



12 FALL

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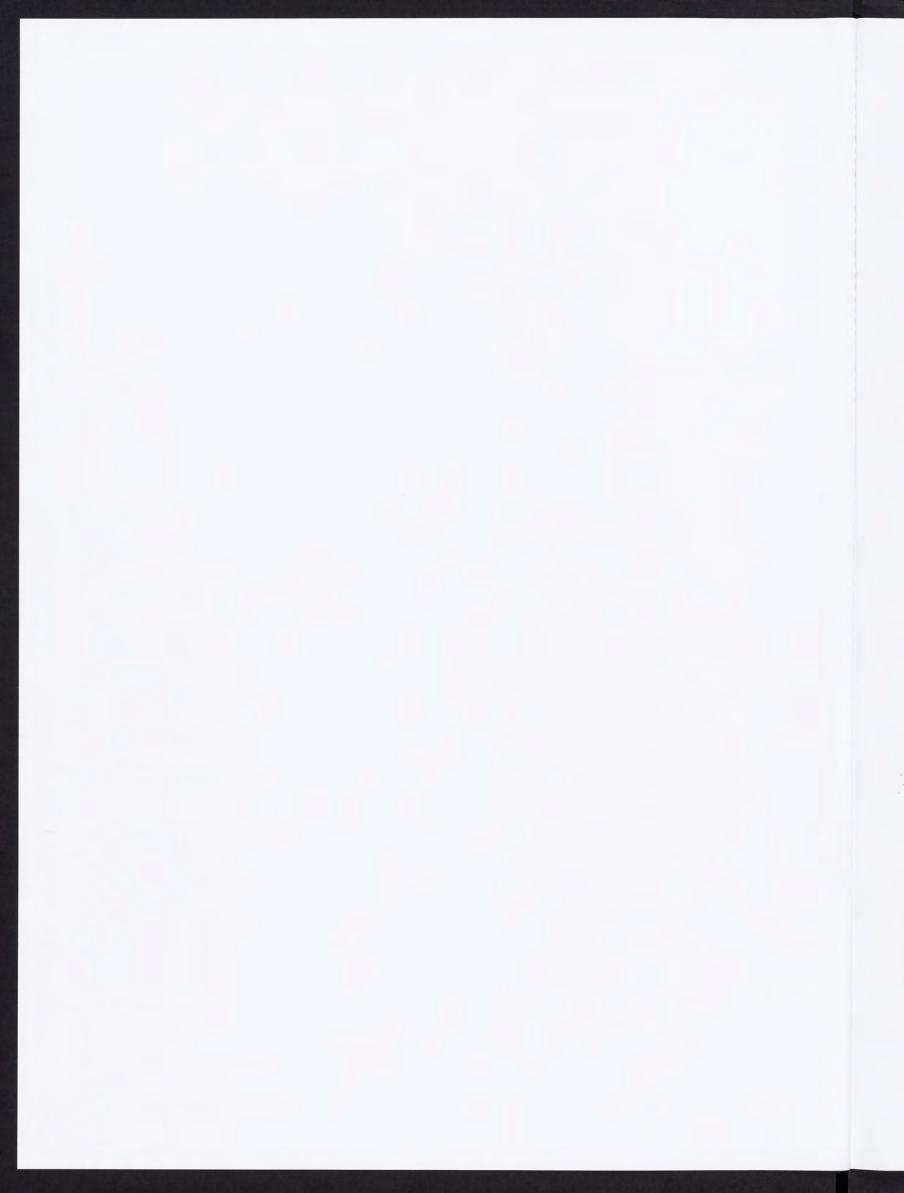
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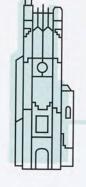
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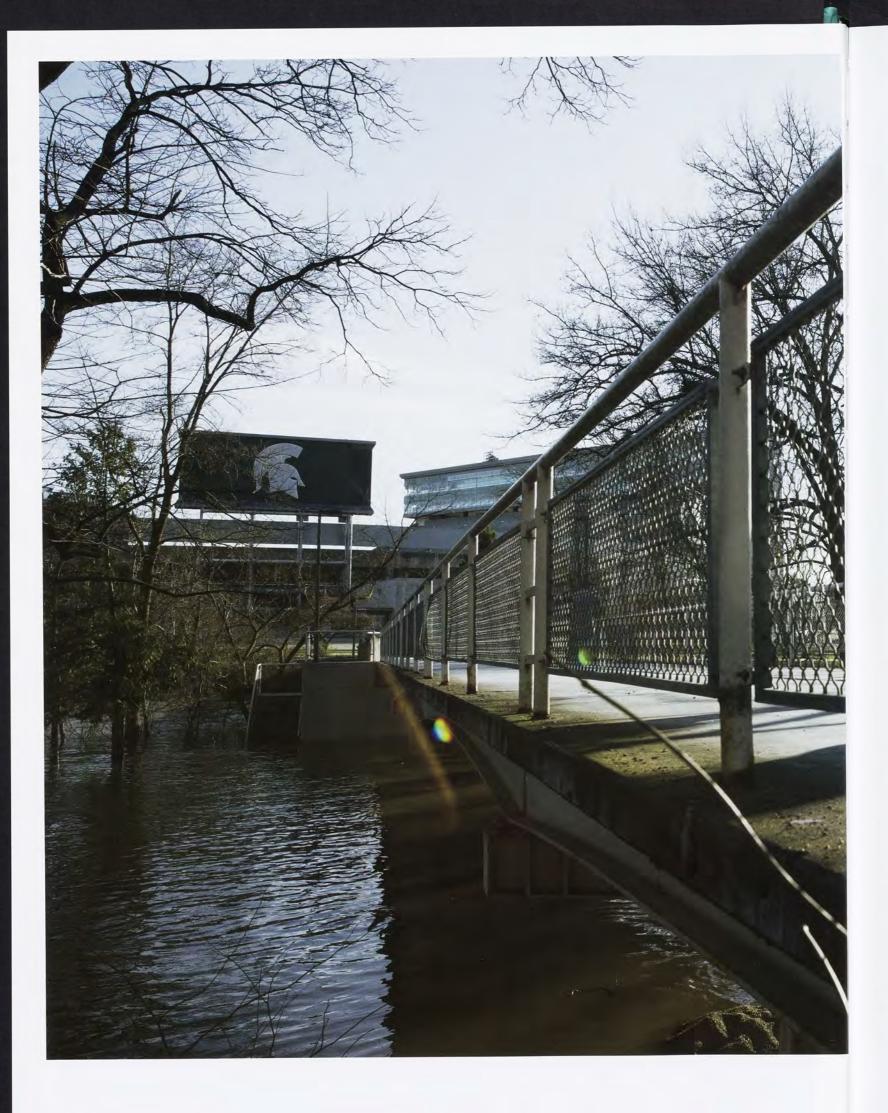


MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

VOLUME 129 ENROLLMENT: 50,019 EAST LANSING, MI 48825







Red Cedar Log

As time goes on, memories begin to distort and fade. Spartans will never forget where they came from or the place that made them who they are, but the details inevitably fall away between their fingers.

Remember how the scent of marinara and garlic hung in the air as students filed out of The Gallery at Snyder Philips, and found themselves within the deep thrum of a bass, and soothing ring of a violin by the Tuesday night jamboree band.

Remember the hands clasped, the breeze sending a cascade of pink leaves down on the smiling couple. Remember the joy felt as the lifelong goal of kissing under Beaumont finally became reality.

Remember the awe of being surrounded by tens of thousands other

Spartans, of realizing the scale and scope of this new world. Remember finding those who made it seem small, who made it home.

Remember the beauty. Remember the sun flitting between individual leaves, creating patterns on the path alongside the Red Cedar River.

These moments, the small things, are what the MSU experience was all about, and that's why the Red Cedar Log was created. Since 1887 RCL has stood up for the small moments, drawing them back from the recesses of the mind, and today that mission remains.

Bring back the memories. Reminisce what was. Remember.

A Letter from the ASMSU President

Every Spartan has a voice. Whether we realize it or not, we each used our voice to find our way to Michigan State University. Prior to our induction as Spartans, we would raise our voices to stand out and become a part of something greater. Eventually, the day came when we used this voice to proclaim, "I'm a Spartan!" upon admission. We moved forward in our journey as students to use our voices to celebrate academic achievement in the classroom, success in finding an internship, pride by cheering in the stadium or solidarity while coming together at the Rock.

This year, we collectively used our voices to say that it was time for change at Michigan State University in tandem with more than 200 survivors of sexual abuse who courageously came forward. Our student body came together to show the elected and administrative leadership of MSU that trust was lost due to the mishandling of one of the biggest sexual abuse scandals in history.

In the wake of many national news headlines and sensational reporting into our university, the student body used its voice to stand up for the survivors, placing a key value of necessity for human safety and security above all else. Marches, protests, demands and sit-ins awakened the entire campus to recognize that students were the heart of our university, and that they wanted to be treated as such through conversations and decision-making that accurately reflected the needs of our students.

And not only did our student body raise its voice for the survivors of sexual assault, but it stood up to a white supremacist that came to our campus with a goal to alienate our community from one of our cornerstone values of inclusion. Students and community leaders of all races, ethnicities, genders, abilities and beliefs leaders came together in a true celebration of diversity, demonstrating the love we hold high for each other as Spartans each day.

While our student body found its voice this year, ASMSU was present to listen. Traditionally, our student government found ways to listen to each other by keeping attentive to social media and student organizations on campus. However, this year proved to be much different. We launched a first-ever student survey to measure the needs of our students, and we were present in the aftermath of the student activism triggered by the sexual assault abuse on our campus. Students found advocates for them in their student government – and I could not be prouder of the entire organization for taking up this effort to being the listeners and advocates for change.

While our student body found its voice this year, ASMSU was present to listen. In the past, ASMSU found ways to listen to student perspectives by staying social media and student organizations on campus. However, this year proved to be much different. We launched a first-ever student survey to measure the needs of our students, and we were present in the aftermath of the student activism triggered by the sexual assault abuse on our campus. Our motto this semester of "we see you, we hear you, we believe you" sent a strong message to our students that they could find advocates in our student government — and I could not be prouder of the entire organization for taking up this effort to being the listeners and advocates for change.

An unprecedented year of student activism required an unprecedented level of commitment from our ASMSU executive leadership team. The support and encouragement throughout the year was remarkable, and was a testament of the need for student voice at a crucial time. The time we've spent together in and out of the office was hopefully a symbol to you of how I valued not only your strong work ethic, but your friendship. I am beyond honored to have served as a leader with you. Thank you Lauren, Ewurama, Tyler, Stephen, Cookie, and Dan – you all have taught me how to serve as a stronger leader, and you all have become some of my closest friends I'll cherish for life.

