

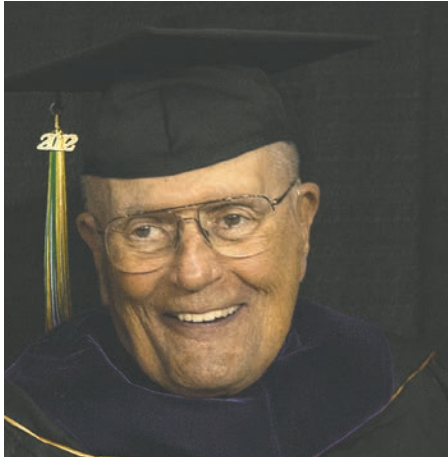


Gamers gain points for charity

B3

Professor Profile: The Power of Perkins

B1




U.S. Rep. John Dingell makes history

A3

SNOW BLIND

WCC gives cold shoulder to students while trustees play hooky






Washtenaw CC
Liked · 19 minutes ago


View of campus tonight from the Student Center Building.

Like · Comment · Share


14 people like this.




Mark Ferguson Thanks for clearing the walk ways...I'm being sarcastic
14 minutes ago via mobile · Like · 2




Rebecca Louise ^^ I think we all feel that way.. I should have stayed home. The roads are awful and my 45 minute drive turned into almost 2 hours. They need to learn when to cancel classes before we all die trying to get to class.
12 minutes ago · Like · 5




Shawna Gerry I am going to make a prediction that even if all other schools close tomorrow (including other WCC campuses) that the main campus will still be open even though many of us drive PAST said closed campus to get to there.
10 minutes ago · Like · 6



Elizabeth Stuttz Why am I here? I'm the only one.
5 minutes ago · Like



Lauren Grossman why are classes still scheduled... it took me an hour to drive 8.5 mi.
3 minutes ago · Like



Nathan Knapp There was a total of 6 people in my class an they called class 25 minutes in. Why didn't you just save everyone time and gas money and just close the school
3 minutes ago via mobile · Like

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION PETER HOCHGRAF WASHTENAW VOICE

White out: Outraged students commented on this photo of campus posted on the college's Facebook page while Washtenaw refused to cancel classes during the Feb. 26 snowstorm. What was meant to be a playful gesture quickly turned into a self-inflicted slug fest.

EDITORIAL

Students feel betrayed after another snow job

For the last couple of years now, the new leaders of Washtenaw Community College have been pre-occupied with presenting a pristine image of student success to potential donors and perspective students through clever marketing and outreach opportunities, including billboards and social media outlets.

By focusing on its diversity of

population and course offerings, as well as its secure campus environment, Washtenaw has updated its public image without many hiccups in the process.

The college may tout its many great academic programs, the success of its graduates and its low campus crime rate, but what it has failed to convey to the students who are already enrolled

is the sense that the leadership of WCC actually gives a damn about them. And rarely is that more evident than in inclement weather situations.

Last year's Dexter tornado fiasco left administrators red in the face and in a position of stymied embarrassment that has still yet to fade from the memory of its students and long-time faculty.

When the campus alert system failed to inform students of an incoming cyclone, many at Washtenaw were left scrambling, searching for shelter, wondering what to do and where to go.

Worse, the college failed to properly distinguish designated tornado shelters throughout the various buildings on campus. Adding to the confusion, even campus safety and

security could not determine which rooms were safe for sanctuary, effectively expelling whole classes from the appropriate locations.

The entire campus community was outraged, and with good reason, but aside from a few articles published

SNOW BLIND
CONTINUED **A6**

Campus crime can't be ignored

But some local colleges and universities skirt federal reporting laws

By ADRIAN HEDDEN
Managing Editor

In an effort to shine some sun into the shadows of college administration, the federal government requires that all colleges in the United States publish incident reports — on campus — for immediate, public review.

Any school that receives federal funding, even for financial aid, must adhere to this under the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1998.

But Washtenaw Community College and even some of the biggest schools in Michigan have struggled, and in some cases ignored, the provision of this mandatory instant resource on campus.

Violations of either annual reporting or log provisions can result in a \$27,500 fine, handed down by the U.S. Department of Education.

The law demands sharing of

incident reports and crime statistics as a responsibility of the college, according to Frank LoMonte, executive director of the Student Press Law Center in Arlington, Va.

"The idea that someone should have to wait or find the information themselves is counter to the entire purpose of the statute," he said of campus crime reports. "There is not a distinction for a level of compliance."

"It has to be available on demand. They (school officials) are not correct that they are entitled to make you wait."

SUNSHINE WEEK

Initiated by the American Society of News Editors, national Sunshine Week will be commemorated March 10-16, a week during which the news media has elected to celebrate and inform the public about open government regulations and the right to know.



In observance of Sunshine Week, *Voice* reporters visited six campuses in and near Washtenaw County, investigating whether and how security departments follow the guidelines posed by the Clery Act, and assigning them a letter grade for their performance.

CLEARY UNIVERSITY

Not all adult-learning institutions must provide incident reports on campus. A satellite location of a college in Howell, Cleary University in Ann Arbor is simply too small to warrant an active security department.

According to officials at Cleary, there have been no crimes or incidents on its campus in the past decade, but the school does use a personal, electronic alert system to inform students of possible threats.

"Our campus crime stats reported to the federal government for the past 10 years are zero," said Gary Bachman, director of facilities. "We're in a very visible

CLEARY
CONTINUED **A6**

Spring-Summer changes: shorter courses, longer days

By BEN SOLIS
Editor

After attending Washtenaw Community College for two semesters back-to-back, taking classes during the summer months may be a time-consuming drag on some students' anticipated relaxation.

Those easy-going spring and summer classes are going to have a different feel to them this year, as Washtenaw moves from traditional 7½-week courses to six weeks. However, some of the more complex courses that couldn't be compacted will run over 10 weeks.

The adjustment was made to offer more options for students looking to take vital pre-requisites and a subsequent higher-level course in the two shorter semesters.

"The intent was to offer greater opportunities to students who couldn't take two pre-reqs at the same time because the two 7½-week semesters overlapped," said Jennifer Baker, president of the WCC faculty union. "Because of the overlap, we were also restricted in the number of classes

that could be scheduled."

The course lengths were agreed upon by the administration and the faculty and will be introduced this spring as a pilot program, she added.

While only a few of the courses have changed to the six-week format instead of the longer 10-week portion, the transition will ultimately be a benefit to the summer student, according to Stuart Blacklaw, who refused to speak to reporters directly and chose instead to comment through Associate Director of Public Affairs Janet Hawkins.

"This is particularly important for sequential courses, but would allow a student to focus on one course at a time regardless of the courses he or she is taking," Blacklaw told Hawkins, who emailed the comments to *The Voice*.



Stuart Blacklaw

COURSE LENGTH
CONTINUED **A5**

WE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CREDITS.



Up to 82 Washtenaw Community College credits can be applied toward a degree at Walsh – one of Michigan's most affordable business schools. Now that's love. Winter registration now in progress. Classes begin Jan. 7.

WALSHCOLLEGE.EDU

©The yellow notebook design is a registered trademark of Walsh College. And the campaign is a creation of Perich Advertising + Design. Thanks to the fine folks at Walsh for letting us say so.

WALSH[®]
COLLEGE
LIVE. BREATHE. BUSINESS.

How to fit a bachelor's degree into your busy schedule

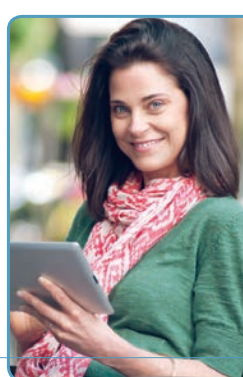
STEP **1** Call or visit Central Michigan University's Global Campus in Metro Detroit & Online

With 7 local centers in Metro Detroit and even more options online, you can earn your bachelor's degree and keep your day job.

- Local evening and weekend classes allow time for work, family, & friends
- Online options for many courses
- Compressed terms so you finish in less time
- Books and library materials delivered to you

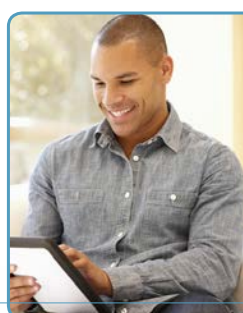
STEP **2** Choose the Bachelor's degree that's right for you

- Administration
- Community Development
- Health Sciences
- Information Technology
- Leadership
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Administration



STEP **3** Take your Associate's degree to the next level

Our center staff, online specialists, and caring, dedicated faculty are ready to build on your current studies and help you every step of the way from your first questions to graduation and beyond.



STEP **4** Apply for positions you couldn't even dream of before!



*For more information, scan this
QR code with your smart phone*

CMU
CENTRAL MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY

Get started today! Call 877-268-4636
or e-mail CMUglobal@cmich.edu

Auburn Hills | Clinton Township | Dearborn
Livonia | Southfield | Troy | Warren | Online

cmich.edu/Detroit
CMU is an AA/EQ institution (see
cmich.edu/aaeo). 35284b 11/12

MAKE YOUR FUTURE ALL BUSINESS

**Plan on finishing your WCC degree
and then start your hands-on business
education at Cleary University.**

Simple transfer of credits. Flexible schedule. Online classes.
Relevant undergraduate and graduate programs.

QUESTIONS?

Meet a Cleary representative on
Wednesday, March 20th from
8:30am to 1:30pm in the Student Center.

CLEARY.EDU 800.686.1883
ANN ARBOR • HOWELL • ONLINE



The perennial servant



Nathan Clark THE WASHTENAW VOICE
Nation's finest: U.S. Representative John Dingell shakes hands with WCC President Rose Bellanca at the Department of Labor grant ceremony in the Community Room, Oct. 1, 2012.

U.S. Rep. Dingell set to become longest-serving congressman in American history

By **BEN SOLIS**
Editor

As members of Congress grapple in another self-inflicted sparring match over the fiscal future of the country, this time with the dire repercussions of massive budget cuts, U.S. Rep. John Dingell (D-Dearborn) remains as calm and collected as anyone in Washington could be right now.

The mere notion of another deadlocked debate disheartens him greatly, and you can hear it in his voice when he speaks about it.

"It is absolutely impossible to get anything done in Washington when no one is there to work," said Dingell, the Dearborn Democrat, whose Congressional district includes Washtenaw Community College.

In a recent wide-ranging interview with *The Washtenaw Voice* while making rounds in his district, he was outspoken about the economic sequestration stonewalled by the U.S. House of Representatives late last month.

But the partisan bickering doesn't seem to rile the congressman at all. Moments like these are common occurrences in the new era of Washington politics.

And while inherently modern, the 86-year-old Democrat has been through all of this before.

In Dingell's mind, it is just another day at the office — an office he has held for nearly half a century.

On June 13, Dingell's 48-year career will earn a certain level of heightened distinction, this time not through a specific piece of legislation he has co-sponsored or another election won in yet another landslide.

In a few short months, Dingell will become a piece of American history, earning the title of the longest-serving member of Congress since the birth of the nation.

For anyone familiar with his tenure in the House, Dingell's dedication to and effectiveness in a job wrought with stalemate have become vital chapters in the playbook on how to survive the big-league legislative jungle of Washington D.C.

After all, Dingell did grow up in the capitol, and his career in politics began before he was even old enough to vote.

As his father, John Dingell Sr., took office as the representative for Michigan's 15th District in 1933, Dingell spent his youth working as a page in the House.

When he was 18 years old, he joined the Army shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1944. The atom bomb saved him from being deployed with

the invasion force on Japan in 1945. Returning stateside and earning a Juris Doctorate degree from Georgetown University in 1952, Dingell eventually ran and won in a special election that would replace him in his father's seat after John Sr. passed away in 1955.

Dingell has held the position ever since, barely contested in subsequent elections and sometimes not even contested at all — in both 1988 and 2006, Michigan's GOP chose not to run anyone against him.

Even in primaries against other established Democrats, Dingell came out on top. When Dingell's 16th District was combined with the 15th in 2000, he ousted former U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, who now teaches political science courses at Washtenaw.

"It was a family fight, and of course, we all know how ugly those can be," said Rivers, referring to the tough battle between the two. "But I came away from the experience with nothing but respect for him."

What is it about Dingell that makes him not only a highly-popular candidate, but a man that people rally around?

For Jason Morgan, government affairs liaison for Washtenaw and a former field representative for Dingell, it's the congressman's natural humanity and love of his constituents that makes him one of the great politicians of all time.



Jason Morgan

"I'll tell ya, he is the most genuine politician and one of the most genuine people I have ever met," Morgan said. "If you ever have a chance to just have a conversation with him, you'll see that politics isn't just a job for him, being a congressman isn't just a job for him. It's really his entire being."

"It's his passion, and he just truly loves serving the people of this district."

Dingell stressed that his ability to serve the public is only as good as the staff he has around him, and Morgan can attest to Dingell's true affection for those on his team.

"I found working for Congressman Dingell to be the most personally rewarding (experience)," he said. "And I say that because the experience with John Dingell is that you're more than just a staff member when you work for him. You're part of his family, you're a friend, and you really get to see how much passion he has for politics and this community."

"I am still extremely fond of Congressman Dingell. It was a difficult decision to decide to leave his office, but that's what he plans on," Morgan added. "He kind of prepares to give us a very solid experience working for

him, and then he expects us to gain a lot of additional opportunities from that and afterwards."

Washtenaw's President Rose Bellanca, who has a history of donating to and attending events for Dingell's various re-election campaigns, said that his commitment to education has helped colleges like hers thrive.

