

*To receive an admissions decision, you must submit a completed application and copies of ALL transcripts from ALL schools attended.



The
Degree
that Makes the
Difference™

For information, visit:
umd.umich.edu/transferopenhouse

Office of Admissions and Orientation • University of Michigan-Dearborn
4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn, MI 48128 • 313-593-5100



Are Headaches Disrupting Your Life?

Michigan Head•Pain & Neurological Institute is conducting a research study evaluating an investigational medication for individuals with migraines.

Participants must:

- * Be between 18 and 65 years old
- * Experience no more than 8 headaches per month over the past 3 months

If you qualify, you will receive study related exams and study medication at no cost to you. In addition, you will be compensated for your time and travel expenses.

For more information, please call a study coordinator at
(734) 677-6000, option 4

Learn more about participating in research at
www.MHNI.com

Michigan Head•Pain & Neurological Institute
3120 Professional Drive • Ann Arbor, MI 48104

THINK GREEN

with online classes @ WCC



With over 50 online classes,
WCC offers you flexible
(and green) scheduling options!

For more information:
734.973.3543
wccnet.edu/online

COLLEGE *on*
→ DEMAND
DISTANCE LEARNING @ WCC



STEFAN LUKE'S WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY'S CLASS OF '13,
TRANSFER STUDENT, ACCOUNTING MAJOR

SMART TRANSFER PLAN

"My finance professor is crazy. That's a good thing—he really knows his stuff."

— Stefan Luke

Stefan always knew that Western was his goal.

Study-abroad opportunities, a tremendous accounting program and a smart plan from the beginning made Stefan's choice easy: Western Michigan University. He had a smart plan: go to community college and take the right classes, knowing the credits would transfer. Then, on to WMU for his undergraduate accounting degree. Having always been good with numbers, he knew this plan would save him a substantial amount of money. While doing so, he plans to study abroad and secure some quality internships.

SMART BENEFITS FOR THE WMU TRANSFER STUDENT

230 academic programs

Research involvement with faculty

Transfer scholarships available

On-campus transfer student housing

One of America's "Best National Universities"

— U.S. News & World Report



**WESTERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY**

(269) 387-2000 • WMICH.EDU/TRANSFER

A PASSION FOR FASHION

Find that trendy look without breaking the bank

JENNIFER DANCZAK
Contributor

It's that time of the year again: blazing sunshine, much-needed vacations and of course, fashionable outfits. Ladies, listen up. This spring

and summer, pair bright, bold colors together along with bright heels to complete the color-block look. Whether it's aqua-blue skinny jeans paired with a bright purple shirt and fuchsia pumps, play it up. Sport some chunky necklaces and bangles. This accessorizes it up and ties the look together. Don't forget a chunky belt to create a cinched waist and give an hourglass figure. Men, bright colors and necklaces

apply to you, too. Feeling bold, yet don't want to play your outfit up as much as bright colors do? Try a bold pattern instead: jungle-esque, snakeskin, sunset patterns or even western. The "basket weave" look is also chic, whether it's a hot pair of wedges or a big, woven bag. You could also try a pastel, which is always classy no matter what the occasion. To find these trends, check

around the exclusive Ann Arbor shops downtown. Target (bathing suits), Marshalls, Old Navy (Two-for-\$5 flip flops!), J.C. Penney, Nordstrom (especially sunglasses), Charlotte Russe, Arden B and H&M (my favorite) have items to complete these trends on sale. Shop around; try one of them and you'll be sure to turn some heads.

Fashion icon profile: KATE MIDDLETON

Princess Kate shines after Royal Wedding

JENNIFER DANCZAK
Contributor

April 29 marks the one-year anniversary of Kate Middleton and Prince William, pushing Kate into the spotlight once again. The 30-year-old Duchess of Cambridge may be a beautiful princess, but she could also be the most stylish member of the Royal Family thus far. Because the anniversary of her wedding was viewed by billions worldwide, she was

an easy choice for our Fashion Icon Profile, especially since her ascension into fashion is an accomplishment all on its own. From mixing her classy, High Street one-piece dresses to her signature designer L.K. Bennett nude pumps, women worldwide look up to her for her style, including celebrities here in the States. Even actress Demi Moore was wearing a Philip Treacy (Kate's favorite) fascinator within a week of Middleton wearing one. Between her classic pumps, dainty jewelry, cinched waist, elegant yet non-flashy clutches, and a modest hemline, Kate has elements of style fit for a commoner turned princess. She has

even brought pantyhose back into style. Not only that, but she is known as the "Royal Recycler" while she wears outfits more than once. Now that is a great fashion role-model. Her outfits sold by e-commerce sell out in just minutes of her appearing in them. Duplicates of her wedding dress were made within seconds of her getting out of the car on her wedding day. People crave Kate's look, and some have even had plastic surgery to look like her! Do you want to dress like Kate without breaking the bank? Don't fret. You don't need an Alice Temperley, Issa, Jenny Packham or LK Bennett

dress to match the Duchess. There are simpler alternatives. Her designer items, such as her favorite L.K. Bennett shoes, may be a bit pricey (\$345), but many of these items have look-alikes for much less money. Look for nude pumps at chain stores such as Dillard's or Payless for a good selection. Check out H&M or Target for one-piece, bold dresses fit for a Duchess. Less expensive, yet modest blazers (black, navy, gray, white) and look-alike pea coats can be found at Gap, JCPenney or even Kohl's. Shop around in your area, and you'll be guaranteed to find a "royal match" fit for your own style.