Congratulations to the Class of 2018. While it has been my highest honor to be twice-elected as your Student Body President these past two years, I am proud to be among you as a fellow graduate. I can confidently say that over my tenure as a student leader among all the Spartans I have met, I know that each and every student has the courage and willpower to raise their voice at a time when all of us need to be an advocate for each other. Spartans of today will undoubtedly go on to be stronger role models for our society tomorrow.

In whatever you do, amplify the passion of what motivates you to be the best that you can be. Know that the door to learning never closes and remember to come home to East Lansing often. I can't wait to read, watch, or shake the hand again of the next Spartan world-changer from the 2018 graduating class. Because Spartans Will, and Spartans Do, continue to make our world a better place. Find your voice, and use it well.

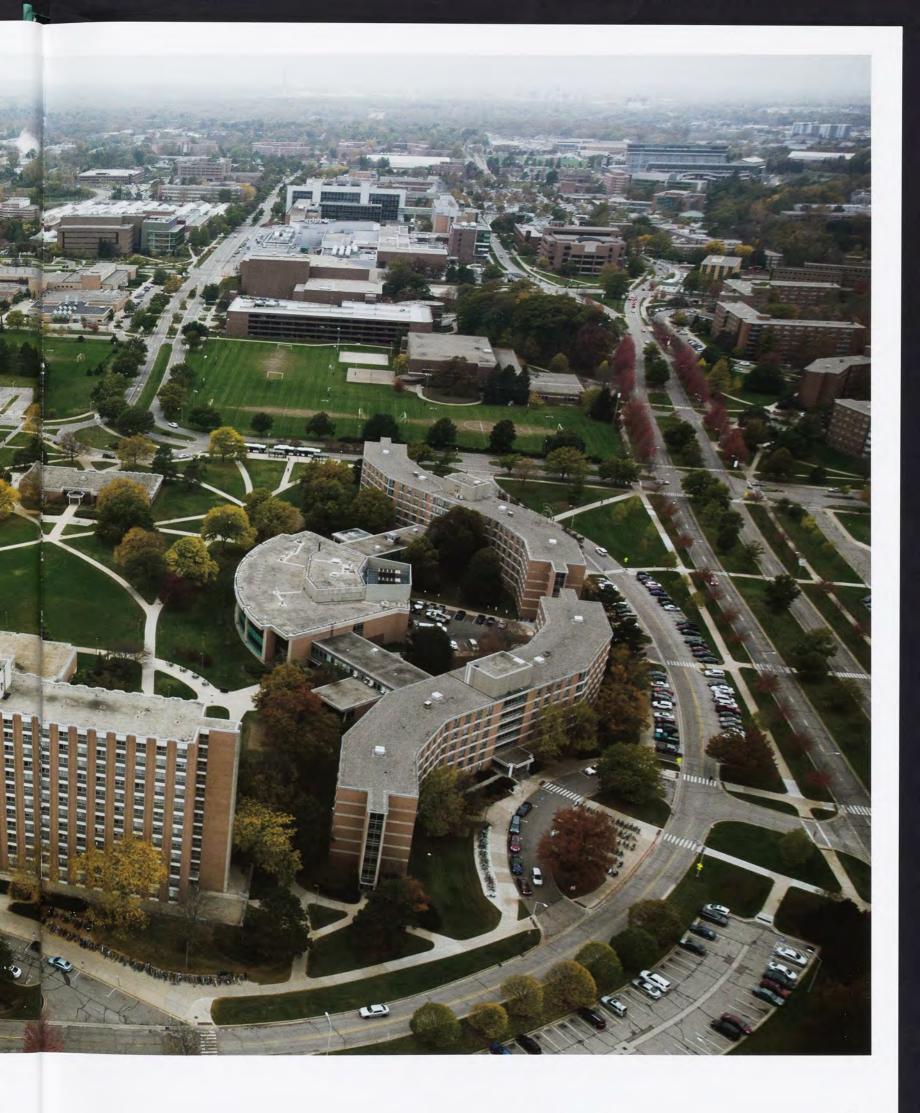
Go Green, and Sparty On!

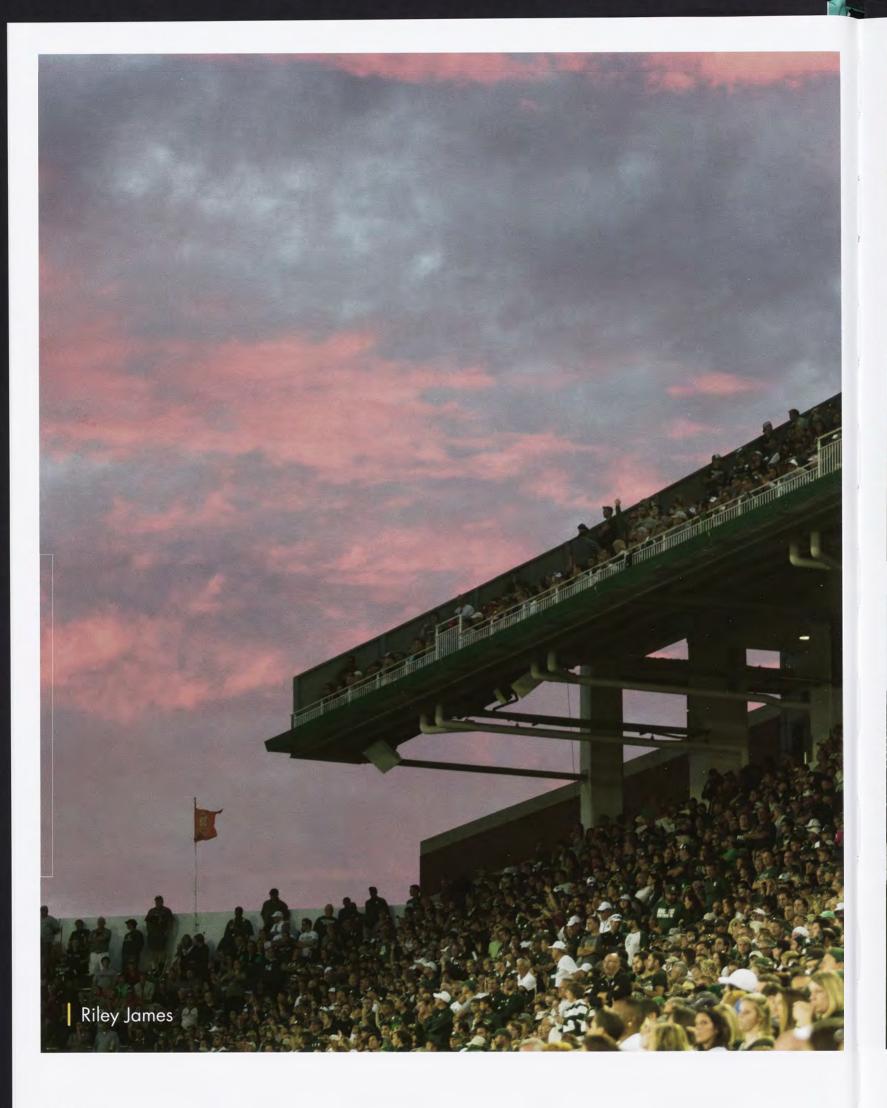
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Lorenzo C. Santavicca Student Body President, 2016-2018 Associated Students of Michigan State University Class of 2018