"Congressman Dingell and his wife Debbie have given their time generously to help ensure access to higher education for everyone," Bellanca said via email through Janet Hawkins, associate director of Public Affairs. "He was instrumental in the College receiving a \$2.9 million Department of Labor grant for IT training. He has also helped us in our efforts to secure additional grant money from the National Science Foundation, which is pending."

Last year, Washtenaw honored Dingell's dedication to Washtenaw County with its first Honorary Associate's Degree in Community Service, given to the congressman during the summer commencement ceremony.

The proverbial lifetime achievement award, which would turn any political office into a glorified hype machine, makes Dingell more reflective than fulfilled, if anything.

Dingell says his interest in politics was never about glory, but his impressive list of political successes boil over with unintended name-brand prestige.

"I've had a lot of things, like the passing of the Civil Rights Bill of 1964, presiding over the passage of Medicare in 1965, presiding over the passage of the Affordable Care Act a few years ago," Dingell said as he recalled his proudest moments in office. "But mostly it's just doing my job and helping people."

Just being elected and being able to finish the work of John Sr., Dingell's most fondly remembered political hero next to Presidents Harry S. Truman and Franklin Delano Roosevelt was success enough for the congressman.

But times have changed drastically in Washington since the 1950s, and Dingell has been along for the ride at every strange twist and turn.

As crisis management — or the lack of it entirely — plagues politicians at the nation's capitol, Dingell can remember a time when playing nice and dealing with your co-workers was a part of the job description.

"First of all, we didn't have crises in Washington because we tried to avoid it," Dingell said. "Second of all, we learned how to work together, whether we had a crisis or we were just passing ordinary legislation. We learned to work together on appropriations. We learned to work together on the budget, which they are totally incapable of doing in the House. We learned to reach across the aisle, and to deal with our Republican colleagues through compromise, reconciliation

SNIPS

Mammography program produces first graduates

Washtenaw Community College graduated its first group of students from the mammography certificate program.

The program, which started in 2012, prepares students to perform screening and diagnostic mammography procedures using dedicated mammography equipment and is designed for radiology technologists who are certified through The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.

The curriculum is based on the recommended American Society of Radiologic Technology (ASRT) mammography guidelines and includes both didactic and clinical education.

Welding student wins national title

Alex Pazkowski, a WCC welding student took first place in the American Welding Society and SkillsUSA Team USA Finals welding competition recently in Daytona Beach, Fla.

After more than 20 hours of on-and-off welding, Pazkowski was crowned champion. He finished second in 2011.

Held at the Daytona International Speedway during the Daytona 500 on Feb. 23, the competition was hosted by Larson Motorsports.

As winner, Pazkowski received a \$40,000 scholarship toward a bachelor's degree in welding engineering.

Monday, March 11 Women in non-traditional careers

Students can learn about careers in criminal justice and law enforcement during a panel discussion with professionals in the field. The event is free and open to the public in ML 101 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Tuesday, March 12 College visitation: Eastern Michigan University School of Education

Representatives from will be in SC 206 from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. to answer questions on a walk-in basis from students looking to transfer into EMU's secondary or elementary education programs.

Wednesday, March 13 College visitations

Representatives from the following two universities will be on-hand in the Student Center to answer questions from students looking to transfer.

University of Toledo from 10 a.m.-noon on the first floor of the Student Center

Eastern Michigan University from 1-5 p.m. in SC 206

Thursday, March 14 College Visitations

Representatives from the following colleges and universities will on campus to answer questions from students looking to transfer on the first floor of the student center.

Concordia from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Northwood from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Walsh College from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Eastern Michigan University from noon-4 p.m. in SC 206

Water talk

Nick Schroeck, executive director of the Great Lakes Environmental Law Center will address attendees on ground water rights, conservation and fracking in room 202 of the Great Lakes Regional Training Center. The free event is sponsored by the WCC Faculty Sustainability Literacy Task Force.

Michigan Cyber Range partners with WCC

The fledgling Michigan Cyber Range, created by the Ann Arbor-based Merit Network to operate secure networks for classroom Internet security activities, has partnered with Washtenaw Community College to offer its students a real-time environment to practice their defense skills.

Students enrolled in the college's CSS 200: Computer Security II and CSS 205: Computer Security III, who in the past had to use an obsolete networking environment to defend against manufactured cyber-attacks, will now be able to use isolated online environment as a classroom extension.

Students can access the Range from any lab or workstation computer on campus.

SECURITY NOTES

Due to a glitch while converting its system, Washtenaw's Campus Safety and Security department could not provide *Voice* reporters with an updated crime log. The last report listed in the current log occurred on Feb. 16, which is a violation of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1998.

Under the Clery Act, all campus crime logs must be updated every 48 hours with the last 60 days worth of

reported incidents. The fine for a violation is \$27,500. For more information on the Clery Act, see page A1.

Larceny

A 24-year-old male reported a bag containing a laptop and textbooks was stolen from the backseat of his vehicle while parked in the Health and Fitness Center parking lot on Feb. 16 between 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. There were no signs of forced entry.

and cooperation.

"Today, that's a thing of the past."

If anyone is to be blamed, Dingell said, it isn't the Speaker of the House John Boehner or President Barack Obama.

"The hard fact of the matter is that Republicans don't follow their leadership," he said. "(Boehner) has reached a number of agreements with the president and his administration on a number of occasions, but he'll go back up the Capitol and his party will smack him on the side of the head and say, 'Boehner, now you know we're not going to do that.'"

Dingell is admittedly playing a young man's game with an out-of-print playbook. While his experience and age-added wisdom can't help his Republican colleagues find common ground on a yearly budget, his dual citizenship as a Democrat and an A+ rated member of the National Rifle Association might make him a valuable player in the debate to solve the Gun Problem.

What can we possibly hope for in the way of legislation to reduce gun violence in our country? Dingell's answer is as cryptic as the solution itself.

"The answer is I don't know what we can hope for," he said. "I want to get a bill that will abate firearms violence that will leave us with a law that in fact will work. Our current law does not."

"I am a sponsor of major changes within the current bill which will make the instant check work. One of the things that I'm going to try and do is to see to it that the provisions are properly funded. And this time they will be. And by the way, that's good legislation. It was supported by both the NRA and the Brady Center."

Until a deal can be reached on guns, Dingell will have to just be happy with his latest achievement and revel in the fact he has helped Congress grow to what it is today, for better or for worse. On June 13, John Dingell will make history for his longevity in Congress. But he insists it will be just another day at the office.

"It's been a most rewarding experience," he said. "Both my wife (Debbie) and I work very hard to serve our people. We're very proud of what we've done."

"But it'll be the same as every day. You just get up and go to work and do the best you can."

EDITORIAL

Women add diversity, strength to military

As Washtenaw Community College’s commitment to veterans support grows stronger and more streamlined, so grows the enrollment of those men and women who have served at home and abroad to keep our nation safe and unified.

We’d like to think that their attraction to Washtenaw goes beyond that simple offer of benefits, community and service. Instead, our collective campus body would much rather view their presence as a staple of the college’s dedication to diversity, and the celebration of an accepted equality.

For what is the promise of a higher education other than a means to gain an *equal* advantage when traversing the rocky road of our competitive and troubled times?

As we end our celebration of Black History Month, a period set aside to recollect the pursuit of our social evolution through necessary action and unfortunate bloodletting, we become ever-mindful of the modern battles against inequity and segregation.

The struggle for true equality, as it would appear, does not end with the advent of mere milestones, such as the passing of legislation. It is a series of short steps forward followed by impossible leaps — and then back again.

Such is the case with Civil Rights of the 1960s, the slow-motion decades that followed and then the light-speed election of President Barack Obama.

Or, rather, the pride of Woman’s Suffrage followed by years of discrimination and harassment in the workplace, unequal pay and formidable, invisible ceilings preventing extraordinary female workers and thinkers from finding their deserved place in the sun.

Although Obama instituted the Lilly Ledbetter Act in 2009, legislation that gave the promise of equal-pay-for-equal-work validation, women still faced impossible odds in high-endurance, physical jobs, primarily in the military.

Last month, the final shard of glass fell from the top floor of the Pentagon as outgoing Defense Secretary Leon Panetta issued an end to the centuries-old ban on women in heavy combat positions.

The news came with some confusion to those familiar with the branches of the armed forces. Women have for decades served in support positions to the most rigorous areas of operations, such as Special Forces and infantry units. In addition, women have taken and continue to take an active role in armor and artillery units with great success.

With this ban lifted, women of strength and valor will be able to serve openly on any frontline and in any sector that the military finds need for them, including the infantry.

At last, the boys’ club has no ceiling — a renovation that many in the higher echelons of rank are calling “a dangerous experiment.”

That bit of rhetoric came directly from Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Jerry Boykins in his opinion piece published by CNN.com, in which Boykins said that the repeal was based on ideology rather than military wisdom.

Boykins did not doubt a woman’s ability to serve with honor, asserting only that such a move could lower the bar of physical standards of training, might and readiness.

Boykins is not alone in his thinking, as many other retired generals and pundits have waded the waters of political debate since the Jan. 23 decision.

Rep. Charlie Rangel, D-N.Y., stated that if the military wants diversity, it should just reinstate the draft.

Such musings are doused not in logic or reasoning, but rather fear of the unknown. Let us not forget that men were afraid that if women could vote, attend college or succeed in business that their homes and children would fall apart in shambles. That if black men could do the same the very fabric of society would be torn asunder.

Now the same unfounded arguments harp on our ability to defeat foes because our military would be fundamentally different, somehow less powerful.

Like the promise of success as a CEO or a judge who comes with a degree from Washtenaw, so too should women in the military have an avenue to success as high-ranking officers.

Of course, discrimination and more struggle is sure to follow as women take this next jump forward.

But what is the promise of achievement without a hard-fought victory to guarantee it?

THE

WASHTENAW VOICE

Volume 19, Issue 12

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

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.

A copy of each edition of The Washtenaw Voice is free to everyone. Additional copies are available at the Voice office for 25 cents each.

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, washtenawvoice.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 Ben Solis bensolis1@gmail.com	STAFF WRITERS Leland Dawson Anna Elias Michael Hlywa Maria Rigou Kelly Bracha Amanda Jacobs Eric Wade
MANAGING EDITOR Adrian Hedden ahedden@wccnet.edu	STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Charles Manley charles.manley@gmail.com
PHOTO EDITOR Nathan Clark njclark@wccnet.edu	GRAPHIC DESIGNER George O’Donovan godonovan@wccnet.edu
DESIGN EDITOR Peter Hochgraf phochgraf@wccnet.edu	DESIGN CONTRIBUTORS Michael Adsit Jason Duncan
WEB EDITOR Tom Lee tlee15@wccnet.edu	CORRESPONDENTS Isabella Downes
ADVISER Keith Gave kgave@wccnet.edu	
ADVERTISING MANAGER Becky Alliston ealliston@wccnet.edu	

Voice Box

INTERVIEWS AND PHOTOGRAPHS **MICHAEL J. HLYWA** *STAFF WRITER*

Many students have an impressive arsenal of words they like to toss about like grenades. So, we thought we’d test their acumen with a few bombs we dug up.

We asked: What does each of the following words mean: bedizen, exiguous, and imbroglgio?

JAKE BOND
19, Manchester, exercise science



Bedizen: “I don’t even know what to guess. Happy? I have no idea.”
Exiguous: “Spontaneous.”
Imbroglgio: “A type of disease?”

JESSICA JOHNSON
19, Pinckney, veterinary transfer



Bedizen: “Maybe like energetic, or something?”
Exiguous: “A personality trait, maybe?”
Imbroglgio: “I have no idea.”

REBECCA MOHR
18, Brighton, biology



Bedizen: “It makes me think of bedazzle.”
Exiguous: “Spontaneous or exotic, I guess.”
Imbroglgio: “It makes me think of some kind of food, a dish like pasta.”

MUKAI DINNAN
16, Romulus, liberal arts



Bedizen: “It describes an opening of the eyes to see something in a different light.”
Exiguous: “A way to describe a spastic style of movement.”
Imbroglgio: “Something like embryo.”

JORDAN LEWIS
20, Albion, radiology



Bedizen: “Can I Google it? I don’t even have a guess.”
Exiguous: “Some form of being pretentious.”
Imbroglgio: “Some form of anarchy?”

ERIC LIEBETRAU
20, Cadillac, science



Bedizen: “Stagnant.”
Exiguous: “Like exquisite, synonymous with that.”
Imbroglgio: “Lighting stuff on fire, like immolate.”

RACHEL MARENGERE
18, Southgate, child care



Bedizen: “To bedazzle.”
Exiguous: “How somebody acts around somebody else.”
Imbroglgio: “Does it have to do with embroidering?”

GABBY STEWART
21, Dexter, general studies



Bedizen: “To sleep.”
Exiguous: “It sounds like studious.”
Imbroglgio: “It sounds like a human cell.”

CORY ARMSTEAD
30, Ypsilanti, culinary arts



Bedizen: “It sounds like a town or city in a foreign country.”
Exiguous: “A motion or something.”
Imbroglgio: “I think it’s a thing, something like a machine.”

CARMEN WALTERS
19, Hartland, general studies



Bedizen: “To lag behind, I guess.”
Exiguous: “Full of character, life, or vibrancy.”
Imbroglgio: “It reminds me of ‘embryonic’ – makes me think of prenatal whatever.”

KAYLYN FREEMAN
20, Ann Arbor, elementary education



Bedizen: “It sounds like a negative word, so I’m going to say it’s a synonym for dislike.”
Exiguous: “Someone that exudes iguous, but I don’t think that’s a word.”
Imbroglgio: “It sounds like a biology term pertaining to an embryo.”