JENNIFER DANCZAK CONTRIBUTOR

Kim Williams, the 'trendy student of the season' for Spring.

The Duchess of Style



Kate Middleton arrives at Westminster Abbey in London, for her wedding to Prince William.

JEN DANCZAK
Contributor

Kate Middleton, the Duchess of Cambridge was once just a commoner from Reading, Berkshire, England. But once she stepped out of her commoner car to marry her prince, the world gasped. They were all waiting for the moment to see who the designer of 'the dress' was. The beautiful, long sleeved and lacy detailed dress resembled

a modernized version of Grace Kelly's wedding dress. The best part is that this was not only a huge fashion moment in the Duchess' life, but for the fashion industry as well. The designer was Sarah Burton for Alexander McQueen, who took over the British label after McQueen tragically, took his life a year before. This tribute was huge for Middleton, in that it started the frenzy over her own style.

CAMPUS STYLE: Trendy student of the season

Kim Williams, 25, Dexter, broadcast arts

As a child, Williams would shop with her mother at designer stores, which sparked her interest in fashion early in life. She now has friends all over the country, including New York, Miami and Las Vegas, who influence her style. Fashion-designer friends are always a plus! Because these cities are more "fashion forward" than the Midwest, she gets ideas on

trends and inspirations for her own personal style when she visits. Even though her email is filled with missives from Prada, Gucci and other designer brands, she needs to keep her fashion affordable and practical. Why? She's a mother! Hard to wear mini dresses around a 5-year-old. Nevertheless, her style is classy, colorful and never dull. Always the cutest accessories are paired with a statement piece. Even when she tries to dress down, she still seems dressed up. Now that's a hot mom!

WV: What is your favorite trend to wear for spring/summer?
KW: Bright colors, big watches, embellished wedge heels.
WV: What would you label your style as?
KW: Trendy, classy.
WV: Who/what influences your taste and why?
KW: I get emails from high-end designers and stores to see the new trends, then shop at discount stores for those trends.
WV: What fashion icons do you look up to?
KW: Nicole Richie, Heidi Klum, Roberto Cavalli

WV: Where can your look be achieved while on a budget?
KW: Nordstrom Rack (for discounted designer styles) or online sites (Bluefly, Ideeli, Belle & Clive, eBay)
WV: What has been your best fashion buy of the season?
KW: A Kenneth Cole watch at Nordstrom rack for \$60 (originally \$200) and a studded sundress at Dolce Moda in Royal Oak on sale for \$70 (originally \$160).

Prospecting for gold in Ann Arbor

CHUCK DENTON
Staff Writer

Anyone driving along Packard Street west of Carpenter Road might have seen a young man waving a large sign that read: "WE BUY GOLD." These modern-day gold miners aren't digging or panning for gold, but they're still prospecting. Despite the economy taking a dive in recent years, the workers are staying busy in their Ann Arbor storefront. "This business thrives when the economy is down and it suffers when the economy is up," said Roger Rynd, 22, manager of the Ann Arbor Coin and Jewelry Exchange on Packard. The economic and housing downturn has driven the raw cost of gold up, which drove consumers away from buying gold jewelry. The shift also impacted artisans who make custom gold jewelry by hand. "At \$1,631 a Troy ounce, very few are buying gold jewelry," Rynd said. "We purchase gold coins and jewelry from our clients and send the items to our refiner to be processed. For Rhynd and his crew it's just another day at the office.

"This is not like discovering a gold mine and getting rich," he said. "We are purchasing old gold items at competitive market prices and making enough money on the deal to stay in business, but buyer beware is the practice here." When Rynd buys gold, he tests it to see what karat it is by use of a chemical acid test. Before he hands over any cash, sellers are fingerprinted and all details of the transaction are entered online at leadsonline.com. The gold is then shipped to multiple local government authorities for review. "A key part of the job is judging the clients that walk in the door," Rynd said. "If their name pops up on leadsonline as a risk, we won't buy." If Rhynd suspects theft, he turns clients away. He said he has given about \$50,000 worth of gold back to law enforcement without recovering a dime. One client came in asking for help to remove his gold tooth and was told no. He came back two hours later with the gold, minus the tooth. But most customers have better reasons for stopping by. "I sold some coins because I

needed the money to pay some bills," said Brad A, 30, a computer consultant who asked that his last name not be used. "I usually get \$170 per hour, but no one is willing to pay due to inflation. When I was at the grocery store I paid \$3.99 for five pounds of Clementines six months ago, now they're \$6.99 for three pounds." "People are selling because they are desperate," said Joeseeph James, 30, a regular at the store. By Michigan law the store must wait nine business days before any profit is made on the deal, and the items are sent to the refiner for processing. It can take up to 11 days before the store gets paid. In that time, the gold market can change dramatically. "If the price of gold drops \$100 in a week, we lose money," Rynd said. If the store violates the rules and sends the items in early, the State of Michigan can revoke the store's Precious Metals and Gems Dealers licenses. Meantime, Rynd says his store will continue its prospecting as long as the lousy economy continues. "I think we have about three years before the economy shifts and prices fall," Rynd said.



CHUCK DENTON STAFF WRITER

Gold on a scale at the Ann Arbor Coin and Jewelry Exchange on Packard Street.