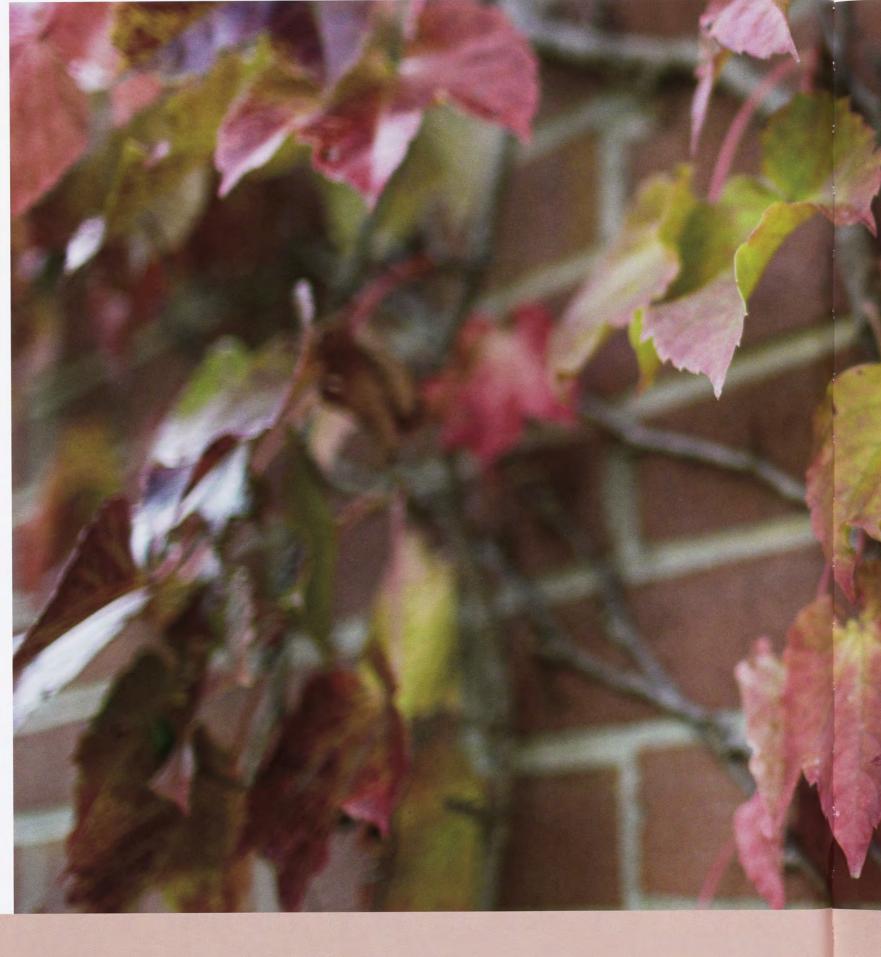


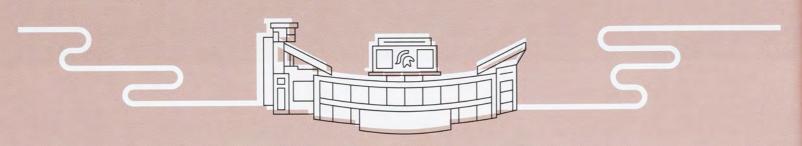


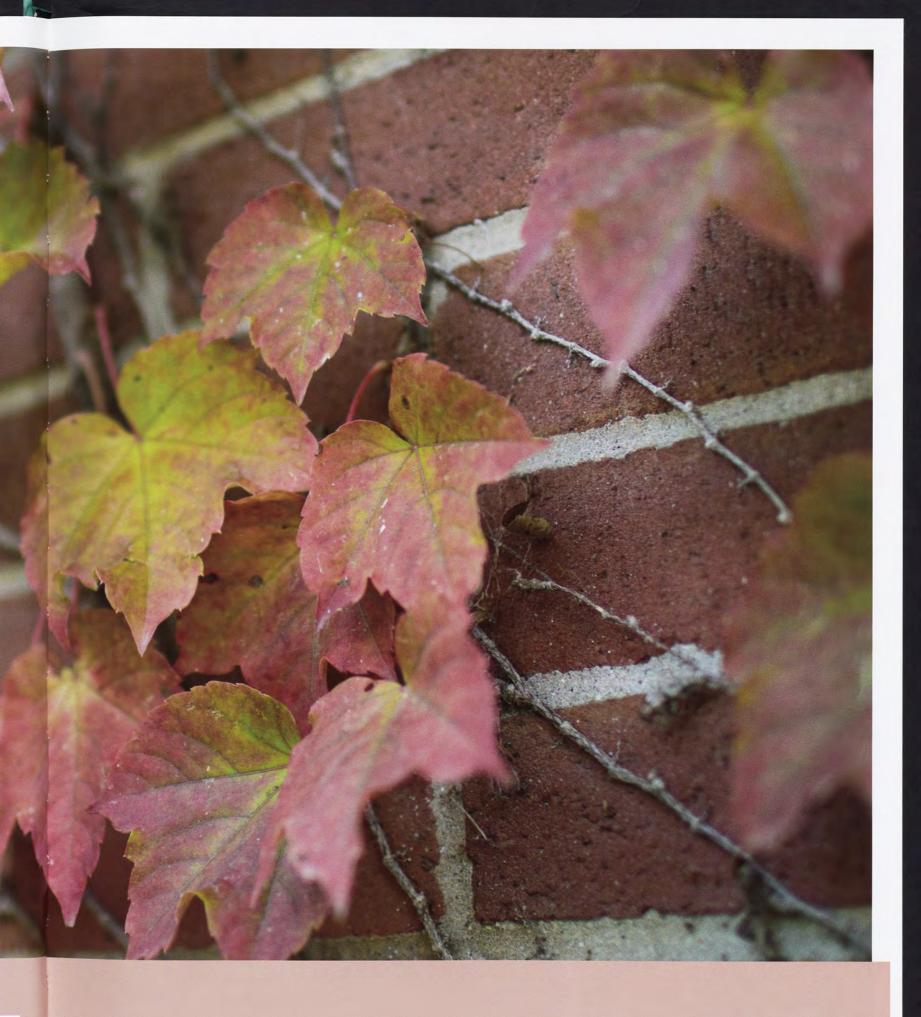












FALL





Be Resilient, Like the Tree

"May your roots grow deep" -Christopher Long

A centuries-old tree, tall and proud. A lightning strike, with intent to kill. And finally the roots, remaining unbothered, left the storm surprised when the beaten tree continued to grow.

"Resilient" is the word Christopher Long, dean of the College of Arts and Letters, used to describe the anomaly left partially destroyed by a storm in July of 2016. The aftermath, found leaning between Linton Hall and the MSU Museum, was created into a hashtag—the #ResilientTree. This urged students and faculty present on social media to recognize the significance of the unique topiary that was estimated to be nearly 350 years old.

"It is your 'one wild and precious life, and a tree's resilience will be needed as you grow into the person you will become and determine what you will contribute to the world we have inherited," said Long in a letter to the class of 2021.

Without Long, the unexpected vitality of this tree may have gone unnoticed. By finding the extraordinary in such an unexpected place, Long created a symbol of strength for Spartans. Such an icon might not have been created if he had not made the fateful observation.

"I thought it was a motivating comparison he made between his students and the tree," said Justin Alexander, a sophomore studying experience architecture in the College of Arts and Letters. "It presented this idea: Just because you experience one storm, doesn't mean you no longer have the ability to succeed."

The entity gained interest in realms beyond the College of Arts and Letters, though. In a school of 50,000 students and over 5,000 faculty and staff members, the story of the tree received attention from countless MSU members. Sitting proudly in its verdure, it caught the eye of many passers-by.

One of those was Blythe White, who handled Academic Advancement Network's social media accounts at MSU.

White was stunned by the compelling tree. Often partaking in Twitter conversations with the College of Arts and Letters—particularly Long as he collaborated with her on many events—she immediately took an interest in the dean's new hashtag craze after coming across the tree on campus.

"The tree was compelling!" said White. "An enormous white oak that would have been one of the tallest trees on campus, now dwarfed and broken because of the lightning strike. Many trees die when struck by lightning, but not this one. It stubbornly and surprisingly produced life again and is thriving. It can be an analogy for many things—yes, for resilience or stubbornness, but also for growth after hardship, for thriving after brokenness."

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The tree was so much more than just a tree. It signified, in the simplest terms, "never giving up." College life can be tough. Stresses of school and the outside world attempt to stunt one's growth, as the lightning attempted to do with the white oak. Still, the tree grew on, and that was Long's hope for all of his students: Be resilient, like the tree.



Go Green! with Sustainable Energy

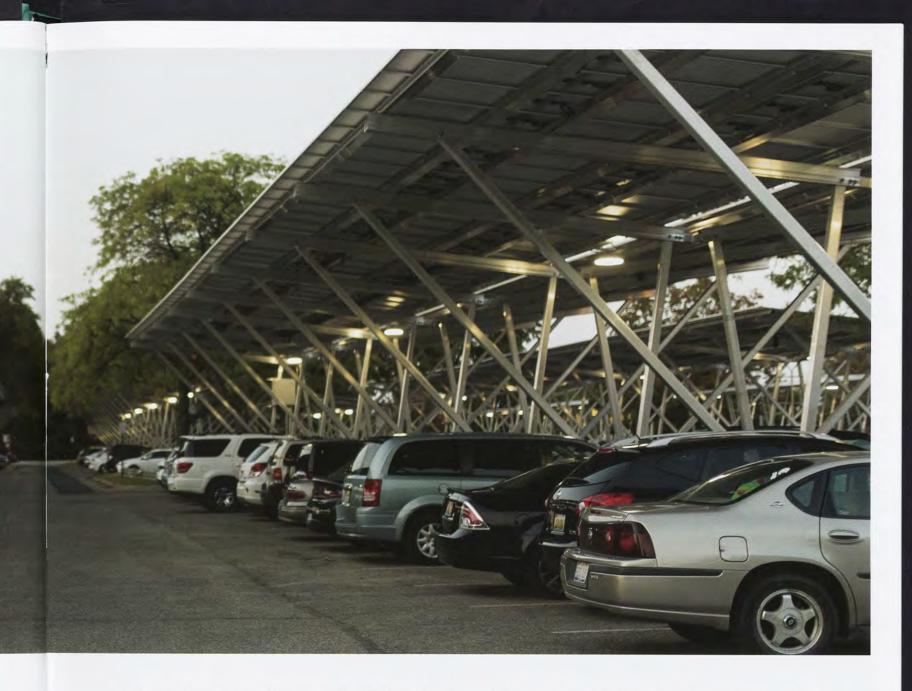
MSU installs solar carports and boosts sustainable energy use

Ryan Erdmann, finance major, drove by Lot 91 behind Fee Hall and noticed tall, metal-looking structures covering the lot. However, Erdmann didn't know what they were or why they were there. When he learned that MSU was placing solar carports in parking lots around campus, he said that he hoped they would be building more in the future.

"Renewable energy is definitely the way to go, and the more of it that you have on campus the better," Erdmann said. "I thought it was really cool that it was built in a way that didn't take away parking space. The fact that you can

be harnessing the solar power while not taking away any parking lots is pretty cool."

In an effort to go green with the use of sustainable energy, MSU stopped the burning of coal at the T.B. Simon Power Plant and is now looking at alternative methods such as wind power, geothermal heating systems or the use of solar carports. In 2015, the MSU Board of Trustees approved a project to cover five different parking lots around campus with solar carports. Not only was this project providing the campus with natural energy, but it was protecting the environment by



cutting down on the use of fossil fuels. Dr. Wolfgang Bauer, an MSU professor and senior consultant at the Office of the Executive Vice President for Administrative Services, said that the energy will be used only at MSU.

"IT WILL BE FED TO OUR MAIN DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM. EVERY LIGHT AND EVERY APPLIANCE ON MSU'S CAMPUS WILL BE PARTIALLY POWERED BY THE SOLAR ARRAY."

"It will be fed to our main distribution system. Every light and every appliance on MSU's campus will be partially powered by the solar array," Dr. Bauer said. "I can't point to a particular building that will be powered by this; every building will be powered by the array."

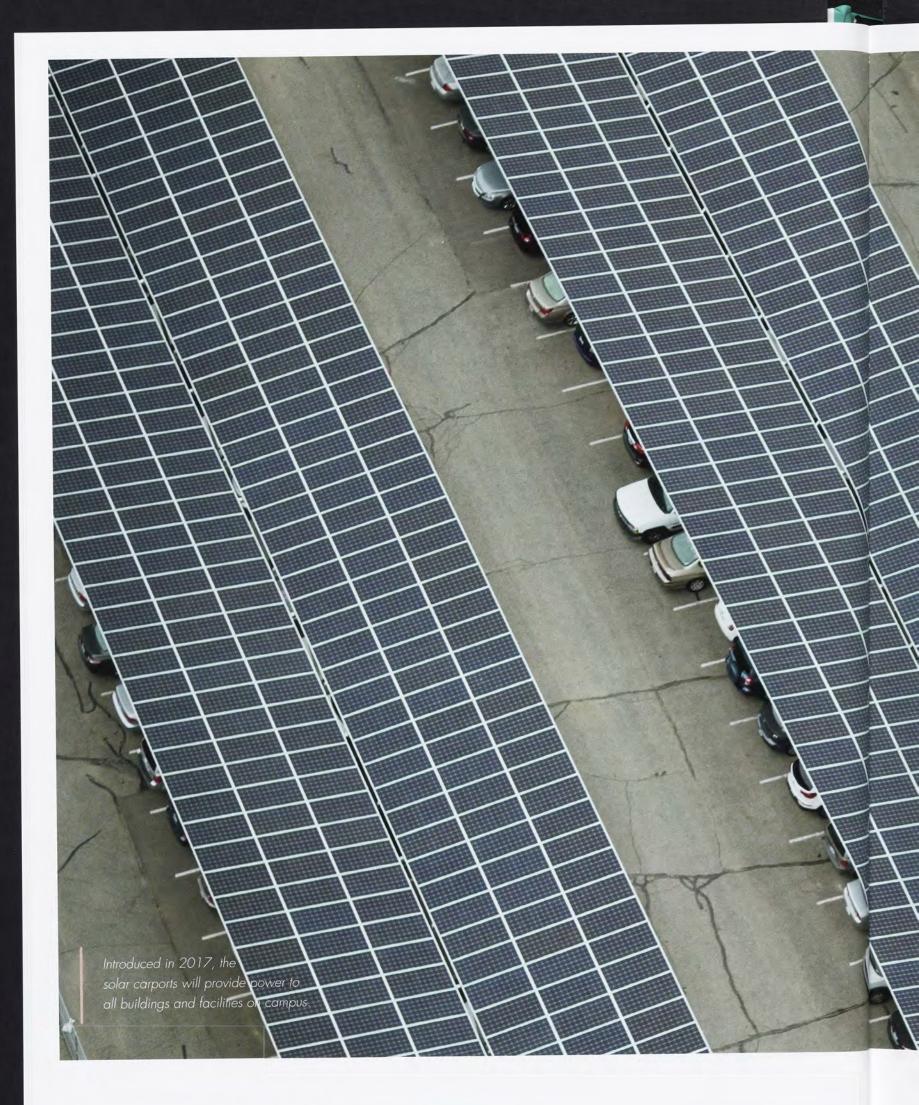
The solar carports are being built to cover Lot 83 on Service Road, Commuter Lot 89, Lot 91 behind Fee Hall, Lot 92 by the Water Plant and Lot 100 next to the Clinical Center. This project was part of the Energy Transition Plan,

which was put in place to improve the environment and to promote sustainable energy use and research on campus.