JASON YOUNGS
30, Ypsilanti, nursing



Bedizen: “It sounds like an enzyme or chemical of some sort.”
Exiguous: “Only partly exclusive.”
Imbroglgio: “It’s some sort of flower.”

According to Webster’s New World College Dictionary, the verb “bedizen” comes from Dutch and means “to dress or decorate in a cheap, showy way.” The adjective “exiguous” comes from Latin and describes something that is “scanty; little; small; meager.” Finally, the noun “imbroglgio” comes from Italian and is “an involved and confusing situation; state of confusion and complication.”

Read the Voice online:

washtenawvoice.com



Always Listening



JASON DUNCAN THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Fear and loathing at Washtenaw



BEN SOLIS

A strange and definite sensation of being gagged and strangled has gripped the faculty and staff of Washtenaw Community College and no one’s really sure what to say about it — or anything at all, for that matter.

What was once a pretty easygoing campus filled with helpful individuals willing to share their insight with any random passersby looking for information has now turned into an uncomfortable cage populated by fit-prone administrators and department heads.

Ask them one question about a rumor on campus or even something as simple as what cool things they’ve got going on and they’ll start shaking in feverish bouts of paranoia and fear.

Recently, some news came down that part-time employees with more than one part-time job on campus will have to pick just one and end any other jobs they have with the college.

According to the rumors, which have been confirmed by Human Resources, these students and their supervisors will have until March 8 to declare their choice and the purge will take effect on March 22.

But nobody is saying why this policy is going into effect. Some said it was because of the new Affordable Health Care Act and the college’s fear

of having to pay certain part-timers who log enough hours some employment benefits. Others said that it was a way of tightening up on abuses from employees getting too many hours and milking the system.

Peter Leshkevich, director of Student Development and Activities, said he believed that HR was not taking a punitive route in getting rid of these abuses.

Yet coming down on everyone for a few lousy cases of abuse seems a bit extreme, eh?

Since many of these individuals are students, the loss of additional hours from another job or two could be detrimental to their ability to pay their bills and put food on the table for their children — not to mention save up enough to pay for tuition and books.

Take Chris Ulrich, for example. Ulrich works as a teacher’s assistant in the 3D animation and graphic design department at Washtenaw and also tutors in Learning Support Services.

Ulrich said that the changes wouldn’t affect him as much as others, but it would put a damper on his savings as he prepares to leave WCC for greener pastures. He did express concern that by having his tutoring job taken away, his students would lose a valuable resource provided by his experience.

One of his supervisors, animation instructor Randy Van Wagnen, said that losing someone qualified like Ulrich is what makes this change so tough — for faculty and their students.

Learning Support Services Director Debra Guerrero said that she didn’t know how it would affect her staff, but that the tutoring services department

has a high turnover rate as it is.

While these bits of information break this story, a two-week hunt for other sources turned into a failed fishing expedition that displayed what kind of pressure these people are under to not talk to anyone about even the most routine happenings around the college.

Why such loathing on a commuter campus? Why such dire expressions of fear and paranoia, which ultimately imply that there is more going on behind the scenes about a small story than meets to eye? By not providing a reasonable explanation — and we trust there really is a reasonable explanation or the college wouldn’t be doing this — administrators instead give us the feeling they’re trying to hide something.

Even simple requests for mere confirmations of the changes were met with coded language, ending with Human Resources officials saying that they would rather not talk about why the changes are coming down until after everyone was notified.

Is this the new marketing strategy? Shut up until told to speak? Are people so afraid others will find fault with them if they give reasonable answers to reasonable questions from a campus newspaper editor?

Between searching stares and darting eyes all over my body, as if those I seek to interview are looking for a wire or some other insidious recording device, vital sources of information on this campus seemed paralyzed by uncertainty.

And I know it’s not coming from me. I am, after all, just the messenger. I’m just here to help.

That’s what she said

By MICHAEL J. HLYWA
Staff Writer

According to a Chinese proverb, “The beginning of wisdom is to call things by their right name.” One would expect that there is no better place to witness such wisdom than on a college campus. With an erudite faculty, a comprehensive library and a convenient Writing Center at their disposal, Washtenaw Community College students are sure to have refined lexicons. Here is a vocabulary lesson straight from Washtenaw’s collegians coupled with definitions taken from Webster’s New World Dictionary.

What is the most impressive, unusual, or obscure word that you know and what does it mean?



“Pulchritudinous: beautiful. It’s such an ugly word and that’s interesting.”
Owen Cousino, 17, Ypsilanti, technical communication
Webster’s: characterized by “physical beauty.”



“Poignant: very important and to the point.”
Lillian Dwyer, 20, Ann Arbor, culinary arts
Webster’s: “sharp, biting, penetrating, pointed” or “evoking pity, compassion, etc.; emotionally touching or moving.”



“Urohydrosis: something vultures do to stay cool is they urinate on their legs and the evaporation helps cool them.”
Aspen Ellis, 16, Saline, biology
Webster’s lacks an entry for this term, but according to Grzimek’s Animal Life Encyclopedia, “Storks, shoebills and vultures share the unusual characteristic of cooling down by urohydrosis – excreting urine on the legs to increase evaporation.”



“Facetious: kind of sarcastic, like you’re joking around.”
Brooke Ostrander, 16, Fowlerville, liberal arts transfer
Webster’s: “joking or trying to be jocular, esp. at an inappropriate time.”



“Preposterous: something outrageous or unorthodox. It doesn’t make sense – when you do something totally out of whack.”
Jordan Lewis, 20, Albion, radiology
Webster’s: “so contrary to nature, reason, or common sense as to be laughable; absurd; ridiculous.”



“Caveat: to use with caution.”
Kaylyn Freeman, 20, Ann Arbor, elementary school education
Webster’s: “a warning.”

COURSE LENGTH FROM A1

While the benefit of increased student success might have been the prime mover for the changes, Baker said some faculty are concerned that the shorter terms create unnecessary problems throughout the instruction of the course, such as not having enough time address each students’ needs.

“A few of the concerns are the length of time of courses, about them being too short and the number of contact hours each course had,” Baker said.

Regular 15-week courses, such as in the Fall and Winter semesters, meet for a total of three hours a week. The initial 7½-week courses met for six hours a week and the new six-week courses will need to meet for 7½ hours to fulfill the required contact hours, according to Baker.

Some faculty also expressed concerns to Baker that the trial period would be superseded and that the change to six weeks could remain a permanent fixture of the summer schedule.

“I’m confident that the trial period will just be an experiment,” Baker said.

So how do students feel about longer class periods and shorter course lengths?

“It depends on your learning style,” said Mike Devol, 27, a supply chain management student from Ann Arbor. “For some it could be a huge benefit. I’m interested in seeing how breaks are worked in. Yeah it’s shorter, but it gets out a week and a half sooner.”

Tutoring saves — in more ways than one

By MICHAEL J. HLYWA
Staff Writer

At most colleges, students who need help with coursework for just one class, one hour per week could spend \$600 or more throughout a semester. For Washtenaw Community College students, however, tutoring is a free luxury.

WCC’s Learning Support Services administers complimentary drop-in tutoring to all enrolled students. The service covers a variety of subjects in a handful of formats. All students need is their student ID cards.

“We want to make sure everyone’s an enrolled WCC student,” said Debra Guerrero, director of Learning Support Services, “because other students from other universities will try to use our free tutoring.”

Guerrero says they also require check-in to help track usage and prevent individual students from overusing the one-on-one sessions.

“When you go to see a tutor on a one-to-one basis you have a set amount of time,” Guerrero continued. “Every student can have up to



Debra Guerrero

one hour per day of tutoring.” She explained that the time limit allows them to serve all the students who come in. The math and science tutoring center, in particular, is in high demand.

“We see up to 100 people a day in that area,” Guerrero said. In some of the other subjects, Guerrero adds, the demand isn’t as high and students may be able to request more time, provided another first-time user isn’t waiting.

She also points out that there are other more informal tutoring formats available. For instance, they recently introduced the Chemistry Resource Room, where students are able to meet other chemistry students, pool their knowledge and even ask questions of a study leader who circulates the room.

So why aren’t students mobbing the tutoring centers?

Many, like McKenzie Goff, an 18-year-old global studies student from Dexter, don’t see the point.

“None of my classes are really challenging at the moment, and I haven’t felt the need to use (tutoring),” Goff said.

Well, Guerrero thinks that may be due in part to image.

“There’s been the misconception that, because the service is through Learning Support, it’s only for students who have special needs,” Guerrero said. “That is not true.”

Guerrero admits they do see those who are struggling in class or recently returned to school, but also those that are getting all A’s and want to keep it that way.

Jason Davis, mathematics instructor, encourages his students to use tutors. But many, he knows, have so much going on that they can’t justify setting aside extra time for tutoring. Plus, he thinks that when they do, they need to have patience.

“I think there’s a couple of things,” Davis said. “I know with my students, one of the biggest things is they went into the lab once, they had one sub-optimal experience with a tutor and then decided that the tutors aren’t good. Tutors are just like any other teacher – some are going to work better with you than others. So I always tell my students to go in and try different tutors until you find one that works for you.

“The other is time. Students feel like they don’t have the time. But what they don’t realize is that what might take them three hours of intense frustration to get through they may be able to do in an hour if they have some guidance from a tutor. So, they can actually save time and have their time be more productive.”

Indeed, many, like nursing student Jared Choiniere, 19, from South Lyon, feel like the little time they have would be better spent doing the work

on their own.

“I’m here from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. just Tuesdays and Thursdays with straight classes, and then afterwards I go home and do the homework,” Choiniere said.

But Davis cautions against such an isolationist approach.

“Self-study, to me, is almost the worst way to go,” Davis explained. “When you’re working with a tutor, you’re more likely to push yourself harder. You’re more likely to persist when maybe (if you were alone) you’d give up and go watch ‘American Idol.’”



Jason Davis

Davis also thinks that students who rely on self-study are more likely to make and repeat errors. “The tutor is going to catch errors before you make the same error five or seven times in different problems,” Davis added.

Along with catching persistent mistakes, Nancy Ferrario, a Spanish instructor, cites more reasons why tutors should be part of students’ regular study routines.

“Reinforcement, immediate feedback, extra practice and the eradication of common errors – I think those are the four biggest things,” Ferrario said. “The tutor can offer yet another way to practice that enhances what is

going on in the class. A tutor can also practice dictation with you, correct you immediately and give you that immediate feedback that I can’t give you in class.”

Fortunately, there are those who have figured out what professors like Davis and Ferrario are trying to explain. Business student Walter McAdam, a 20-year-old from Ypsilanti, uses the tutoring center to help with his algebra. He thinks that a lot of students don’t know what they’re missing.

“I like to have someone to talk to who can help me understand (math) better instead of me just trying to figure it out and getting stuck for hours. Even if you don’t think you need (a tutor) it’s always good to go because they know something you don’t, and they can help you have a better understanding of what any concept is,” McAdam said.

If saving time, avoiding frustration and gaining a better understanding aren’t enough reasons, however, just think of the value.

As Davis pointed out: “Private tutors are so expensive, so the fact that Washtenaw provides tutoring free of charge to the students is quite amazing. When I was in college I could make between \$30 and \$50 per hour private tutoring.

“The fact that they can get all of that for free, they might as well snag it up.”



JARED ANGLE THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Requesting assistance: Learning Support Services, located in Room 104 in the Liberal Arts building, is where students can request tutoring assistance and other educational exceptions.



PREZEMEK OZOG THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Students helping students: Biology tutor Elana Elkin (left), 29, from Ann Arbor, goes over biology notes with student Scott Klanke, 46, from Ypsilanti, at the Biology Resource Center in GM 201 and 203.

SNOW BLIND FROM A1

in *The Washtenaw Voice*, news of the miscommunications went generally unnoticed.

The dent on Washtenaw’s reputation among its denizens prompted then-new President Rose Bellanca and since-departed Vice President of Administration and Finance Steven Hardy to vow that such an occurrence would never happen again.

That is, until we were hit by the late-winter storm last week that pummeled the Midwest, causing yet another fiasco.

As 61 schools and 16 college campuses closed their doors last Tuesday, fearing for the safety of their commuter students, Washtenaw stuck to

its regularly scheduled programming, ignoring the multitude of weather reports starting a day in advance that warned of the potential severity of the storm.

It is well known that the Michigan-born-or-bred college student is from a brave and often foolish tribe. We will ultimately throw caution to the wind in rough weather and get to where we need to be, not because we’re inherently stupid, but because we can take it.

So when Washtenaw decided not to close, we were not so much upset as we were annoyed.

As the weather got worse, as rain turned to freezing sleet and then heavy, wet dangerous snow on icy roads, the fear and paranoia began to set in, and the dread of a late-night spin-out filled

our minds with fiendish vision.

It was not until we learned well into the storm that the extension center in Dexter, which many of our students drive through to get to main campus, had been closed, that annoyance turned to shock and anger.

Shortly afterward, the college announced that the Board of Trustees meeting scheduled for 6 p.m. — the same time most evening classes were to begin — had been cancelled. Here was proof enough that the people who run this college seemed to care more about their own well-being than that of the students, faculty and staff who populate the campus most weeknights.

If that wasn’t enough of a slap in the face, a social media expert employed by the college made the

ill-fated decision to post a photo from the second floor of the Student Center showing the campus encased in the wintry shroud, extolling the beauty of a freshly fallen snow.

For those using Facebook while sitting in class, biding their time before their treacherous journey home, the post was considered a heinous insult, another slap in the face.

A comment stream formed, with mad posters calling the college leadership irresponsible and dangerously out of touch.