The solar arrays are panels that cover the top of the metal structures. The light that hits the array is then converted into energy and used to power MSU's campus. The arrays that are covering these five lots are part of the Power Purchase Plan Agreement (PPA). Dr. Bauer said that in 25 years, at the end of the agreement, they plan to purchase the solar array, but it will depend on factors such as the condition of the parking lot, how many repairs need to be done to the structures and what the cost of electricity is.

"I think they will be very beneficial because then they would not spend as much on energy and also not rely on petroleum-based stuff," AJ Howaniec, physiology major, said. "They also serve a dual purpose when parking because now you have shade and your car won't be as hot."

Students like Erdmann and Howaniec were hopeful more change like this would come. Looking ahead, MSU will continue being a catalyst for sustainable research and a leader of sustainable energy. With the help of the Energy Transition Plan in place, in the coming years, Spartans will fully be able to "Go Green!"









Students Lose Welcome Week to ELPD

Officers took to Twitter to start the school year off right

Walking back onto campus in the fall isn't always quite the same as it is in the spring. No longer are students quiet and studious for pending finals. Instead, everyone is looking for a round of adventures before classes begin. And with adventure comes punishment—in the form of the East Lansing Police Department keeping the city, and its residents, safe.

Normally, contact with the ELPD didn't exactly spell a good time for most students, but the force tried to change that by increasing its Twitter usage during welcome week.

"Our goal is to make connections with the younger generation and those who use social media," Officer Travis Bove said. "It allows ELPD to connect better and break down barriers there might be."

Officer Bove and his K-9 pal, Quinn, hosted the first of ELPD's "tweet alongs," where followers could go on a virtual ride-along with police. On that night, followers watched Bove and Quinn take on the chaos of a Welcome Week night.

"I wasn't the one tweeting; I was just the one driving the car around," Bove said. "ELPD has a social media team, and one of the members, David Dalen, was riding along with me and tweeting."

Officer Bove had just learned the whats and hows of Twitter that night, but Dalen came up with the idea and already knew how to get millennial attention. He had been doing research on other larger police departments and how social media engagement helped them. Dalen employed every social media tactic he could in the series of tweets, including memes, gifs, emojis, song lyrics and hashtags. Within a week, students reacted overwhelmingly to the account.

"It's nice to see that the police have a sense of humor," freshman Sarah Zube said. "It makes me more comfortable knowing that they're friendly and informative."

While the favorites and follows filled the ELPD's notifications, the department's actions continued offline, as tweets turned into student conversations.

"It was kind of like an awakening," said freshman Alyssa Burr. "Before this, I knew them as people who gave out tickets and [minor in possession citations], and now everyone is noticing what they're doing."

That increase in awareness was beneficial—for students and officers alike.

"Being more connected allows us to gain more followers, so when it comes to getting out information, it is just that much faster," Bove said.

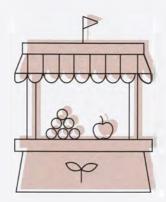
"IT'S NICE TO SEE THAT THE POLICE HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR. IT MAKES ME MORE COMFORTABLE KNOWING THEY'RE FRIENDLY AND INFORMATIVE."

The ELPD used its Twitter account for local awareness and safety. It updated followers on parking information, traffic accidents and clean-up reports and offered general safety tips for anyone on or around campus. The more followers it gained, the quicker the information spread.

Twitter wasn't the only place the ELPD had taken to making public accounts. Facebook, Instagram and YouTube were also being used to connect with the community through videos and updates.

In the new social media age, it was all about connection. In previous years, it was frustrating to drive to a game only to realize parking had filled up hours ago, or to miss class because an accident hadn't been publicized and there was traffic. But with ELPD's use of social media, a new era of connection—and information—dawned.





Focused on Farming

MSU's Organic Farmers want you to know they are here to serve you

Although Spartans could walk just off campus and grab a cheeseburger, there were some who would have rather picked a healthier option. What these Spartans may not have realized was that such an option was grown by students right on campus. Every Thursday between the months of April and October, right in front of the MSU Auditorium, Spartans found tons of people making their way to the MSU Student Organic Farm stand. The farm stand started in the fall of 2005, and it has been committed to providing quality, USDA-certified, organically grown food ever since.

"Since I've watched the Netflix documentary Fat, Sick & Nearly Dead, I've been trying to remain healthy by eating organic foods," said sophomore Shaniya Cason. "Having an on-campus farmer's market has made my commitment to a healthy lifestyle way easier."

Daniel Seggebruch, manager of the farm stand and labor aide for the horticulture department, went through the Organic Farmer Training Program in 2016 and was now working full time at the stand.

"Undergraduate students in this program work seven days a week on the farm. At least one undergraduate student comes to help me set up and break down the stand. They are very dedicated to our mission," Seggebruch said. "A lot of students on our staff are typically studying in the College of Agricultural Engineering and are building up experiences with the farm as an employee and/or volunteer. This opportunity is not limited to just Ag-based majors and we encourage everyone to join our family."

Students who were interested in opportunities to get involved were advised to check out the MSU Student Organic Farm website. Applications were accepted year-round, making it easy for Spartans to get involved.

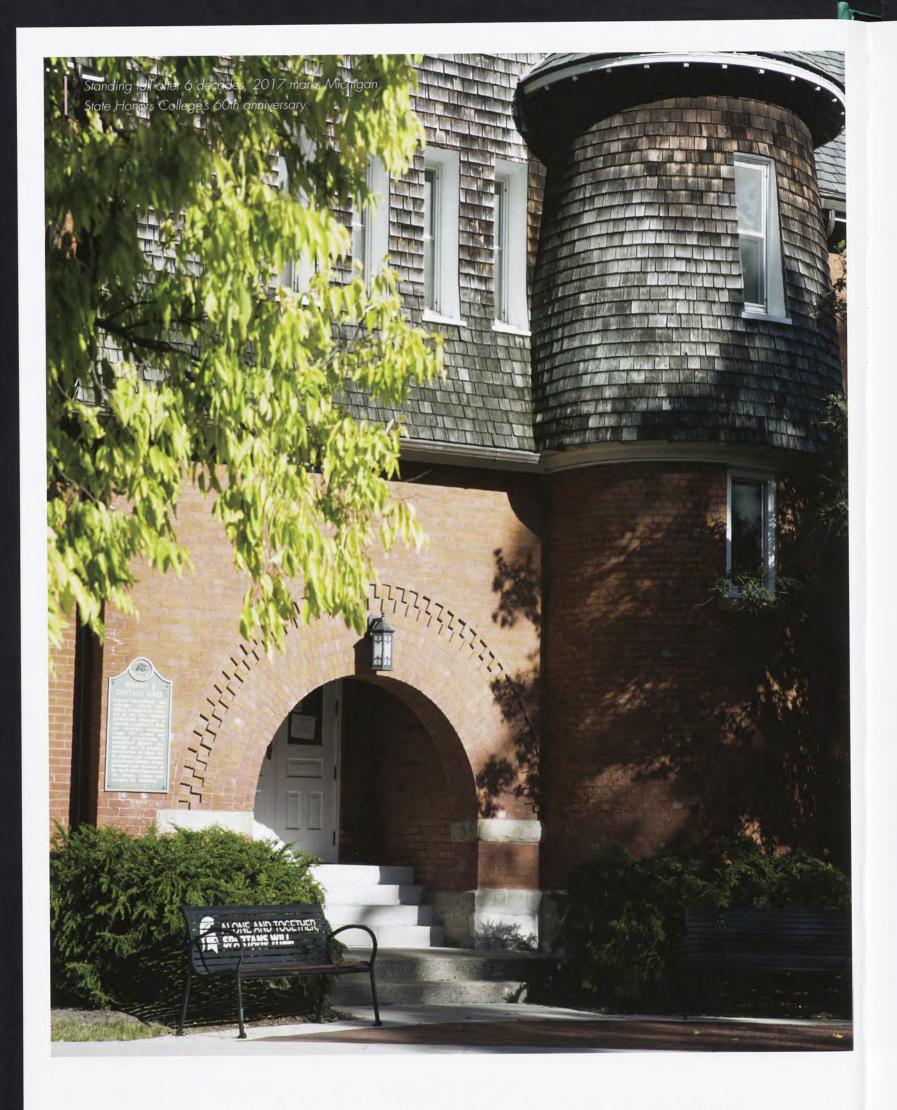
All produce was grown all year just three miles south of campus on College Road and stored in the passive cellar hoop houses. In the spring, things that were being

sold included eggs, asparagus, spinach, lettuce, brassica salad mix, chard, kale, radishes, turnips, peas and many other storage crops. In the summer, customers found eggs, tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, cucumbers, summer squash, sweet corn, green beans, greens, edamame and a few other small fruits. Approaching the fall, customers saw more pumpkins, flint corn, raspberries, strawberries, pears, grapes and dried flowers.

"HAVING AN ON-CAMPUS FARMER'S MARKET HAS MADE MY COMMITMENT TO A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE WAY EASIER."

There was a lot of leg work behind the stand that many could never imagine. Inside of a 15-acre certified organic farm, these crops were stored in a solar greenhouse and run by student peers. During the cold season, workers did not go unemployed, nor did the farm become abandoned. They simply focused more on marketing and updating the website during the colder season. All winter produce was grown inside of the passive cellar greenhouses and the students still sold many storage crops like onions and potatoes.

The MSU Student Organic Farm did not only sell produce though, it offered programs that taught students how to start their own farm. Sustainable agriculture, food production and managing farm operations were the main objectives for the learning platform within organic farming. Transplants were also sold during the spring season for those who have gardens or want to grow at home. With all of the great resources the MSU Student Organic Farm offered, students were motivated to live a healthier life, and student farmers were provided a strong foundation in agriculture.





The Honors College Spirit

Becoming a sexagenarian

It is not well known that a person between 60 and 69 years of age is called a sexagenarian. The Honors College at MSU is not a person, but it did celebrate the big 6-0 this year. Keeping up with tradition, the college hosted its annual picnic for the faculty and students on the Friday after Labor Day. The event took place starting at 4:30 p.m. at The Rock with sunshine, supporters and hula hoops.

Elisabeth Milligan, a senior, was grateful for how much the Honors College had impacted her perspective in the last four years and said that it taught her valuable lessons about herself and what she was capable of accomplishing. Milligan was also the spokeswoman for H-STAR, which stands for Honors Students Actively Recruiting and involves the recruitment of new Honors College members from high schools.

"They are very self-motivated," Milligan said when describing the students who come into the program. "They are all so excited about being a part of this experience."

Honors X2 was another group promoted at the event showing how much impact the students were creating outside of the classroom. Honors X2 was a mentorship program for kids in K-12 schools helping young students become inspired to achieve more success in the future. Themes of diversity, inclusiveness and commitment ran through the leaders.

According to Matt Zierler, last year's picnic was held at the Student Services Building. Zierler, associate dean for the Honors College and professor for James Madison College, had been with MSU for 15 years.

"The students are choosing to be a part of the Honors College," said Zierler. "They're choosing to push themselves. The interesting question you have to ask is, what makes a student want to do more?"

Most of the seniors at the event also demonstrated, with conviction, their belief in the college's bright future. The students' faces glimmered with potential and an unmistakable

energy that spoke to who they wanted to become. Zierler commented that the students were putting in "more and more" every year, both inside the classroom and out.

Dr. Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore showed her support at the event with vigor and passion. Jackson-Elmoore, the dean of the Honors College and a professor, had faculty affiliations in social work, political science and the Global Urban Studies Program.

"People are the best thing about the Honors College," said Jackson-Elmoore.

"The honors students can develop their own pathway. They receive the rare opportunity to interact with faculty and research very early. The students are intellectually driven, curious, quirky, focused and multi-faceted."

"THEY'RE CHOOSING TO PUSH THEMSELVES, THE INTERESTING QUESTION YOU HAVE TO ASK IS, WHAT MAKES A STUDENT WANT TO DO MORE?"

Jackson-Elmoore emphasized that the passion and level of involvement of the students was what set them apart. She concluded her point with her aspiration for the students to succeed in ways they couldn't have imagined and to know that the best part will have been that the effort they put in was their own.

With the conclusion of the 60th welcome picnic for the Honors College, another bright moment was marked into the prestigious calendar of the university. Honors College students have shown that there are numerous possibilities out there when one has the drive to work hard. In the words of Jackson-Elmoore, "Be true to who you are; remember your center."



An Underestimated Rush

The Muslim Student Association hosts its first rush to gain members

During the first weeks of the school year, Greek life loudly takes over public spaces on campus as new recruits vie to impress and receive a bid from their favorite house. In the background of these traditional organizations, another group was rushing—almost silently.

"The ultimate purpose of Rush Week was to make sure people had the opportunity to form bonds with like-minded people," said Batoul Sadek, the vice president of the Muslim Student Association (MSA).

Sadek recounted feeling very alone in her first few weeks on campus. She joined MSA as a freshman, and had been on the executive board for three years. In the 2016-2017 school year, Sadek and other members felt the organization needed some kind of transformation. She put out an idea to have new members rush the club, and with the help of other board members, it came together.

"The use of the word 'rush' is a play on words to draw people to the organization," said Raydeer Piromari, director of operations. "Many fraternities and sororities have the concept of rushing, so the MSA decided to have a play on words and hold a rush week as well."

MSA was designed to be a "national organization that aims to provide a space and platform for Muslims to meet each other in areas where Muslims are typically the minority," according to Piromari. Despite this, the events they held only drew in about 30 people on average. That is, until recently; a new political atmosphere drove the attendance of some of their events to over 500 people.

Another purpose of implementing rushing was to draw more students to come out to help increase membership in the organization. In past years, MSA struggled to keep a consistent flow of new members.

"While we increase members every year, this year has been our largest increase in members yet," Sadek said. "We are elated with turn-out and we are so excited for this school year with all our new members."

Aside from its quiet nature, MSA's rush differed from Greek life in its acceptance. Instead of thinning out the crowd as rush goes on, MSA accepted everyone.

"The MSA is a space that allows all races, ethnicities and backgrounds to join," Sadek said. "Being a Muslim isn't required for the organization. Many of our regular members are of other faiths and ideologies."

MSA also made the events purposeful and immersive throughout the week. On Monday, those who were rushing met the board while sipping bubble tea, on Tuesday went to visit hotspots on campus for Muslim students and on Friday they ended the week in prayer at Campus Jummah.

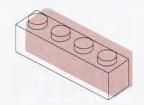
"Each day had the purpose of connecting Muslims on campus with one another so we can instantly start building community," member Zunerah Syed said. "Each event was tailored toward giving a Muslim edge and accommodating our new Muslim students on campus."

"EACH DAY HAD THE PURPOSE OF CONNECTING MUSLIMS ON CAMPUS WITH ONE ANOTHER SO WE CAN INSTANTLY START BUILDING COMMUNITY."

Rush, no matter what the sense, created new bonds. Greeks came together in traditional initiations and boisterous parties. MSA came together in faith. In all cases, strangers became friends, and the diverse became familiar.



Katy Hollobaugh and Omar Elsherif enjoy a scoop of gelato at the Muslim Student Association's Gelato Mix Event during MSA rush week. This was the first year MSA held a rush week.



Inspiring Curiosity Through Robotics

The inaugural East Lansing Robotics Fest

A mother walked by the 2016 Lincoln MKZ self-driving car and leaned to her son and said, "Look, this car drives by itself," then walked hand-in-hand into a row of tents filled with hints of the limitless future.

On Sept. 17, 2017, the very first East Lansing Robotics Fest was held just off campus at the Valley Court Park. The sun shined on people grinning with excitement as various MSU groups showed off their robotic technology, inviting the public to interact and explore. The energy was something like walking through a carnival, with magic in every step and curiosity hanging on every face—especially the kids'.

"Just like anything, start early," said Andrew Kim, who works in K-12 outreach for MSU. "You can talk to kids about robotics, but unless you get them working and building using hands-on activities that challenge them, they're not going to be as interested as they could be."

Kim, who had been working at the university for 26 years helping the College of Engineering to boost enrollment, emphasized that the college had grown significantly from having around 650 students seven years ago to around 1,400 students for the past three years.

"Michigan State was the first to offer a championship in robotics for K-12 schools. Now, other schools are modeling our competitions," said Kim. "The main component to an event like this is the City of East Lansing. They take care of the tents; we take care of the tech. We feel passionate that these kids grow their interests in robotics now so that one day they will become the engineers of the future."

Daniel Kent, a first-year graduate student, said that his work in Connected and Autonomous Networked Vehicles for Active Safety (CANVAS) constructing MSU's first robotic car involved not only technical expertise, but ethical expertise as well. He mentioned that CANVAS was working across the whole university to create automation solutions, which began to raise ethical, legal and cultural issues that had never before been addressed.

"It was Leo Kempel, Dean of the College of Engineering, and President Lou Anna K. Simon who were the ones that

made the seed money possible for programs like CANVAS to get started, and thanks to the City of East Lansing, we can broaden our outreach to the whole community," said Brad Clark, outreach specialist at MSU.

Inside the festival's main tent, kids smiled from ear to ear as they used controllers to power robots that could pick up toy rats and small blocks from off the ground. Inside the neighboring tents, students were actively engaged in building their own robots using lego pieces and even programming them on a computer.

"WE FEEL PASSIONATE THAT THESE KIDS GROW THEIR INTERESTS IN ROBOTICS NOW SO THAT ONE DAY THEY WILL BECOME THE ENGINEERS OF THE FUTURE."

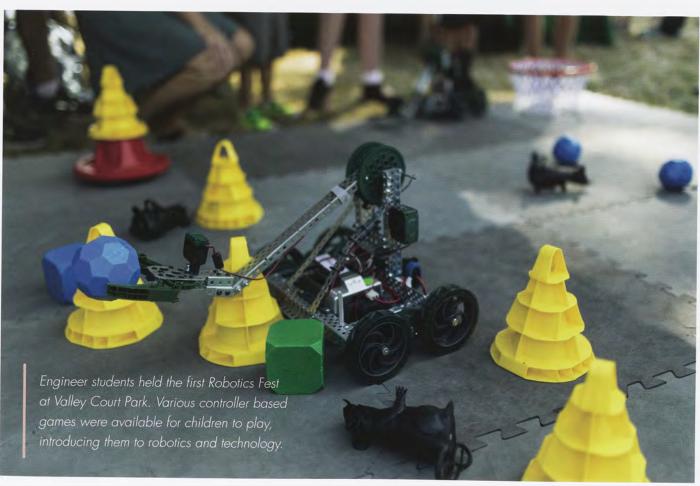
"Everyone plays with Legos when they're a kid," said Robert Watson, who handled the summer youth robotics programs for Future Engineers, FIRST LEGO League and Vex Robotics. "We encourage them to play with them together."

Watson said that these events, along with the summer programs he was in charge of, were like the "gateway" for learning science, technology, engineering and math.

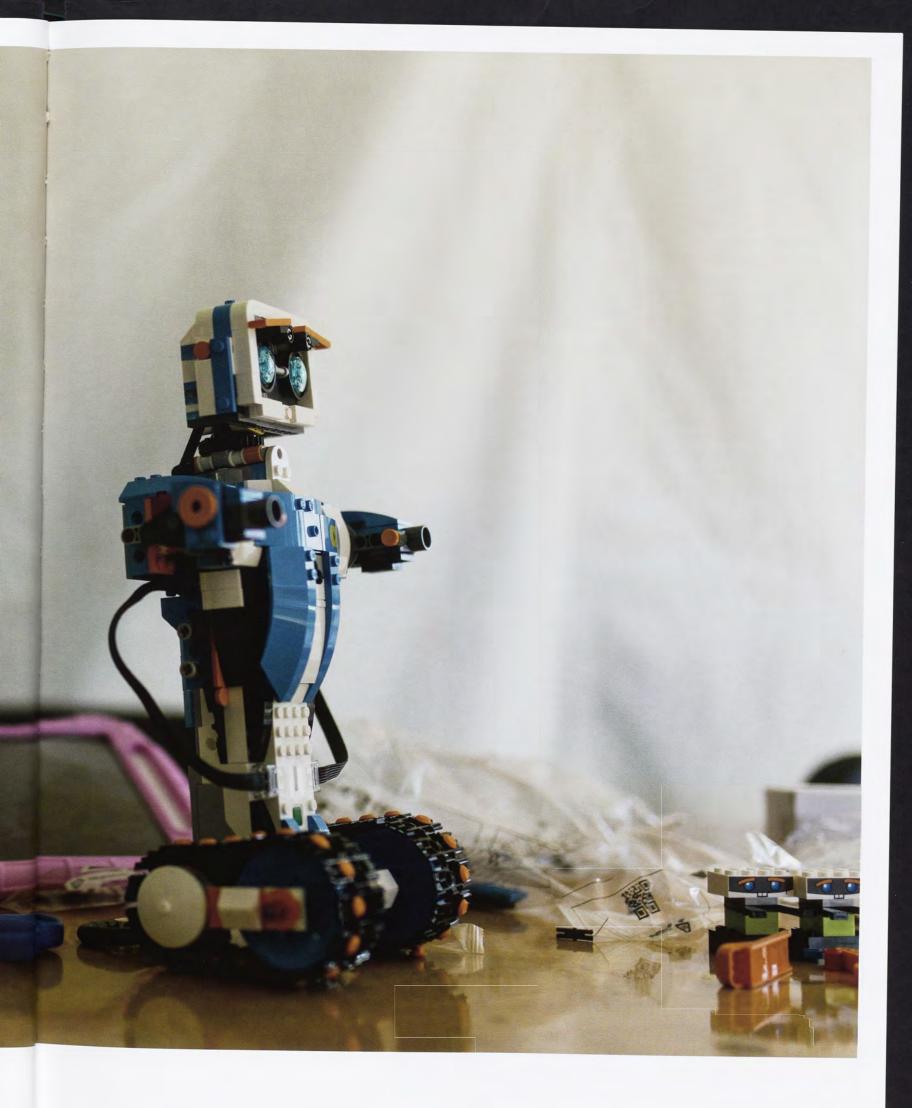
"My son went to a robotics camp when he was nine," said Watson. "He is 20 years old now, still doing robotics at Michigan State University and helping teach the camps in the summer. I also have four grandkids in the classes. I am passionate."