The photo – it really was lovely – remained on Washtenaw CC’s Facebook. The snow continued to fall. A convoy of snowplows were busy by 11 p.m., attempting to clear the parking lots, which would prove to be an all-night

challenge. And finally, mercifully, the powers that be cancelled classes on Wednesday.

The announcement was made at 4:42 a.m., nearly 12 hours after it should have been made, when the weather caused the roads to be dangerous enough to keep the trustees away from campus.

Saying shame on those who make these decisions for not closing down the college would be outside our realm of moral jurisdiction, and calling foul for poor judgment when using social media would be futile, at best.

Suffice to say the students of Washtenaw Community College have spoken, and on Tuesday, Feb. 26, they spoke the words for us, for the world to see. And they weren’t pretty.

Chilling Events

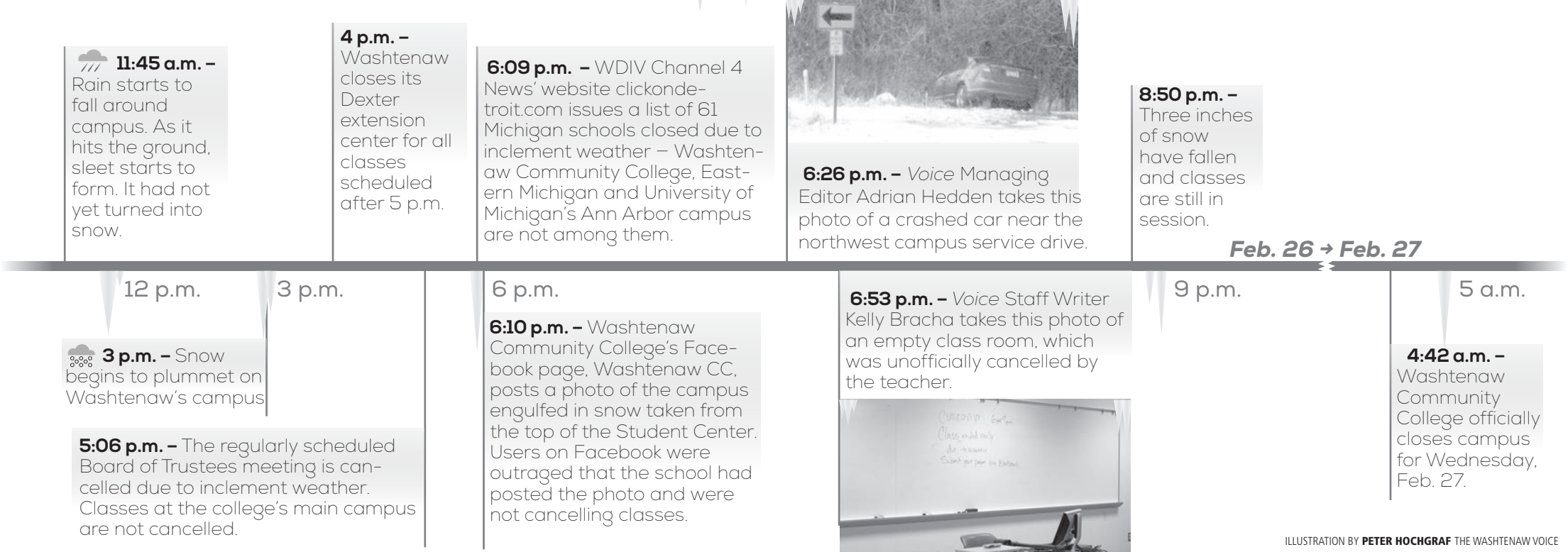


ILLUSTRATION BY PETER HOCHGRAF THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Editor’s Note:

Below are comments from the Facebook Pages of Washtenaw Community College and *The Washtenaw Voice*, regarding the college’s decision not to cancel classes. The comments from WCC’s page are in response to a picture posted by the college that showed the snowy abyss from the top of the Student Center. Many respondents were outraged. Some of their comments (edited for brevity, clarity and grammar) follow:

REBECCA LINTON, 22, HOWELL

“...I should have stayed home. The roads are awful and my 45 minute drive turned into almost two hours. They need to learn when to cancel classes before we all die trying to get to class.

“I just find it extremely annoying to be honest. I, along with many others, commute to this school and in weather like today’s it’s a nightmare. I think that if every school in the area is closed, we should be too.

“I was terrified my entire drive to class, and I am not looking forward to my drive home.”

NATHAN KNAPP, 27, YPSILANTI

“There was a total of six people in my class and they called class 25

minutes in. Why didn’t you just save everyone time and gas money and just close the school.”

CAITLYN RACHEL, 22, HIGHLAND

“I have had a problem since starting at WCC in August 2009 with them not closing the school down when it is necessary. I should not be complaining now as I live five minutes from the school. However, in the beginning I was driving form Manchester, then I was driving from Jackson just to get to class.

“I feel like administration does not have any level of concern for those (students, staff, and faculty) who are driving a long distance. It is such a shame, because for those of us who chose to stay home on days when it was just awful out, our attendance suffers.

“I am so glad I will be done with this school in May.

ANDREW CRUMB, 26, WHITMORE LAKE

“I think we should all complain on Facebook instead of talking to someone about it who has anything to do with (whether) the school should close or not. You know, this is probably someone who is in charge of the website and not the president or anyone with the authority to close school. Cry to someone who cares.”

SHAWNA GERRY, 33, JACKSON

“I am going to make a prediction that even if all other schools close tomorrow (including other WCC campuses) that the main campus will still be open. Even though many of us drive PAST said closed campuses to get to there.

“It is difficult, because they know that so many of their students commute. If they deem the roads in the Dexter area to be dangerous enough to cancel class at that campus, then

those of us that are from Dexter or drive through Dexter still have to travel those same roads.

BECKY PAGELS, 27, FOLWERVILLE

“Pretty sad that our money is worth more to them than our “voice” and safety. Epic fail WCC!

“I feel that keeping the campus open is a safety issue for those who have to make a commute. For the safety and well-being of the students, I think it would be in the college’s best

interest to close class for the day, or at least until road conditions are not as hazardous.”

NANCY ROXANNE

“We have a small child (age 3) that attends WCC Children’s Center while we are in class, so not only are we risking our lives, but our child’s life when they refuse to cancel classes. It is just not worth it in my book. Please think of your students and their families, WCC!”



ALEX PARIS THE WASHTENAW VOICE

The abyss: Taken nearly 24 hours after the initial snowfall on Feb. 26, an icy tundra still engulfed Washtenaw’s campus during an unorthodox and long-overdue snow day.

CLERY ACT FORCES SUN TO SHINE ON CAMPUSES

- Campuses that maintain a police department are required to maintain a daily crime log that contains specified information about any and all crimes that occur within the patrol jurisdiction of the campus police and that are reported to the campus police department.
- Campuses must publish an annual security report detailing statistics regarding crimes committed on campus and at affiliated locations for the previous three calendar years, and describing specified policies, procedures, and programs regarding safety and security.
- The Act requires the collection and reporting of annual crime statistics reflecting reports of specified crimes that occur on, and adjacent to, campus and certain properties associated with the campus.
- The campus must make the crime log for the most recent 60-day period open to public inspection during normal business hours, while crime logs containing material more than 60 days old must be retained for seven years for public inspection upon two days’ notice.

CLERY FROM A1

location so we don’t have very many issues.

“Let me know if you find a secret formula to keep everyone safe,” he said to reporters.

And at least for small satellite locations, the Clery Act’s public log requirement does not apply.

“If a separate location has its own security office, it must have its own log,” LoMonte said. “If a campus is so small that there isn’t a security force, then they don’t need a log.”

GRADE: E (for exempt)

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

Eric Chambers, executive director

of student life at Concordia University, a private Christian college just under two miles North of WCC, does not publish incident reports or provide daily crime statistics to the public.

“We have to allow the crime log to be available to the public, but not published,” Chambers said. “That applies to private schools, maybe that’s the difference.”

While Concordia, with an enrollment of about 900 students, maintains a digital database of crime logs and files annual reports to the Michigan Department of Education, Chambers did not provide reporters with an incident log until two days after a request was made.

“I can’t just give that information

out,” said Steve Degnan, a security officer at Concordia, said when a visitor asked to see the school’s incident reports. “There are just some things that they don’t want getting out.”

GRADE: D

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

EMU’s campus police update a daily crime log online and provide an electronic kiosk at the school’s security office available to public review at any time. The entries provide brief, two-or-three-word descriptions, along with the time, date and locations and the status of investigations.

“If someone wanted it, we would print it for them,” said Julie Hughes, an EMU communications officer, of the log. “We don’t have one that we print out every day because it’s online. It’s always available here to anyone who wants to see it”

GRADE: B

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Schoolcraft, in Livonia, provides an updated log that can also be found in a binder at the security office, available to anyone at any time. With updates every 48 hours, the log details the time and date of occurrence as well as a short description and location along with a case number and if an arrest was made.

Security officer Jeanne Stapula was

working the front desk, and though she had no ranking position in her department she was friendly, helpful and fully knowledgeable of reports contained in the log — and shared all pertinent details with reporters.

GRADE: A

UNIVERSTIY OF MICHIGAN

When reporters approached security officers at U-M, they received little assistance in reviewing incident reports and, despite the Clery Act’s requirement for immediacy, were only provided a website to visit on their own time, somewhere else.

“Laws don’t catch up with technology; that (a hard copy) would be a ridiculous requirement,” said Jesse Johnson, records evidence manager with the University of Michigan Police. “It’s all online.”

The U-M Police’s website does offer instant updates and detailed descriptions of the large multitude of crimes which occur on U-M’s metropolitan campus and provides PDF files of the actual police reports.

GRADE: C

WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE

At WCC, any member of the public can enter the security office on the second floor of the parking structure and review a binder of heavily redacted, daily reports from Campus Security.

Even when incidents are not reported on a given day, a corresponding entry is still made.

Little description of the incidents is given other than a one or two word category such as larceny or vandalism. Director of Safety and Security Jacques Desrosiers is occasionally on-hand to further specify on reports, but reporters receive little help from office personnel or dispatch officers, all of whom refer requests for additional information that should be available in the reports to Desrosiers.

At the time of reporting, Feb 28, security officials said that a changeover to new software prevented them from maintaining incident reports since Feb. 16, a clear violation of the Clery Act’s requirement to maintain reports every 48 hours.

“We’re switching reporting software over,” Desrosiers said. “There are glitches that we’re working through with the vendor.”

But other security employees were optimistic the problem would be fixed, in a week.

“I’m not going to promise anything for tomorrow,” security office secretary Barb La Fleur said last Thursday. “But definitely next week, you should get something.”

GRADE: F

Editor Ben Solis and reporters Kelly Bracha and Isabella Downes contributed to this report.

Washtenaw students react to women in combat

By BEN SOLIS
Editor

Washtenaw Community College student and Afghan War veteran Ashley Hall knows exactly what it is like to be a woman in a classically macho and male-dominated field.

And if her memory serves her right, the impression that women haven't taken an active role in modern military operations is both outdated and misinformed.

"Even just culturally, a woman is an important part of military operations," said Hall, 39, a reservist in the 321st MI Battalion. "A lot of people think that women aren't doing it or playing an active role in combat already, but that's not true."

For years, enlisted women have been present on the front lines through combat support positions that often force them to engage in firefights and attack operations, according to Hall. However, since the "direct combat rule" of 1994, women have been banned from being assigned to units whose primary mission is to engage in combat arms.

With President Barack Obama and outgoing Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta's decision to lift the ban last month, women will finally be able to break through an important and long-established glass ceiling.

According to the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), several factors impacted the change.

First, the top leadership in the military recognized the efforts of women in increasingly informal battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan. These contributions over the past

decade have increased the visibility of women's presence in the military, causing public opinion about them being there to change drastically.

The Department of Defense also may have made the change because of a lawsuit that was issued by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of several service women who argued that the ban was unconstitutional and discriminatory, according to the CFR blog *Foreign Affairs*.

As the ban is lifted, women looking to serve in Special Forces units and other direct combat positions can — as long as they meet the physical and mental standards, as men do.

For Hall, the news is exciting but also confusing, especially to those who know the status of women already serving in the military.

"It happens even now," she said. "It wasn't allowed, there were no designated Special Forces females, but the jobs I did didn't require me to be on the front."

That doesn't mean she didn't see action.

When she first entered the tail end of the war in Afghanistan in 2009, Hall's tour was seemingly uneventful. That is until she started working as an aviation battalion support specialist, flying over combat zones at 12,000 feet every night in Blackhawk and Apache helicopters.

Her unit's main mission was to catch any improvised explosive devices (IEDs) along the way.

Aside from Hall's first-hand experience of being and seeing other women in combat, a recent study done by the CFR shows that 214,098 women serve in active duty today, and around 280,000 women have fought in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Confirming that women have indeed experienced the horrors of combat, 144 died in the line of fire in both countries.

While she admits that some women just can't do the kind of jobs that will be made available to them, Hall acknowledges the precedent set by the measure.

"It will certainly open doors," Hall said. "There are plenty of women who want to do those things. I have friends who have been shot at while in combat. But physiologically, there are differences in the way we are built, strength-wise."

"My hope is that they don't lower the standards. Women don't want that, it's not what I want. I want to know that if I'm in that position, I've earned it."

According to women not enlisted in the military the change is a chance for women to show what they are made of.

"I think they should be allowed to serve," said Abby Merritt, a 25-year-old radiography student from Ann Arbor. "Based on your abilities, you should be able to as long as you do what is required."

Merritt said that change would not affect her decision not to serve in the military, adding that "if I did go in, I'd like to know that I had all the opportunities of a man."

Lyla-Krystal Jones, 19, of Ann Arbor, shared a similar opinion.

"This is definitely a step forward," said the secondary education student. "It gives women a sense of empowerment. But that doesn't mean I'll join."



complete YOUR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE!

with Student Development
and Activities

UPCOMING EVENT

Ticket: Peter Pan at Fox Theatre

Witness the magic!

Tickets: \$23/each

Parking pass available for \$9

Sunday, April 21, 2013

6:30 p.m.

Random Acts of Kindness Bravo Awards

Accepting nominations until March 20

Nominate a staff or faculty member for their hard work and dedication. All nominees will receive a sweet surprise!

<http://tinyurl.com/wccbra>
voaward2013

Relay for Life

Join our team!

<http://tinyurl.com/WCC2013TeamRelay>

Raise money and awareness for the American Cancer Society

Talent Show

Check out your fellow students as they wow the crowd!

Friday, March 15

Towsley Auditorium

6 p.m.

Be among the first attendees and receive a free glow stick!

Lunch with the President

Sign-up for a chance to win a free lunch with Dr. Bellanca!

Lunches occur on selected

Mondays between Noon-1 p.m.

<http://tinyurl.com/wcclunchcon>
test

Purchase tickets at the Cashier's Office, 2nd floor SCB, M-F, 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

UPCOMING SPORTS

Rock, Paper, Scissors Tournament

Wednesday, March 13 at 1 p.m.

SC 116

No registration necessary—just show up to play!

Arm Wrestling Tournament

Registration: February 11-March 13

Tournament: Wednesday, March 13 at 5 p.m.

Billiards Tournaments

Monday, March 18-Thursday, March 21 at 6 p.m.

SC Community Room

No registration necessary!

March Madness Bracketology

SC 116

Brackets due by March 18

Pick-up brackets at SC 116 or email elemm@wccnet.edu

Softball Tryouts (Women's Slow Pitch)

Tryout dates: Monday, April 1 and Thursday, April 4, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

WCC Softball Field

Practices: Mondays and Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Games: Tuesday evenings, 7 p.m. or later. Bring student ID

Baseball Tryouts

Tryout dates: Monday, March 18 and Thursday, March 21, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

WCC Baseball Field

Practices: Mondays and

Thursdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Games: scattered throughout April and one game in May. Bring student ID

Awesome Campus Job

Now taking applications for WCC

STUDENT Ambassadors

Paid Positions

- Work on campus
- Introduce new students to WCC
- Blog about experiences as a student
- Lead campus tours

Go to WCC's Human Resources website for job listing, more details and application

<https://jobs.wccnet.edu>



STAY CONNECTED!

[HTTP://TINYW.CC/SDA](http://tinyw.cc/sda)

Be the first to find out about new tickets and activities!

Enter to win an iPod Touch 8GB:
1. Sign up for email alerts from tinyw.cc/sda
2. Fill out our survey at: www.tinyurl.com/sdapromotion

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

wmich.edu/GoWest

GO WEST.

a new life is out there.



PEOPLE COME HERE BECAUSE THEY'RE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING. It's all about discovery. What they find is a challenge—something unexpected—that opens up new frontiers. Those discoveries will be explored with new friends and by looking at things in new ways. Go West. Discover. Explore. This is one of America's great universities. A lot of people who have become successful—skilled, happy, wealthy and powerful—started by heading West.

Western Michigan University. It's your turn to **GRAB THE REINS.**



WESTERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY



CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
Ann Arbor, Michigan



- ✓ Accelerated Format
- ✓ Bachelor Programs
- ✓ RN to BSN/MSN

**NEW
TRANSFER
SCHOLARSHIPS
AVAILABLE!**

**Meet with a
Concordia Advisor**

**Thursdays 10am-2pm in the
Student Service Building**

Learn about Admission Requirements,
Financial Aid, and Program and Degree Options

Get More Info at
www.cuaa.edu

4090 GEDDES RD. ANN ARBOR 48105
PHONE: 1.888.282.2338 | 734.995.7322

EXPLORE EXCELLENCE EXPLORE EASTERN

**UNDERGRADUATE
OPEN HOUSE
MARCH 23**

- **MEET** your future professors in one of 200+ programs
- **APPLY** FREE of charge – a \$35 savings
- **LEARN** from advisers in Financial Aid, Housing, Dining, Career Services and more!



emich.edu/explore

TRUEMU.

SPOTLIGHT

THE WASHTENAW VOICE • SECTION B • MARCH 4, 2013

JON ONYE LOCKARD: A PORTRAIT OF WISDOM



NATHAN CLARK THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Faces of campus: Hand-drawn portraits crafted by Jon Onye Lockard are found throughout the Student Center, mounted on the walls of the second and third floors.



ROBERT CONRADI THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Artist at work: Lockard works on another hand-drawn portrait in his art studio

By **MICHAEL J. HLYWA**
Staff Writer

You can't walk through the halls of Washtenaw Community College without seeing the name Jon Onye Lockard. His enamel tiled apple tree dominates the south stairwell of the Business and Education building. His portraits pepper the walls in the Student Center and Crane Liberal Arts and Science buildings. Yet for all his exposure, many students remain aloof to his lasting contributions to the college.

Lockard was a professor of art at WCC from 1969-2009. During his 40-year career, he influenced the college and its students with his art and the rich experiences of his lifetime.

His prolific portraits are certainly some of his most obvious contributions to Washtenaw. Lockard teamed up with the WCC Foundation on a project to inspire benefactors' investment in the college. Judith Homell was the executive associate to former WCC president Larry Whitworth and worked closely with the Foundation. She recalls the genesis of Lockard's portraits.

"If you donated to the Foundation,

you got your portrait done by Jon Lockard," Hommel explained. "So all those portraits you see, those are donors to the college. The donor would bring a black and white photo, and then Jon would recreate it in charcoal. People really loved having their portrait (done). It showcases that you gave to the college, you established a scholarship and there's your portrait."

But Lockard's portraits were only one facet of his work. His paintings were his real passion, according to Anne Rubin, director of Gallery One.

"We had a show for him on the occasion of his putting up that piece in the BE building. (His work is) really very colorful, very vibrant. A lot of African-American artists have used these strong, brilliant, rich colors, and Jon is in that tradition. He's very prolific and works very, very hard. He has been, within the arts community, a strong voice for equality for a very long time," Rubin said.

Lockard was born during the Great Depression and grew up through some of the most tumultuous periods of contemporary local and American history. His experiences metamorphose into a voice which has influenced countless people, especially students.

Elaine Wilson, acclaimed artist

and studio art professor, remembers Lockard for his high standards.

"His real strength as a teacher at Washtenaw Community College was his demand that students give everything. He did not accept halfhearted attempts," Wilson said.

Lockard's legacy, along with his demand for excellence, helped serve as a foundation for one student in particular, Ben Cowan. Since graduating from WCC, Cowan has launched his own career in the art and teaching world, and is now considered an emerging artist. As a former student of Lockard's, Cowan knows the artist's influence was crucial.

"His voice is important since he grew up in a time that I only read about or hear about," Cowan said. "Some of the stories he told were just outrageous—some of the racism and adversity that he ran up against and the struggles that he went through to just stay an artist and even to just be a person.

"He's really made it through, and he's like a shining beacon for people of all ages and races."

But the classroom isn't the only place Lockard imbued with his wisdom. Michael Naylor, performing arts professor, joined WCC's faculty

because of the culture that Lockard helped engender.

"What was unique about Washtenaw is that people like Morris Lawrence and Jon Lockard brought in an Afrocentric perspective to the college environment, which is unusual because most colleges are founded on a Eurocentric perspective," Naylor explained. "So what that did is it created an environment where white and black students could interact together but kind of foster equal respect for what we call Afrocentricity. I personally found that very healthy, and that's what attracted me.

"He's an elder of American civil rights, of American ethnicity, of art," Naylor added, "and all students can benefit from an appreciation of their elders, but particularly those elders who have a deep appreciation of history, and Jon does. He packs a wisdom that comes from all his experiences that you can't help but be infected by or learn from."

So the next time you walk past one of Lockard's portraits, allow yourself to absorb the lessons of this esteemed artist, mentor and individual. Consider this quote from his website:

"You don't know where you're going, if you don't know where you've been."

Meet Thornton Perkins... 'All right! All right!'

By **MICHAEL J. HLYWA**
Staff Writer

Smooth, stylish, commanding and impassioned: these are not the words most students would attribute to a 67-year-old history professor. But those students never met Thornton Perkins.

Perkins makes an impression on his class from the very moment he walks through the door.

Retail management student, Ethan Burt, 19, from Ypsilanti, recalls his first impression of Perkins.

"He opened the door, did a nice strut in and said, 'All right, all right, all right,'" Burt said. In fact, he continues,

Perkins is so known for his grandiose entrance, that other students are inspired to re-enact it.

On one frigid, gloomy Tuesday morning in February, students shuffled into LA161, many looking as though they had just stumbled out of bed. They groggily pulled out their 20th century history textbooks, booted up their laptops and got ready for another 90-minute lecture.

In strutted Perkins, imposing and strikingly dressed from head to toe in black. Nothing about this man looked 67, except maybe his stylish goatee which faded from ash above his lip to shining white below his chin. He greeted the room with a single "all right" and strolled to the podium at the front of the classroom.

In that instant, the atmosphere changed. Students' eyes lit up in

anticipation. Perkins began his lecture, a recap from the previous session's exploration of the world events surrounding World War II—only it seemed less like an oration and more like a sermon.

Perkins fervently highlighted Roosevelt's New Deal, punctuating his presentation with dramatic pauses. He threw his entire body into his speaking, pacing before the class like a panther, gesturing grandly and pointing suddenly at individual students to contribute. But the students were prepared and eager to engage in his discourse.

Suddenly he said, "And now it's what? It's 12:25, and that means it's

PERKINS

CONTINUED B4



CHRIS ASADIAN THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Confronting cowardice: Moderator Thornton Perkins, left, tries to stop Dave Adamson from leaving the Political Forum in the ML Building on Oct. 23, 2008.

Olympics have wrestling down for the count, but sport isn’t pinned yet



Pinning down success: A wrestler from Pioneer High School competing in a recent tournament at Canton High School.

Local wrestlers react to news that ancient pastime may lose its international standing

By ERIC WADE
Staff Writer

Middle school girls wearing singlets beneath their warm-ups shared the same emotions of shock and anguish as boys sweating it out on the mats: The International Olympic Committee’s decision to eliminate wrestling as a competitive sport in the 2020 Olympics is outrageous—and wrong.

“I think it’s stupid,” said Kaitlin Petit, 14. “Wrestling is a tough sport and it should be in the Olympics.”

“And it’s one of the oldest sports,” said her friend, Anna Jewel, 13, finishing Petit’s thought.

Both girls are students at Goodrich Middle School and competitors in Michigan Women’s Wrestling.

With the exception of the 1900 Olympic Games, wrestling has been a core sport in the Games since the inaugural event in 1896. Now, its future is in doubt, and local wrestlers and their coaches are speaking out.

At a recent high school wrestling tournament, Keegan Powers, 17, who competes for Pioneer High School, and Alex Cornelius, 17, who represents Saline High School, had similar reactions as the girls.

“I think it’s a terrible choice,” Cornelius said.

“I think it’s ridiculous,” Powers added.

Joe McFarland, head coach for the University of Michigan’s wrestling team, said he felt that FILA (the acronym for wrestling’s Olympic governing body) wasn’t doing enough to assure the sport’s prominence.

“I think (FILA) got caught sleeping to be honest with you,” McFarland said. He may have an argument. At the

same meeting wrestling was dropped in a secret ballot, the same voters supported continuation of the much less prominent modern pentathlon, which combines shooting, horseback-riding, running, swimming and fencing.

Raphaël Martinetti, the acting president of FILA, resigned after the IOC made the decision to remove wrestling from its list of core sports. FILA issued a statement saying it takes its responsibility very seriously, and as a sport it is willing to undertake all the necessary steps for their sport to remain on the core program of the Olympic Games.

The IOC hasn’t made any comments on why wrestling was removed, but McFarland feels that as a community there wasn’t enough lobbying for the sport.

“We weren’t doing things that other sports and other governing bodies were doing to keep their programs included in the games or to get them as part of the games,” McFarland said.

Despite all of the confusion and anguish about the IOC’s decision, Taylor Massa, 19, a wrestler for the University of Michigan and an Olympic hopeful, remains confident that wrestling has a future in the Olympics.

“I almost think they did that on purpose because wrestling will be able to push back in, versus if they put one of the other sports they might not be able to pull back in,” Massa said.

Wrestling still has a chance to be in the 2020 Olympics. It now joins the seven shortlisted sports including baseball/softball, karate, roller sports, sport climbing, squash, wakeboarding and wushu, a form of Chinese martial arts, competing for inclusion as an additional sport, according to the IOC.

Chris Ebrom, 26, an assistant coach for Saline High School, feels that wrestling can fight its way back in.

“I think turning this decision around will need showing what impact it has on youth and what impact it has on kids turning into adults and the development for more than just

wrestling,” Ebrom said, “but the development of how a kid matures from a sport like wrestling.”

The transformation of youth into dedicated and responsible adults is a part of what the wrestling community considers a great aspect of the sport. Jahi Hillard, 18, a wrestler for Pioneer High School, credits wrestling for much of his success.

“Wrestling was a big part of my life, and it still is,” Hillard said. “It’s helped me develop as a young man, and I believe that I wouldn’t have prospered the way I have without wrestling.”

If wrestling doesn’t make it past the short list of events into the games, Massa would feel disappointment, but would still compete.