As laughing children discovered new possibilities, they were fueled by their curiosity. There was often the sound of an excited "woah" as a child unlocked his or her understanding of something new and imaginitive. Despite it being the first Robotics Festl in East Lansing, the community didn't hesitate to show its enthusiasm and support, paving the way for great robotics opportunities for the engineers of the future.





Using LEGOs, tablets, and other toys, engineering students hosted a day of learning and fun for the community.



Hungy?

Student hunger fix-"freaky fast"

Whether it's sprinting down M.A.C. Avenue delivering Jimmy John's subs to the impatient young ladies going through recruitment on sorority house lawns, driving down Grand River Avenue to deliver Cottage Inn or rushing Insomnia Cookies to all the "insomniacs" in the dorms—student workers were the main source of campus food delivery.

Jake Pawloski, senior media and information major, was employed at Jimmy John's on Grand River Avenue for the majority of his undergraduate career. Bursting with delivery stories, a "Freaky Fast" attitude and humorous experiences, he looked back on his time as a "delivery boy" with a love/hate mentality.

"I would stand around the store for at most three minutes, get thrown a bag and shouted the name of an address, and I got so good at knowing our delivery zones that I never had to map anything out in the car," said Pawloski. "Jimmy John's is doing the campus a service staying open that late, though. I swear, like half of the time people order food and then just cash out and are sleeping by the time you get there. Kind of funny, kind of not."

Charlie Talaga, a sophomore actuarial science major, had been a worker in the Brody Square dining hall for some time, but was hoping for a change of scenery: driving around campus in a Jimmy John's-certified car.

"Food delivering sounds much more appealing than cafeteria work because not only would I get a ton of time to myself driving from point A to point B, but I would get to interact with people all over campus that are grateful to hear the doorbell ring and see me," said Talaga. "Also, the employee discount would be put to great use."

One of the busiest times for the sub shop was undoubtedly sorority formal recruitment season. The potential new members were sitting out on sorority lawns, ordering subs between parties. Nina Lombardi, a sophomore kinesiology major and member of Alpha Chi Omega, reflected on her delivery experience during recruitment.

"It was frustrating, honestly, because I was nervous about not getting my Jimmy John's before my next party, and I was getting super antsy," said Lombardi. "[The delivery boy] ended up being late, and my rho gamma had to save it for me while I was in the house. I felt bad watching [the delivery workers] sprint from house to house with tons of sandwich orders, but trust me, I needed it."

Pawloski, being on the other side of the delivery process, felt a little differently. Dashing from door to door, lawn to lawn, and being rushed from house to house, he recalled the recruitment season to be one of the most intense and least rewarding experiences.

"Yeah, recruitment season is rough," said Pawloski.
"Sorority girls want their Jimmy John's, that's a very true fact.
But how do they expect me to know what door to go to? I've never been to a sorority? I just deliver sandwiches? I did my best, though, running around campus."

Regardless of being the deliverer or the deliveree, both sets of students could agree that campus life would have been lessened without the hard work of the student delivery men and women. Whether it was the funny stories or the great food that kept the two sides in good standing through the late arrivals and stressful orders, MSU wouldn't be the same without student delivery—even if it was freaky slow.





Parking Made Easy

Prndl app allows students to park without the hassle

Senior professional writing major Jenna Chapman found another ticket on the windshield of her car after class. Exasperated, she snagged it out from under the windshield wiper and drove home. This was the second one this week, not to mention the other ten this year. If there were more places for students to park, parking illegally might not have been such a common crime.

Parking at MSU was a constant struggle. As the year progressed, more and more students were either late to class or skipped it all together after they circled parking lots countless times looking for a spot, but came up short. Two students who faced this problem decided to take matters into their own hands.

Co-founders of Prndl, Zach Brewer and Drew Piotrowski, created an app that allowed students to park off-campus without the worry of getting a ticket or towed. The app had spots available to rent for short- and long-term parking. In addition, anyone who had an extra space available could make a few dollars by putting them up for rent on the app.

"One day, I was driving around Shaw ramp and couldn't find a spot," said Brewer. "On my way home, I saw all of these open and reserved spots for faculty members or whoever payed a bunch of money to have their own spot. There were no cars there, and then it kind of just clicked. I would pay someone right now if I could just park in their spot."

"I MOST DEFINITELY WOULD USE THE APP IF IT MEANT LESS BIKING, LESS WALKING AND CLOSER PARKING."

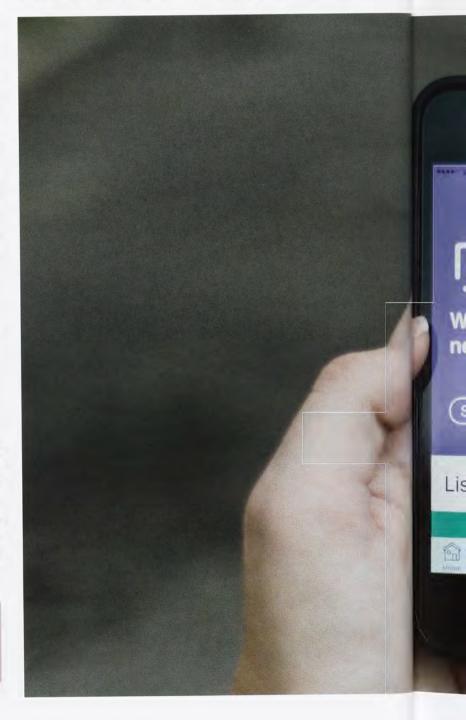
Brewer said that the empty spots were a wasted asset. There were spots all over that were reserved for people who did not always need them. The spaces could be used more efficiently by putting them up on a platform or app. That was how Brewer and Piotrowski developed Prndl.

Paul Jaques, the director of student and community engagement at Spartan Innovations, an organization that supported students starting their own businesses, was among the first to offer support to the student team.

Prndl is an app designed to buy and sell parking spots around East Lansing. The app was created by junior Drew Piotrowski and senior Zach Brewer. "They came in and pitched their idea, and then we walked them through a process: discovery, validation and launch," Jaques said. "They fill out a business model canvas and then we give them resources they need."

After their pitch, the pair worked on finding extra spots to rent out. This meant going door to door, meeting with property owners, churches and facility managers.

It could be extremely expensive and inconvenient for students to park on-campus. Shelby Zeigler, a freshman

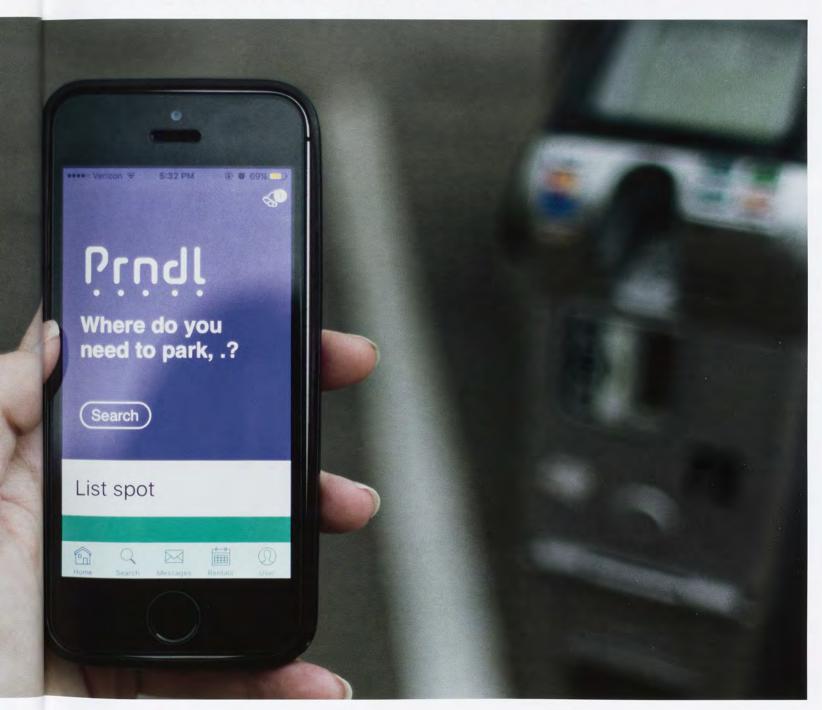


journalism student, said that she drove to campus, parked in commuter Lot 89 and then biked to class. She said it was not difficult to find parking at that lot, but she had not known about the app, and it would have been nice to know where parking spots were closer to class.

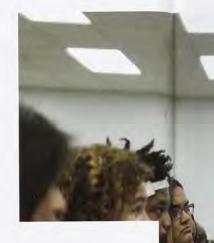
"I most definitely would use the app if it meant less biking, less walking and closer parking," said Zeigler. "I think the idea of this app is genius simply because I think a lot of people park in the lots farther away for the sake of [not] getting their

hopes up that there might be a closer place to park. The app ensures that there is indeed a spot for you, rather than just hoping for the best."

Brewer hopes that after establishing Prndl at MSU, universities around the country will use the app as well. Students will see less tickets on their windshields and they will not have to skip class because of a lack of parking spots. By offering otherwise wasted spots, Prndl had created a solution to students' parking problems.