“I would still train,” Massa said. “I would just be training for the championships and that would be the next biggest thing.”

Wrestling doesn’t have a professional outlet, but some consider that taking wrestling out of the Olympics could impact youth.

“I think it’s a big hit for the youth. Even though it’s not directly impacting them now, it will in the future,” Ebrom said. “In other sports like football and basketball, you have the NFL and the NBA, but for wrestling there is not a real professional wrestling league and the top echelon of the sport is the Olympics.”

For McFarland, the greatest thing about the Olympic wrestling team is that competitors do it from their hearts and not for the money.

“The fact that these guys aren’t professionals, that they’re doing it for the sport, that’s one thing that I thought was neat about our Olympic team,” McFarland said. “These guys aren’t getting paid multimillion dollar contracts.

“These guys in wrestling that are representing the United States have put their lives and families on hold while they’re continuing to chase that dream, so to see that possibly come to an end is disappointing.”



Let’s Get Physical: Young women warming up before a recent Michigan Women’s Wrestling tournament at Goodrich High School.

think outside the cubicle.
start a career in hair or skin care.

Finish your career course in as little as
4 1/2 to 14 months!

 **AVEDA INSTITUTE**
douglasJ.edu *Douglas J*

eastlansingMI
royaloakMI

annarborMI
chicagoIL

grandrapidsMI
knoxvilleTN

Admissions 877.334.8657




scan to start your new career



GAMERS ZERO IN ON CHARITY



ILLUSTRATION BY **GEORGE O'DONOVAN** THE WASHTENAW VOICE



KELLY BRACHA THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Reaching for relief: A custom Gamers Outreach Xbox 360 controller made by Envy Controllers, a company that specializes in making custom gaming peripherals. Envy Controllers gave 20 percent of all proceeds to the Gamers Outreach Foundation during the event.



KELLY BRACHA THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Old pros: David 'Walshy' Walsh, left, and Mike 'Hastr0' Rufail, both former professional players, together at the annual Gamers for Giving event at Eastern Michigan University.



KELLY BRACHA THE WASHTENAW VOICE

Cash money: Players participating in the Halo 4 tournament for a chance to win the \$1,500 first-place prize.



KELLY BRACHA THE WASHTENAW VOICE

The cavalry: ROTc recruits volunteered as security for the Gamers for Giving event. Gamers Outreach Foundation started the 'Fun For Our Troops' project that supplies care packages to troops serving overseas.



By **KELLY BRACHA**
Staff Writer

Whoever said, “if at first you don’t succeed” might have had Zach Wigal in mind.

Wigal’s first attempt to turn his passion for gaming into something unique and fun was thwarted by a disgruntled police officer when he was 17 years old. He didn’t quit, and turned an unfortunate event into something far more fortunate – for others.

What resulted was far greater than he could have ever imagined. Despite the setback, Wigal persevered, and “Gamers for Giving” was born.

At a recent event in February at Eastern Michigan University, the video game tournament raised over \$15,000 for Wigal’s Gamers Outreach charity organization.

Wigal, a former Washtenaw Community College student, reminisced on the canceled 2007 event, “I got a call from the superintendent and was told my permit was canceled.

“People who signed up were very upset, but that’s how it all began. That’s when we had the idea to make it a charity event.”

A meddling cop who didn’t like the idea of a bunch of kids congregating would have a hard time stopping that, Wigal figured. And he was right.

The first official Gamers for Giving event was held in 2008. More than 500 gamers participated, and the event raised \$4,000 for the Autism Society of America. The event became the masthead for Gamers Outreach Foundation.



Zach Wigal

“I started exploring conceptually what I could do to give back through gaming. Could video games be used for charity?” Wigal asked. “I wanted there to be a connecting point for everyone in the community in the same way walkathons and marathons have, but with video games.”

Wigal began brainstorming ideas for charity projects after learning about Child’s Play, a separate charity that organizes toy drives for children’s hospitals.

“I took a tour of a hospital in Ann Arbor and started thinking about the mobility aspect. There was no solution to transporting games to kids that can’t yet leave their beds,” Wigal said. “There was a play room, but the kids in there were, more often than not, the ones that are about to head home.”

As a result, Gamers Outreach started project GO Kart. GO Karts are video game setups on wheels, designed with ease of use and mobility in mind. Each GO Kart can be easily moved between rooms, allowing hospital staff and volunteers to bring the games directly to the children.

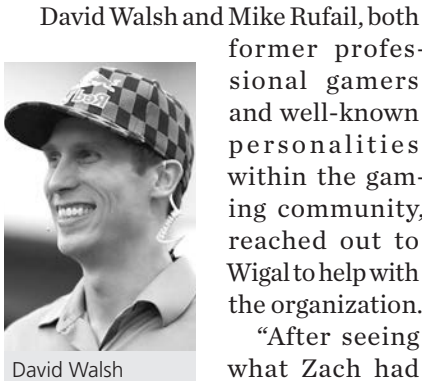
Wigal is 23 now, and his events have raised thousands of dollars for numerous charitable causes, but he is careful to remember the underlying goals.

“People say it’s just for making a better name for [video] games. I’ve become careful about it being just about gaming and our names,” he said. “We actually really care about the initiatives.”

Despite his humble intentions, others have recognized his great accomplishments.

Wigal has won four of Microsoft’s

MVP Awards in recognition of his “exceptional technical expertise, willingness to help others make the most of their technology and for making a significant and positive impact on communities.”



David Walsh

David Walsh and Mike Rufail, both former professional gamers and well-known personalities within the gaming community, reached out to Wigal to help with the organization. “After seeing what Zach had going on, I wanted to be there to help with anything,” Walsh said. “It’s rewarding doing this, and it’s so easy. I get to do gaming, which is my passion and hobby, and it goes to a purpose.”

Walsh, known by his in-game alias “Walshy,” raised more than \$3,800 through his live stream channels on YouTube and Twitch.tv in support of Gamers Outreach’s efforts. The funds went toward a GO Kart for Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital of Grand

Rapids, Walsh’s hometown.

For Rufail, also known as “hastr0,” the mission of Gamers Outreach touched him on a personal level.

“I’ve had to spend time in the hospital for family and know that it’s really hard to keep moral up and stay happy,” Rufail said. “The kart program was genius and it helps a lot of people through the day.”

Rufail aided in the construction of a GO Kart for hospitalized veterans at the Dallas VA Medical Center in Texas.

“It means a lot to me as an American to be able to help those guys,” Rufail said. “Our soldiers love to play games and need entertainment just as much as everybody else.”

In addition to the GO Kart program, Gamers Outreach also runs “Fun For Our Troops,” which supplies video game care packages to soldiers serving overseas.

Rufail urges others to get involved in the charity, even if that means just spreading the word.

“It doesn’t take a lot,” he said. “Just donating even \$10 or showing up to the events or tuning in to the live stream and telling others about it is helping out in a very big way.”

Facebook, where parents creep

Nearly half of parents on social media are there to supervise

By **MARIA RIGOU**
Staff Writer

Sarah Calhoun is friends with her children on Facebook. So are 92 percent of parents who have Facebook profiles in the United States. And a lot of them have ulterior motives.

A recent study conducted by the Education Database Online, a resource designed to help current and prospective students learn about educational opportunities in the U.S., reported that 43 percent of parents

check their children’s profile on the social media website daily.

Parents are especially interested on status updates and photos of their children.

“I check their profiles regularly,” admitted Calhoun, 29, a human services major from Ypsilanti. “I watch who they befriend on there, their privacy blocks. (They need to be) protected against predators.”

Almost 55 percent of parents are making sure the site does not interfere with homework, chores or other activities.

Other top concerns include not spending enough time with friends and family (45 percent), the potential of meeting strangers (41 percent), bullying others (17 percent) and being a

victim of bullying (16 percent).

Facebook was originally intended to be a social media for college students. But, in the last couple of years, it has expanded. The same EDO study concluded that half of parents who join Facebook do it to check up on their children.

In fact, 72 percent of U.S. moms have a Facebook profile, a number that increased from 62 percent in 2011 and 50 percent in 2010.

Jessica Kelly, a human services major from Ypsilanti, joined Facebook to connect with friends and family that live far away. She is not friends with her son, but does check his profile from time to time.

“I have had to tell him to remove stuff,” Kelly said. “(Sometimes) they

post things that are not true just to impress their peers, or to fit in.”

The study also revealed some amazing facts: 31 percent of parents check their children’s profile four or five times a week, 41 percent of parents are most interested on status updates and 39 percent of parents want to read what other people post on their children’s wall.

There are an estimated 7.5 million children age 13 years old or younger on Facebook. And of that number, about 65 percent of 13-year-olds who are on the social media networks are the ones who initiate friendships with their parents.

By the time they are 20 years old, however, only about 40 percent will request friendship from parents.

“Both of my parents are on Facebook, but I am only friends with my mom,” said Sarah Burlett, a 22-year-old criminal justice major from Ann Arbor. “She lives 30 minutes away so we use it to keep in contact.”

However, even if a large number of children are friends with their parents, one in three teens on Facebook say they are embarrassed by comments left by their parents.

As a matter of fact, 30 percent of these teens say they would unfriend their parents if they could, mainly due to what they frequently describe as “nagging chats and clueless comments” left by their parents on their online profiles.

Moms are the most uncool of all, the teens say. But dads, dads are cool.



≡ GOT NEWS? CALL THE VOICE ≡

734-677-5125 tips@washtenawvoice.com

Always Listening

Que pasa?

New Spanish Club helps students with their language skills

By MARIA RIGOU
Staff Writer

¡Bienvenidos!
Oras it is said in English, “welcome.” As Spanish becomes more influential throughout the United States, students at Washtenaw Community College start to look for more outlets to practice the language.
The recently created Spanish Club is another tool at WCC that students have available to work on their language skills.
“I hope to become fluent,” said

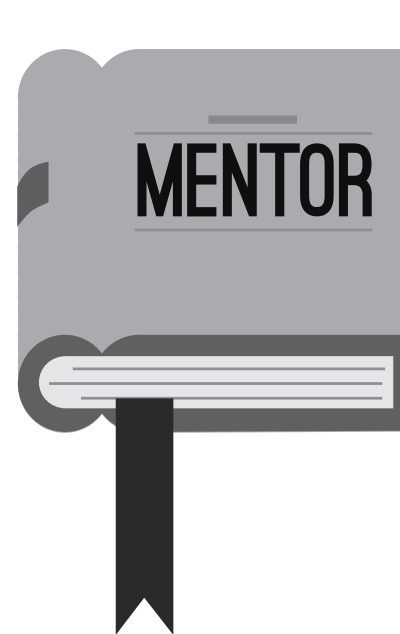
Sarah Hall, a 24-year-old elementary education student from Ann Arbor. “(The Spanish Club) is the place outside of class to talk and practice.”
The Spanish Club is open to all WCC students who are interested in the study of Spanish language and Spanish-speaking cultures.
The club welcomes students of all levels; it does not matter if a student is fluent in the language or a beginner. It is designed to supplement what students are learning in their Spanish courses.
“Inside the classroom, there is more attention to grammar,” said Adrian Miller, adviser of the club. “We work on conversational Spanish, and we also discuss cultural aspects.”
The club’s agenda tries to

accommodate students’ wants and needs. About half the time members work on their conversational skills, and the other half they work on cultural aspects. For example, they invite native Spanish speakers to talk about their culture during club meetings.
But it is not all about taking classes during students’ free time.
“If students show interest in something in particular, we fit it into the agenda,” Miller said. “We do things outside the classroom as well.”
Last semester, the group went to the Detroit Institute of Arts to take a look at a special exhibit by Spanish painter Pablo Picasso. This semester, they hope to visit Mexicantown during Spring break.
Each semester, the club seeks to

do some community service as well. This semester, it plans to help migrant workers in Lenawee County. In addition to meeting the needs of others, the club hopes to create a positive cultural exchange.
It works on more than one aspect so that its students are successful.
“You can’t have one ally (to be successful),” said Simon Mermelstein, 25, a linguistics major from Ann Arbor. “We have class, instructor hours, the club, a dictionary.
“We have to constantly practice to learn,” Mermelstein said. “With all these tools we have, it is still not enough.”



Qué dijo?: Vice President of The Spanish Club, Mary Romero, left, and President Sarah Hill discuss club activities at one of their meetings in LA 161



PERKINS FROM B1
time to go!”
His students started to realize that 90 minutes had flown by, and it was time to return to the present.
Situations like this exemplify why students and faculty have numerous flattering things to say about Perkins. But one thing is unanimous—he is zealous.
“The one thing I like about Thornton is his enthusiasm,” said fellow social sciences professor, John Kerr. “Until he closes his door, the people in my classroom can hear what he’s talking about. He’s loud. He’s enthusiastic. He’s interacting with his students.
“And I find myself half listening to

what he’s saying while I’m trying to give my lecture. I love his enthusiasm. He always brings that to the classroom, and that’s so hard to do day in and day out.”
Perkins originally came to the college in 2000 as a part-time instructor. In addition to WCC, Perkins was also teaching at Oakland Community College and Wayne Community College.
“I was what they called a freeway teacher,” Perkins said.
Randy LaHote, economics professor and chair of the Social Science Department, recalls going the extra mile to bring Perkins to WCC full-time. Instead of patching together several part-time teachers, LaHote wanted to

find a single professor who could handle numerous different history classes. Having witnessed Perkins’ success at WCC as a part-time instructor, LaHote approached the administration.
“I talked to the dean,” LaHote said, “and we agreed that I would go up to Auburn Hills and observe him teaching his class at OCC—that is a long drive during rush hour. And I sat through one of his classes and came back and told the dean what I observed. The people were engaged in what he was doing; people were enthusiastic. I said, ‘Let’s do this.’”
Indeed, it was Perkins’ fervor that finally earned him a full-time position at WCC in 2002. More than 10 years later, he still loves what he does.