Speaking to Impact

Dr. Eric Thomas speaks to students after his humbling journey to success

Arms outstretched, chest puffed out and head raised high—these were the behaviors of a man who ate out of trash cans and lived in abandoned buildings, growing up without his biological father. One man was able to overcome these struggles with hard work and diligent effort. That man was Dr. Eric Thomas, ET the Hip-Hop Preacher or ET for short.

With his many titles came his many roles: author, doctor and husband. But the role that left the strongest mark on MSU was his role as a motivational speaker. Every Tuesday for the entire school year, Thomas spoke during his Success Series in the Erickson Kiva.

Thomas began his speaking career by trying to "beat himself." This entailed waking up at 6 a.m. every morning, and eventually pushing himself until he was able to consistently wake up at 3 a.m. and release poor habits, including laziness and procrastination, to get one step above his competitors.

"3 o'clock in the morning is symbolic for me," said Thomas. "Getting up in the morning is really about outhustling, out-grinding and out-working my competition."

After receiving his bachelor's degree from Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama, along with his master's and doctorate from MSU, Thomas wanted to bring the influence that he received from the programs back with him to Detroit.

"It feels good to know that I kept my word," said Thomas. "To see the potential and what you guys can become is like looking at myself when I was a high school dropout and putting myself in that college environment."

Students were engaged by Thomas's fiery and aggressive presentation, as well as inspired by hearing him speak about his experiences and will to succeed.

Dezman Thomas, a sophomore and regular attendee, was drawn by Thomas's authenticity and relatability. It allowed him to know what was being presented was not fiction.

"When I leave the Success Series, I feel good and I feel motivated. It pushes me into next Tuesday and then I'm back,

and then that pushes me into next Tuesday," said Dezman. "So I get a push out of hearing him speak."

The Success Series was a way for Thomas to give back to his alma mater and encourage students to seize the moment and have the "opportunity of a lifetime."

"GETTING UP IN THE MORNING IS REALLY ABOUT OUT-HUSTLING, OUT-GRINDING AND OUT-WORKING MY COMPETITION."

"I don't think he's the type of person to put money over service," said Kailinn Hairston, a junior who had been listening to Thomas for over three years. "He is giving back to where he came from and that's how you stay humble and stay true to who you are, and I think that's really who he is."

Thomas wanted this generation of listeners to get rid of all distractions and make time for personal goals and fulfillments. He discussed how previous generations had to tackle issues that stunted the growth of many and made it harder for some people to become successful.

"You gotta take it," said Thomas. "You can do things in your generation that your ancestors could never do, and I want you to take full advantage of it. I want you to give 120 percent...it's personal things that's stopping us."

Thomas has come a long way. After posting stimulating YouTube videos like "Thank God it's Monday," opening up for songs like "Wins and Losses" by Meek Mill and being the voice for major brands like DICK's Sporting Goods and Goodyear, Thomas is still pushing to be the best; to dominate the playing field, every day at 3 a.m. sharp.







MSU Supports Feminist Studies

Spartan education abroad programs offer windows into feminism, gender and more

lust over 50 years ago, women around the world fought for equal rights, whether in the workplace or in their day-today life. The world is progressing—women are getting closer to being treated equally to men each day. MSU was doing its part for the support of feminist movements and women around the world through programs such as study abroad. One such program, Gender, Sex and Feminism in the U.K., took students to the U.K., where they studied local gendered power dynamics and how these affected life and learning.

Right now is the time, more than ever, for women to come together and demand the respect that is owed to them," said sophomore women's and gender studies major Alyse Holt-Bridge. "We are often overlooked and receiving less respect. That's why I feel feminism is so important in our world."

The program was held for four weeks in the U.K., primarily in the city of London. Students worked with local populations, and strategic research was done to examine the impact of gender dynamics and feminist politics on women.

"We spend about 30 percent of the time in the classroom, but the remainder of the program was spent doing field work in the city," said program director Lucy Thompson. "One of which included the British Psychological Society's prestigious Psychology of Women Section conference in Windsor, which will be celebrating its 30th year. We wanted attendees to have a hands-on experience.

MSU worked to intentionally produce students who were intellectually and internationally engaged with the world. Not all Spartans came from a diverse background, and stepping into a new environment forced students to immerse themselves in new cultural experiences. In turn, this allowed Spartans to teach others about their culture.

MSU offered insurance to all students who decided to study abroad and also had a partnership through ACCENT International, a custom study abroad program provider. ACCENT offices gave students spaces in international cities to come and study, get free maps and tour guides, and have a safe place to rest. MSU was dedicated to making students feel comfortable while traveling abroad.

"While studying in London, I can't recall being fearful at all," said Photo Communication in Europe study abroad returnee lada Fisher. "I honestly felt so safe with the city, and the resources MSU had in the U.K. for us made me feel comfortable enough to explore the city by myself."

The Office for Education Abroad started promoting awareness of the many programs offered early in the fall. On Sept. 28, the annual Education Abroad Expo was held inside the Breslin Center. Following the Expo, informational meetings took place to educate Spartans about the steps to successfully apply to, and attend, their program of choice. Here, they discussed things like saving funds, applying for scholarships and planning ahead.

"RIGHT NOW IS THE TIME. THAT IS OWED TO THEM."

"As a freshman, I have to continue researching, but I know studying abroad is my biggest goal for next summer," said freshman interdisciplinary studies major Ladell Watson.

Studying the lives of women in the U.K. showed Spartans a whole new perspective on issues important to them, one they could not receive at home. In order to uplift women as a whole, Spartans had to step out of their comfort zones and explore the cultures of women around the world. MSU held hundreds of more education abroad programs, all with rare and precious experiences and learning opportunities. At MSU, the campus did not end in East Lansing, but extended around the globe.





A Passion for Public Health

Volunteers help women while finding themselves

The Archive for Research in Child Health (ARCH), founded by Nigel Paneth—a professor of epidemiology and biostatistics and pediatrics—is a research program focused on studying women in the crucial months of pregnancy. Within the program, students were not only helping those in need, but establishing themselves as emerging leaders in the public health realm.

ARCH began utilizing samples taken at prenatal visits, initially used exclusively for standard testing, for more than their sole purpose. Through excess analysis of these seemingly unifunctional specimens, researchers could understand the origins of childhood diseases and abnormalities, stemming from the first months of pregnancy.

"If a parent brings a child to the doctor's office with asthma, with juvenile diabetes, or with problems in learning, and asks the question, 'Why did my child get this disease?' the answer, 99 percent of the time, is 'I don't know,'" said Paneth.

Paneth's main reason for creating this program was to alter that response. He believed the added information ARCH's analysis provided would aid in revealing the origins of many childhood health conditions. This would ultimately give doctors the ability to remedy many harmful exposures causing development issues in the crucial months of pregnancy.

The program progressed steadily with help from undergraduate volunteers and colleagues, such as Shelby Atkinson, the follow-up coordinator for the project who graduated from MSU in 2016 with a dual degree in human biology and genomics in molecular genetics. She is now working on gaining her master's in public health. Atkinson got involved with the project as an undergraduate student, enrolling interested women as project subjects.

She was hired into the program in 2014—due to her work as an undergraduate volunteer—and has been directly involved with the project on a much larger scale ever since. She watched as the program grew from the Lansing community to now reach hundreds of women across the state. ARCH had nearly 11,000 women in the program, and volunteers worked to store information regarding women's pregnancies and stay in contact with them annually through phone calls

and check-ins until the child turned 10 years old.

"Working with the volunteers is what I really love," said Atkinson. "I started as one of the volunteers, so I've seen how getting involved with this project can really help you grow. I had every intention of going to medical school, but after getting involved here, I took an interest in public health and it totally changed the trajectory of my schooling, and eventually my life. There was something about dealing with human subjects that really spoke to me—something about helping these women throughout their pregnancy."

"I HAD EVERY INTENTION OF GOING TO MEDICAL SCHOOL, BUT AFTER GETTING INVOLVED HERE, IT TOTALLY CHANGED THE TRAJECTORY OF MY SCHOOLING AND EVENTUALLY MY LIFE."

Breanna Kornatowski, a senior human biology major and an undergraduate volunteer for the program, awake to a similar passion. She gained a position volunteering with ARCH in 2015 and found excitement in empowering the public through her research and newsletters she produced about the program and women involved.

"Because of how passionate I have become about public health through ARCH, I want to ultimately complete a medicine and public health dual degree or even a doctorate/master's program in public health when I graduate," said Kornatowski.

Not only was ARCH helping women, children and researchers understand the underlying issues behind childhood disease, but the program sparked an interest in volunteers and colleagues alike. To be passionate about your work, and to feel that it matters, is something MSU students strive to maintain, and for these members of ARCH, they found it right on campus.





Why Pay for a **Parking Ticket?**

Improving the Lansing environment one trip at a time

MSU's campus, as a whole, covered about 5,200 acres of land. Now, imagine going from point A to point B without the use of a moped or car, even in the cold month of December. Students and faculty were doing just that during fall and winter as they competed by "Going Green" in the most genuine and literal way possible.

The MSU Fall Green Commuter Challenge urged Spartans to save their money and take more environmentally savvy transportation methods to class, work and home. This competition, the first of its kind on campus, was hosted by CATA Clean Commute Options and the MSU Bikes Service Center.

So, yes, walking and biking were not the only suitable forms of transportation—taking the bus and carpooling with friends and family were also registered as environmentally green ways of travel. By tracking their trips through a creative website and app, competitors not only had the opportunity to win cash and gift card prizes, but they could also observe how many calories they were burning, how much money they were saving and even the amount of carbon dioxide they were conserving through their clean commutes.

Though this was his first time getting involved in a universitywide competition to go green, Tim Potter, the sustainable transportation manager at the MSU Bikes Service Center, facilitated much of the contest. Stemming from his childhood, when he would bike 10 miles to school every day, ecological travel is something Potter lived out in his daily life. Continuing to bike to work and meetings whenever capable - sometimes even in the snow—it was clear he was truly fervent in the field of clean commuting.

"When I realized the strong legs I'd gotten from biking everyday, my brothers and I started bike racing," said Potter. "I met my wife through bikes and bike racing, so it's been a big part of my life since I can remember. I had a bike shop in my parents' basement when I was in high school, and then I worked for several different bike shops throughout the years. Now, I'm here at MSU still doing what I love, what I grew up doing. So yeah, I'd say I'm passionate about this competition."

Potter worked alongside Chloe White, the clean commute

options program coordinator at CATA. Her involvement with MSU made her the Lansing representative and lead organizer of the challenge.

'Our role is to improve the greater Lansing area's air quality," said White. "We do that by focusing in on traffic congestion. It's all about taking cars off the road and trying to convince people not to drive themselves to work or school everyday, because a number of years ago the state government determined that our area's air quality had failed it was very poor. Initiatives were put in place in our region providing CATA with grant dollars, so the whole goal, really, is to improve Lansing's air quality for our own public health."