“It’s a really rewarding job, and I’ve had a great teaching career,” Perkins reflected. “I’ve taught students on all different levels— junior high school, high school, college—and I’ve watched a lot of people mature into great human beings.”
In fact, Perkins loves encountering his former students and witnessing their transformation into successful citizens.
“I saw a student this morning when I was coming to work,” Perkins said. “He’s got a clothing shop down on Michigan. He was one of my students. (Now) he’s got his own business, so that was something that made me really proud.”
Then Perkins joked, “And, incidentally, I’m going to buy some clothes from him on Saturday,” and erupted into a hearty laugh.

Joking aside, Perkins is grateful for the opportunity to be a part of students’ transformations.
“It’s gratifying to be in the presence of people who know that you helped educate them, and they’re out there carrying out their roles in society and being successful,” Perkins explained. “That’s what this thing is all about.”

Editor’s note: Another in a series of mentor profiles by staff writer Michael Hlywa.

NORTHWOOD UNIVERSITY

Transfer friendly. Employer desired.



- 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

Apply Today!
www.northwood.edu
800.622.9000

Visit The Voice Online



washtenawvoice.com

MARCH ‘AD’NESS 2013

An advertising campaign of The Washtenaw Voice

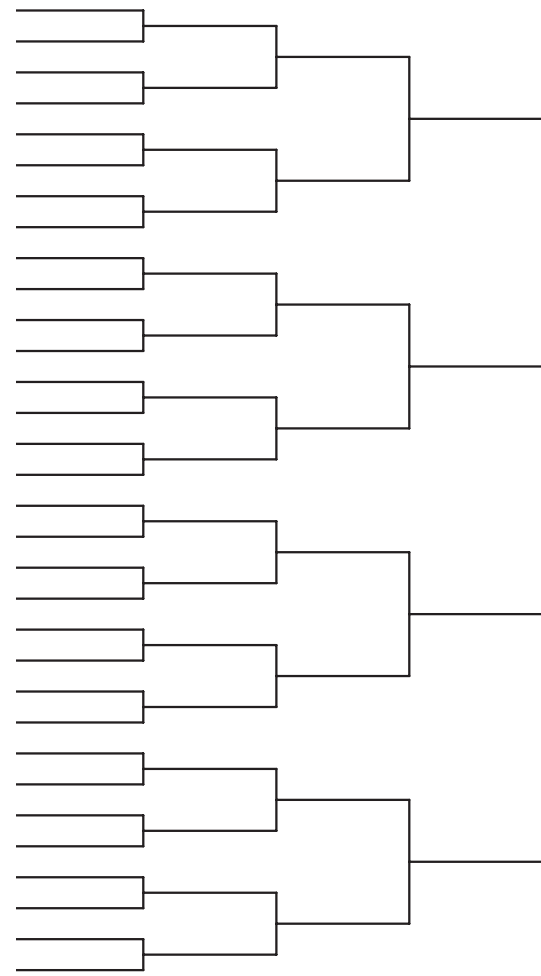
Welcome to the 3rd March ‘Ad’ness advertising campaign held in conjunction with the NCAA’s March Madness basketball tournament.
Now your business can be part of our special bracket that pairs advertisers with the 64 teams in the tournament. Whoever rides their team to the championship gets a full-page ad in the award-winning Washtenaw Voice, the campus newspaper of Washtenaw Community College.
Here’s how it works: For just \$25, advertisers secure a berth in the bracket, and they’re placed by a blind draw. On Selection Sunday, the NCAA fills

out its bracket.
We will have a random draw that will pair our advertisers with their teams. We will all follow the tournament for three weeks, with the full bracket published in *The Voice* in three consecutive issues.
This will give all advertisers an opportunity to have their business name and phone number in front of our nearly 15
13,000 students and 2,500 employees, in each issue.
Four advertisers will win a chance at nearly \$1,100 worth of advertising

space in *The Voice*, prizes awarded on the following: the advertiser whose team wins the national championship gets a free full-page ad valued at \$534; the advertiser with the national runner-up gets a free half-page ad valued at \$300; and the advertisers who were paired with the other Final Four teams receive a free quarter-page ad valued at \$150 each.
In reality, everybody wins since *The Voice* will promote your company in three consecutive issues in March and April as well as on its award-winning website for those months.

“What a great way to drive revenue, engage your advertisers and play on a popular annual sporting event. I love the concept of engaging your advertisers in a project that pays dividends back to them in the form of advertising. It helps to create value in your product.”

—Michigan Press Association Judge




WINNER
1/4 page advertisement,
value: \$150

WINNER
1/2 page advertisement,
value: \$300

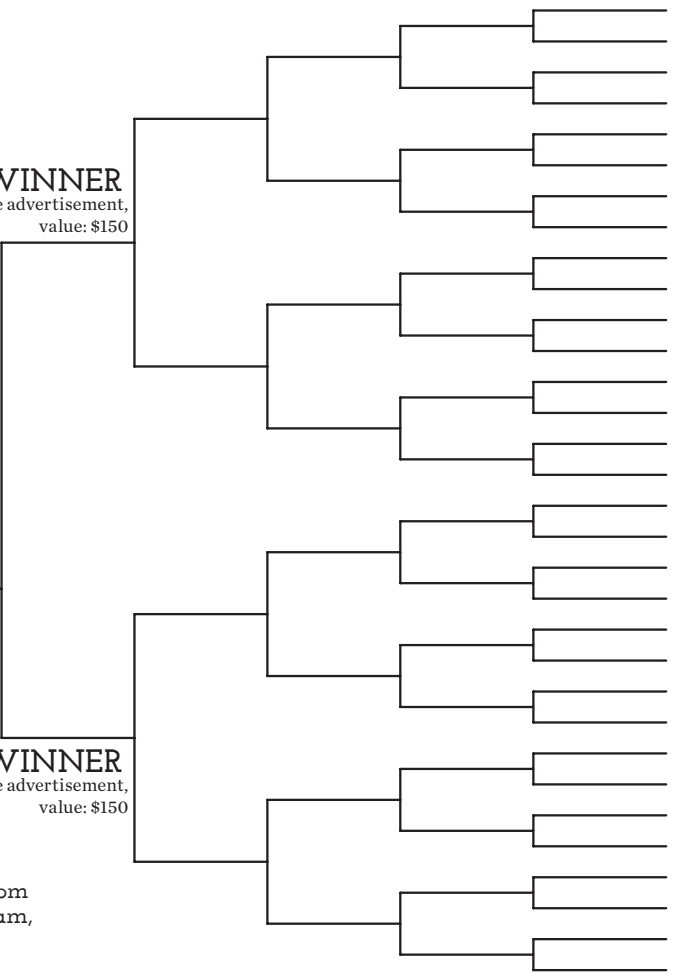
WINNER
Full page advertisement, value: \$534

WINNER
1/2 page advertisement,
value: \$300

WINNER
1/4 page advertisement,
value: \$150



Enter Now!
Visit washtenawvoice.com
Sign up, follow your team,
Win Free Ads!



March 17: Selection Sunday
March 18: March ‘Ad’ness bracket, with advertisers, published in The Voice
March 19–20: Round One
March 21–22: Round Two
March 23–24: Round Three
March 24: March ‘Ad’ness bracket update published in The Voice
March 28–29: Sweet 16 Games
March 30–31: Elite 8 games
April 1: March ‘Ad’ness bracket update published in The Voice
April 6: Final Four, March Madness
April 8: National Championship Game, March Madness
April 9: March ‘Ad’ness bracket published online and the winners announced
April 15: March ‘Ad’ness bracket published in The Voice, winners announced judge



FILMCACADE.NET COURTESY PHOTO

SNITCH

ILLUSTRATION BY GEORGE O'DONOVAN THE WASHTENAW VOICE

The Rock’s soft-side shows in latest flick

By ADRIAN HEDDEN
Managing Editor

As a semi-truck drags itself to a violent halt amid shattered glass and gnarled metal, a father’s cherished memories of his only son leapt before his eyes.

And as a teary denouement settled upon the cast of “Snitch,” it was clear that professional wrestler, Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson finally came back to the silver screen, believably emotional and just as rippling as ever.

It hasn’t been easy for The Rock’s millions of fans. Once “The Great One” left the squared circle for the limelight of Hollywood, his electricity came into question from one cheese-fest romp to another.

An iconic, fluid persona on weekly episodes of World Wrestling Entertainment, Johnson’s charisma initially faltered before the lenses of the blockbuster-movie machine. The transition from a brash, arrogant and surprisingly articulate world champion to a wieldable action star was harder than it looked.

The stoicism that threatened Johnson’s early movie career ultimately revealed the empathy and infectious emotion of supposed meatheads, Schwarzenegger and Eastwood. His initial struggles proved that in order to star in a feature film, regardless of genre, one still must act.

And that’s just what Johnson did in “Snitch.” As a vigilant father out to save his drug-peddling son from a life of incarceration, “The Rock” beautifully conveyed the tear-jerking emotion of a father willing to stop at nothing for that of his son.

A gritty supporting cast of troubled teens, drug cartels and hard-boiled DEA agents built a backdrop of drama and passion that at once surrounded Johnson in a social realism unknown in the WWE or among the clumsy foibles on his past efforts.

Hasty-but-swift camera work bobbed on the brink of cinema *verite*, on accident, and appeared to miss focus when attempting shallow-depth-of-field shots for emphasis.

True, the cliché crashes and gun shots were achieved on par, but without the fast-paced editing and powerful cast, director Ric Roman Waugh would deserve to have the smack-down laid on his career.

Grade: **B**
Runtime: **112 minutes**
Rated: **R**
Genre: **Action**



M.EDGE_ONLINE.COM COURTESY PHOTO

‘Dead Space 3:’ where’s the fear?

By NATHAN CLARK
Photo Editor

Every franchise in the world of video games eventually reaches a point where it loses the heart of the first game after so many sequels are released. It took five games for “Resident Evil” to lose its way.

For “Dead Space,” it only took three.

Continuing the now mildly horrifying story of ancient alien artifacts called markers that resonate limitless power but also drive people insane and morph dead bodies into monstrous killing machines called necromorphs, players once again step into the shoes of the series’ main protagonist Isaac Clarke. He’s the traumatized engineer who may be the key to saving mankind from a horrifying extinction-level event.

The church of Unitology, a cult that worships the markers believing they are divine and “necromorphs” are humanity’s holy ascension, has become

so powerful that it topples Earth’s government and it proceeds to ruthlessly hunt Clarke down as he is trying to save the universe from the markers.

“Dead Space” started out as a horror game set in outer space that was filled with claustrophobic environments, dark lighting and creepy ambient sound wherever the player went. The new game feels more like an action shooter, where scares can be nullified with a high-powered machine gun. Or at least after a player builds one.

The game throws out the concept of standard weapons by forcing players to find weapon components and raw materials to construct their own firearms with varying capabilities.

“Dead Space 3,” much like the previous games, is still visually stunning and graphically violent; however, after all the horrendous detail the developers put in to the death scenes from “Dead Space 2,” watching Clarke get violently decapitated just seems like business as usual.

The only online feature the game

has at the moment is the option to play co-op through the story campaign with a friend and play through a few side missions that can only be played in co-op. But since the game is made by Electronic Arts, downloadable content is inevitable in the near future.

Even without the multiplayer presence, gamers still have more than 15 hours of play time during the solo campaign, which has a fairly interesting narrative filled with twists and turns.

“Dead Space 3” is a pretty good game on its own merit, especially for fans of third-person shooters. But without the fear element that made the first two games amazing, “Dead Space 3” feels like nothing more than a shadow of its former self.

Grade: **C+**
Rated: **M**
Developer: **Electronic Arts**
Platforms: **PS3, Xbox, PC**



HABLATUMUSICA.COM COURTESY PHOTO

‘Not-so’ New Order

By ADRIAN HEDDEN
Managing Editor

Beginning in the 1980s with an explosion of 12-inch dance singles and ground-breaking new-wave body music, New Order has returned decades later with the softer, rock-oriented “Lost Sirens.”

From the band’s inception, it has observed and reinterpreted the most current trends in dance and club music, following up early innovations in synth-laden pop with renowned expressions in the acid house and electronic dance music of the 1990s.

But as New Order proceeded through the past decade, their work became drained of its originality, dashing electronic leanings and infectious club-spinning beats for typical guitar-and-bass-driven alternative rock.

Always a subtle element in New Order’s blend of synth pop, guitars became more and more prevalent as the band moved away from its physical, pulsating grooves and attempted greater introspection with stronger emphasis on song writing and emotion.

By the time 2005’s “Waiting for the Siren’s Call,” the album preceding the latest release, New Order was a shell of its past, powerful self. Lead singer and guitar player Bernard Sumner’s vocals appeared drunk on their own meanderings

and laughably pubescent from the aging rocker.

The band suffered in the early 2000s, but this year’s sequel to 2005’s effort, eight years later, restored the electronic experimentation that built New Order’s dynasty.

From the opening keyboard pulses of “I’ll Stay with You,” it’s obvious that a tribute to the earlier sound was in order. Although recent developments haven’t been forgotten, it’s clear that the band has finally blended their influences evenly.

Maintaining an appreciation for driving rock, New Order has re-applied their electronica roots to craft a sound that is at once passionately modern but breathtakingly retro.

Not without weakness, “Lost Sirens”’ electro tendencies fade after the first song, leaving tracks two through five a mild indie-rock bore.

Painfully forced rhymes on the fourth, “California Grass,” represent the lowest point of the record, but track six, “Shake it Up,” restores New Orders dance-ability until the album’s close, defining the group’s gradual return-to-form and EDM prominence.

Despite struggles with sappiness at the start of the millennium, New Order has risen from its emotive ashes and proven its viability for decades –

Grade: **C**
Genre: **New Wave**
Label: **Rhino**
Runtime: **38:21**

No surprises in ‘Top Gun 3D’

By LELAND DAWSON
Voice Correspondent

In the continuation of movie studios rereleasing blockbusters in remastered IMAX and 3D, Paramount Pictures has seen fit to make “Top Gun” the latest installment.

The movie has been immortalized through parodies and its music. The synth bop of “Take My Breath Away” instantly draws a listener to the thoughts of Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis in a bedroom under blue light. The parody was so successful it had its own sequel.

The movie contains no surprises: love perseveres, the good guys win, the fool-hardy kid matures into one of the best fighter pilots in the world and Michael Ironside is, well, Michael Ironside. We all know how the 26-year-old story goes by now, and if not, you should.

More important with a rerelease

like this is how well the movie adapts to the much larger screen and the added dimension. As director Tony Scott’s last endeavor before tragically taking his own life, the movie mostly succeeds. The darker scenes come off as grainy and slightly distorted while the dog fights, taking place in clear blue skies over water or deserts, are eye-popping and amazing.

Paramount rereleased this movie to tease the Blu-Ray release on Feb. 19, and it succeeds. 3D greatly adds to the tension and depth of the dog-fighting scenes. It doesn’t make too much difference in the on-the-ground scenes. The lone exception is the infamous volleyball game, which is even cheesier now, somehow.

If you like super-sonic jets, Reagan’s America, unapologetic machismo and sometimes-awkward dialogue, catch this movie as it soars from theaters and into living rooms across America.



Grade: **B+**
Rated: **PG**
Genre: **Action-Romance**
Runtime: **110 minutes**

FOGSMOVIEREVIEWS.COM COURTESY PHOTO

OPEN

April 3

TI 106

The Washtenaw Voice

HOUSE

For more info, call 734 677-5405 • kgave@wccnet.edu



Refreshments Provided

*Reporters, Graphic Designers, Photographers,
Editors, Cartoonists, Web Editors, Ad Sales Reps*

FREE PIZZA
*Learn About Part-Time
Paid Positions*

Cryptoquote

printable-puzzles.com

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter snads for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letter, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each issue the code letters are different.

C G F B H M H Q F H U L F A G T -

L U C G T C I V T E H C R H Q

D T Q X G H W G L F A D H C U

G H D C Y

F Q B V A F C G F E T W Z

Y S O Y B .

- J e a n R o s t a n d

Sudoku

printable-puzzles.com

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

Answers

CROSSWORD
DOWN
1. Mecca pilgrimage
5. Things to do
10. Radio host of note
14. Stew
15. Hartford rival
16. It's thrown at a bull's-eye
17. Base for turkey stuffing, often
19. The Everly Brothers "Let ___ Me"
20. "___ With Love" (1967 hit)
21. Isolde's love
23. Greek resistance force in W.W.II
26. Laundry woes
27. Seesaw
32. "___ bodkins!"
33. Base nickname
34. Paris paper Le ___
38. Remainder
40. Urd, Verdandi and Skuld
42. Portal
43. Brutus's burdens
45. Red roots in the garden
47. High school math: Abbr.
48. Graveside service phrase
51. Nimrod
54. Condiment for fries
55. Passionate buss
58. Luzon neighbor
62. Past
63. Rear of the roof of the mouth
66. Afternoon brews
67. Classified
68. The "A" in Chester A. Arthur
69. Byrd and Hatch, e.g.: Abbr.
70. 1978 Nobel sharer
71. Dylan portrayer in "I'm Not There"
ACROSS
8. Knot in wood
9. Masochist's match
10. Musher's race
11. Mother: Pref.
12. ___ sprawl
13. Flower holders
18. Mystery writer Gardner et al.
22. Vertical line on a musical note
24. Island in County Donegal
25. Discotheque light
27. Bull in an arena
28. Fall site in Genesis
29. To exist, to Cato
30. Monsters
31. Basic doctrines
35. Famous ark-itect
36. Loser to Clinton in 1996
37. 10 million of them equal a joule
39. London the day the streetcars stopped
41. Ancient porch
44. Dilbert coworker
46. Zippy dip for a chip
49. Bank jobs
50. Klink's clink
51. Certain noncoms
52. Australian call
53. Changsha's province
56. Bean used in a Japanese sauce
57. Real-life org. seen in "Bullitt"
59. Like stallions and bulls
60. Fragrance of rose petals: Var.
61. Tennis's Lacoste
64. Souchong or hyson
65. Summer clock setting in Calif.

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

SUDOKU

CRYPTOQUOTE
The divine is perhaps that quality in man which permits him to endure the lack of God.
-Jean Rostand

Abaca

By: Michael Adsit



MICHAEL ADSIT THE WASHTENAW VOICE

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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 March 18 issue is Tuesday, March 12, at 5 p.m.

HELP WANTED

SALES ASSOCIATES, CASHIERS, LOADERS AND LABORERS: English Gardens seeks seasonal help. Positions available in Ann Arbor, Metro Detroit and Pontiac. All candidates must possess enthusiasm, initiative, excellent customer service skills and a willingness to learn. Must have experience in retail. Garden Center knowledge a plus. Must be able to: stand and walk up to 8 hours per day; move and travel to work location; see small print; lift up to 50 pounds; maneuver racks and pallet jack, which can weigh up to 500 pounds; adjust to seasonal temperatures. Applicants must apply at: www.englishgardens.com/our-team

PERSONAL CARE PROVIDERS: Put your kindness and caring to work at one of Michigan's leading rehabilitation providers Special Tree Rehabilitation System. Provide personal care and nursing assistance for people with brain and spinal cord injuries at our Romulus sub-acute rehabilitation center or one of several Wayne, Oakland, or Macomb community residential facilities. Now hiring primarily for afternoons with shift differential. Shift flexibility is also needed periodically. CNA certification is required for our sub-acute center in Romulus, but not required for our residential facilities. For more information call

our job information line at 734-893-1009. Then apply on line under the careers link at www.specialtree.com.

SERVICES

Game system not working?

Michigan Video Game Repair can help – usually on the same day and at a low cost. Call 734-707-8725 or visit michiganvideo-gamerepair.com.

Volunteer tutors: Washtenaw Literacy needs volunteers to tutor adults in basic reading, writing, math and English as a Second Language. If in Help change lives – one word at a time! Contact info@washtenawliteracy.org or call 734-879-1320.

Need Health Care? Are you between the ages of 12-22? Contact the Corner Health Center at 734-484.3600 or visit online at: www.cornerhealth.org

Below is a sample of recent employment want ads that have been posted with WCC's Career Services. Students are invited to read these ads and to contact the employers as indicated, or to stop by Career Services, located in ML 104, to review the complete posting. Or contact: or: 734-677-5155; careers@wccnet.edu; or www.wccnet.edu/employment/ IT Help Desk. PrepNet is seeking to fill a part-time IT support position in a fast-paced professional environment. Primary

responsibilities include assisting with technical issues at our schools and assisting with technology deployment.

Fabricator Fitter/Welder. Perform pipefitting and fabrication on mobile aircraft re-fuelers and stationary fuel pump skids in accordance with manufacturer and industry guidelines for a leading independent aviation fuel supplier. Assist in the shop maintenance and/or production teams as needed.

Assistant Toddler Teacher. Classroom with about 18-month-old children. Full-time or part-time options available. Responsibilities include working with the children, feeding, diapering, interacting with parents, and being a team player with the other teachers.

Assistant Baker. 20-30 hours/week, early morning hours starting as early as 4 a.m., weekends and holidays required. Responsibilities include production of deserts, cakes, and pastries, sorting, boxing, expediting and invoicing orders, and cleaning and organizing.

Guest Services Representative. Briarwood Mall is seeking part-time guest service representatives. Responsible for product sales, responding to guest inquiries, providing exceptional level service to guests and merchants, answering phones and supporting promotions and marketing events.

Must have strong selling background, general mathematical and effective communication skills, be computer literate, able to multi-task and work a flexible schedule including weekdays, weeknights, weekends and holidays.

Police Dispatcher. Answer general and emergency calls, dispatch police and fire units, maintain daily records, and dispatch emergency services. Monitor the status of police and fire units on duty via computer systems and radio. Use various technologies and computer systems to effectively provide the community, police officers and firefighters with the support necessary to carry out public services provided by the city.

Customer Service Call Center. Responsible for answering incoming calls regarding technical questions and problem resolution related to Comcast products as well as customer equipment. The Customer Account Executive (CAE) also handles billing overflow calls, works to minimize and/or reduce truck rolls, and offers Comcast products and services to meet customer needs. The CAE relates well to the customer, thinks and exercises sound judgment, and acts responsibly in the customer's and the company's best interest.

Computer Technician Intern. Partial list of responsibilities for the Intern:

Unbox, setup, configure and prepare new workstations and peripheral equipment (in-house and on-site); assist other technicians with routine jobs such as virus and malware removal (in-house and on-site); setting up email accounts in PC's, laptops and smartphones (remotely and on-site); hardware troubleshooting (in-house and remotely); routine on-site work such as hardware and software installs and UPS replacement.

Package Handler. FedEx is looking to hire package handlers who will be required to load, unload, lift, carry packages of varying weights.

Administrative Assistant-Reception Area. This position's duties include ordering office supplies, answering phones, greeting customers, opening and distributing mail, monitoring and distributing incoming faxes, creating and maintaining company calendar with time off, birthdays and anniversaries, creating monthly email with birthdays and anniversaries, preparing and sending UPS mail as needed, contact vendors as needed for service (building, copiers, computers, phone), ordering postal and office supplies, sorting and labeling final closing documents, and assisting the underwriting department with ordering reports for loan files.



It's a wash: Bonnie May Paine, 29, left, plays washboard and Daniel Rodriguez, 31, strums his guitar on stage as Elephant Revival at the Ark on Feb. 18.

AN ARK FULL OF ‘ELEPHANTS’

Colorado band brings roots-rock revival to Ann Arbor’s The Ark

By ANNA ELIAS
Staff Writer

Carrying the stories of the land upon which they have traveled, transcendental-folk group Elephant Revival swooned Ann Arbor two nights in a row in The Ark’s listening room. Originally formed as Elephant Revival Concept in 2006, the Boulder County, Colo.-based folk group breaks free of the typical constraints musicians are plagued with trying to adhere to a specific genre. With influence from Celtic, folk, Gypsy and rock music to name a few,

lead vocalist Bonnie May Paine, 29, and fiddler Bridget Law, 30, describe Elephant Revival as multidimensional. “We try to be as open as we can,” Paine said. After the five band members met at different functions, including the Walnut Valley Festival in Winfield, Kan., various Rainbow Family gatherings and even the rooftop of a Connecticut night club, they forged a musical bond to carry “the message of the moment.” The band dropped “Concept” from its name soon after it became a reality. In support of the recent release of Elephant Revival’s EP “It’s Alive,” the group is touring 16 North American cities, including Toronto, Canada for the International Folk Alliance Conference.

Recorded with very few dub-overs—all virtually live renditions of the songs—the album is alive beyond the title. All band members take part in writing the songs and deliver their passion through the CD-captured melodies. Mike Bruno, the drummer from opening band Birds of Chicago, said that Elephant Revival transcends all genres of music to come up with their own unique sound. “You get ever more live with them. The visual art keeps you engaged in both audio and visual,” said Bruno, 32, of Chicago. Paine’s sea-foam green dress modeled that of a dress typical to the Victorian-era, and she accompanied the ensemble with a matching pair of mid-forearm length gloves. For the

majority of the Monday night concert, she played a washboard hanging from her neck as her choice instrument. The musical saw was another instrument choice for Paine, as she sat on the stool with the handle between her knees, bending each sound as she swept the bow across the metal tool. Elephant Revival first met Birds of Chicago as a complete band at High Sierra Music Festival in Quincy, Calif. in 2012 during back-to-back slots in the song-writers round. A bond was forged, but wasn’t hard to make since the lead singer and guitarist of Birds had previously met Elephant Revival, and Bruno attended high school in Chicago with bassist Dango Rose. “We felt like kindred souls,” said Birds guitarist J.T. Nero, 41, of Chicago. “Right away we had to get our schedules

together to do some dates.” Nero describes the music played by both bands as “throwing everything in, mongrel music.” Both bands have an eclectic sound including more instruments used than band members. “We are really similar spirits in the way we appreciate music and take it to the people,” Nero said. Elephant Revival played five shows with Birds of Chicago, and after the two evenings at The Ark, Elephant Revival traveled to Cleveland to play with The Ragbirds. “The people that we play for are the driving force behind what we do,” Paine said. “The land is what heals us and keeps us.” For tour dates and tracklisting, visit <http://elephantrevival.com>



Courtney Keller, WCC ‘11, SHU ‘14

“Coming to Siena Heights was the best decision I’ve ever made. My advisor and I worked together to set up a plan so that I graduate on time and I even received scholarships for my artwork. I thought the process of transferring might be difficult but Siena made it easy and headache free.”

TRANSFER TO SIENA HEIGHTS AND BRING YOUR CREDITS WITH YOU!

- Transfer Friendly: Articulation agreement with Washtenaw Community College
- Affordable: Scholarships for transfer students
- Online upper level courses available for working adults



OPPORTUNITY **U**
SIENA HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY



www.sienaheights.edu
800.521.0009