It was not only faculty and Lansing residents who were living out this challenge. Students saw that even a bike ride in the rain had more upside than driving a car and leaving it sitting in the parking lot, just waiting on PACE, the Parking and Code Enforcement in East Lansing, to crack down.

"I don't have a car on campus, so I ride my bike everywhere I need to go, whether it's one mile away or ten," said Aaron Pekrul, a sophomore mechanical engineering student and MSU Bikes Service Center employee. "My bike costs me less than a hundredth of some cars here at MSU, and it's more eco-friendly and, in some cases on campus, quicker and more practical. Hopefully the Fall Green Commuter Challenge will encourage more people to take their bike instead of a car."

"I DON'T HAVE A CAR ON CAMPUS. SO I RIDE MY BIKE EVERYWHERE I NEED TO GO. WHETHER IT MILE AWAY OR TEN."

Whether it was walking, biking or busing, the Fall Green Commuter Challenge had ways for every student to get involved, giving them the satisfaction of knowing they were helping the planet, as well as their wallet. In turn, the conservationists got to use that money on something they loved, rather than using it to pay off another parking ticket.





Real Lives of the Resident Assistants

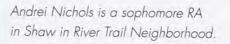
A closer look at the missions of resident assistants and the impact they have on students

While many upperclassmen move off campus to live with friends in houses and apartments, resident assistants, or RAs, remained on campus, choosing to make an impact within the Spartan community. Although resident assistants received free room and board, this was no easy job while being a full-time student. The responsibilities that Spartans take on while being resident assistants were often more intense than a typical,

part-time, on-campus job.

Amir Butler, who was a junior at MSU double majoring in the arts and humanities and apparel and textile design, dedicated most of her time outside of the classroom to her residents. She was an resident assistant, but more importantly to her residents, Butler was a friend.

"I recently supported Amir on her new showcase for her





clothing brand, Soreem, and it was amazing," said Amber Chambers, sophomore advertising student and resident of Butler's. "She has been a great support system for me and we encourage each other. We are both learning and we relate in a lot of ways, so it's nice to push through things with someone and just be there for each other."

Butler started her own weave, eyelash and clothing line within the last year, and she knew that her time was already consumed. Despite this, she still recognized that being a resident assistant could help her develop more as a student leader and help her maximize her experience as a Spartan.

"My decision to become an RA was brought about simply from my passion for helping people," said Butler. "I felt like I didn't have a lot of help coming into my freshman year here; I was very lost and homesick. I knew a community leader like myself could serve graciously to help residents seek resources and to know that you're not alone on this huge campus."

Resident assistants are often known as upperclassmen who are acclimated to campus and can share many

experiences with on-campus residents. Sophomore Andrei Nichols applied to be a resident assistant his freshman year, and as a sophomore he was offered the position in River Trail Neighborhood. Nichols graduated from Renaissance High School in Detroit in June 2016, which was when his student leadership roles began. Nichols started his own mentoring organization, Suits for Success, while at Renaissance.

"Mentorship is my calling and it is what I am destined to do," said Nichols. "That's why I knew I would love my position as an RA, but being that I am a CEO of a nonprofit, it can become hard juggling both very time-consuming positions. This is my passion, though, and I am willing to go sleepless making sure I maximize out both opportunities."

The resident assistants assisted in supporting the Spartan community and made sure students had a friend in the residence halls. They were expected to provide strategies for multicultural development, learning, character building, community development and personal well-being.

"The RA is the leader and disciplinarian of the floor. Without him or her, the floor would devolve into chaos," said Chris Blake, freshman political science major and a resident on Nichols' floor. "Andrei does a great job of asserting authority while also being extremely friendly and interested in each of us while we lived on his floor.

"MY DECISION TO BECOME AN RA WAS BROUGHT ABOUT SIMPLY FROM MY PASSION FOR HELPING PEOPLE."

Nichols' residents praised not only his kindness, but his ability to mentor and lead students to greatness. He exceeded expectations by using his experiences as a student to guide those struggling. His door was always open.

"Andrei, from day one, has made it known that he's always there to talk, which I believe is very important for students to know," said Nick Schooley, sophomore and resident on Nichols' floor. "I'm also a business student like Andrei, and having him as an RA has been very helpful because I can ask him questions on classes as well as about resources to help me achieve my goals as a business student."

Resident assistants played a significant role in Spartans' experiences on campus, sometimes even becoming freshman students' first friends at MSU. Butler and Nichols were two students who strategically changed lives through this position. The resident assistant life was not for everyone, but for them there was nothing else they'd rather do.



Botanical's Best

Hyping Horticulture History

"He is fascinating, isn't he?" whispered an audience member to her friend, captivated by the man at the head of the group. As he took each step, the man surveyed his arena with a quiet comfortability that could only come through a true familiarity with a place. Every breath he took to pause carried the engaging silence of what he might utter next. That was Peter Carrington.

Carrington was the assistant curator of the W.J. Beal Botanical Garden and served to be the most interesting edible plants, giant hogweed, and toxic plants specialist at MSU. Nothing less than an expert, he had been teaching edible and toxic plants for 39 years.

"I thought the tour was fantastic," said Drew Vandegrift, a horticulture graduate student at MSU. "He was inspirational. I had no idea corn was such an important crop. What a great way to share his love for plants."

Vandegrift had the opportunity to go to Carrington's last talk of the fall season on Oct. 12. Hosted by the MSU Library Environmental Committee, this was the eighth year the tours had been sponsored by the organization; Carrington had been doing six to seven tours a year ever since.

"I am very much a person who likes to teach," said Carrington. "I love seeing people's faces light up when they make a connection or find out something new about the universe."

Outside of the garden tours he hosted by the MSU Library Environmental Committee, Carrington offered tours of the W.I. Beal Botanical Garden to his own classes, the University of Michigan, McLaren Hospital and MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine.



Carrington strongly believed in the importance of having wilderness survival knowledge and the ability to distinguish which plants were edible with firsthand knowledge. He said that "nature is not like a grocery store," that "you cannot graze your way through and expect to be fine."

"I had to learn edible plants or die," said Carrington.
"I was so surprised by how well I could survive that I decided to teach it. There are no extra credit points for not identifying a plant."

On top of his vast knowledge of plant history and biology, Carrington was known for his jokes. He was a whiz at making his audience laugh, chuckle and even chortle. He was never out of clever anecdotes that could help audience members apply what they were learning.

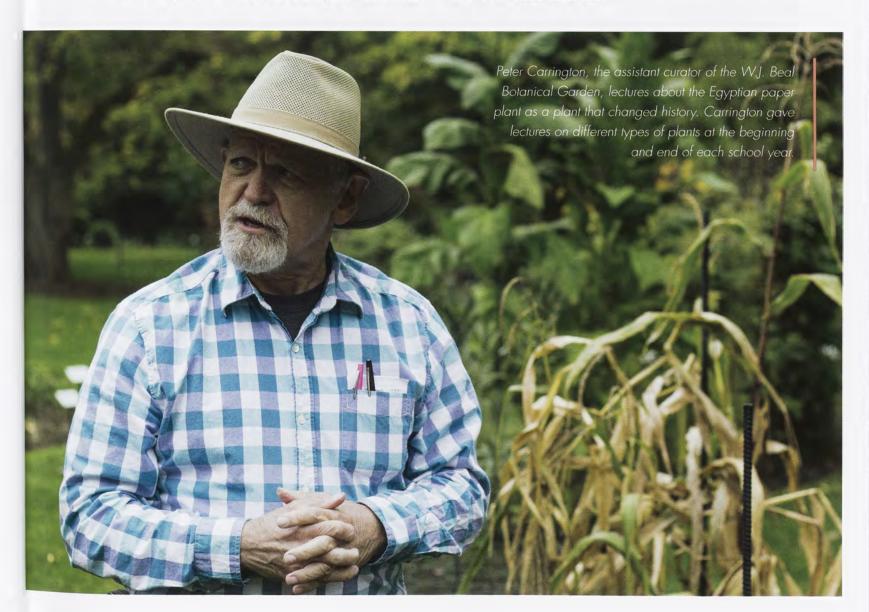
"I've always liked humor," said Carrington. "Sometimes it

helps to be a little more attached to the information. Plus, life is too short!"

Carrington was right—humor helped his tour attendees become attached to what they were learning and it kept them coming back. Carolyn White met Carrington several years before the tour on a hiking trip, and she showed up to nearly every tour thereafter.

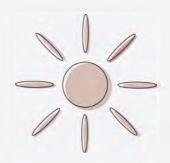
"He's the most knowledgeable person in the world!" White exclaimed.

The grinning crowd listened attentively to Carrington as he explained the origin of papyrus—the first successful paper used to record history—and the backdrop of the gray day existed in perfect contrast with his beaming energy. As he captured each story, the clouds seemed to almost lighten up above him, Botanical's best.









A Solar Challenge

Students promote sustainable energy and build a one-of-a-kind solar car

A boy sat on his dad's shoulders, high above the people around him. Gripping onto his dad's forehead so he didn't fall, he saw the start of the parade coming down the street. With wide eyes and a huge smile, he watched as floats and cars passed by. "Dad!" he yelled. "Look! What is that?"

A large, metallic-looking car drove by, with the sun shining off of it and people waving from inside. The boy didn't know what was on top. The boy's dad explained that those were solar panels and that the car was built by the MSU Solar Racing Team.

The solar car was featured in the homecoming parade in October. Sandra Kue, junior and social media chair of the solar racing team, said the car was supposed to be ready for the parade two years ago, but it died before the team made it to their place in line. However, after years of hard work, the team was finally prepared to show the car.

Building the car was not easy; it took years to design, construct and find sponsors. The team started building in 2000 after receiving funding from the College of Engineering, but it struggled to find success until the first car was built in 2007. The car featured in the parade was almost finished in 2014; however, it was not completely finished, and the team continued to make improvements. In October, the design process for a new car had begun, and it was expected to be complete by early 2019.

"The solar car team provides hands-on experience to students in engineering and entrepreneurship," said junior Michael Mazza, solar racing team business team leader. "It's an experience you can't get elsewhere because you see the product development and the entire scope of what a business does. Secondly, it raises awareness about alternative energies and being environmentally sustainable."

The MSU Solar Racing Team consisted of a business team, which worked primarily on marketing and fundraising, and mechanical and electrical teams. Greg Stark, junior and

president of the MSU Solar Racing Team, said they were able to take parts from older cars and use their components. For a majority of the parts though, they had to fundraise money.

"IT RAISES AWARENESS ABOUT ALTERNATIVE ENERGIES AND BEING ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE,"

"I think we are aiming for over \$100,000," Kue said. "Fundraising is a big part of it... it's a solar car and we are building it from scratch."

The team didn't stop at building the car—they also used it to compete against other universities. Most of the races were held in the spring and summer, when universities from around the country came together. This gave the team a chance to meet other people who were just as passionate about racing and sustainable energy, and to see how they built their cars.

"My favorite thing was from this past summer when we went down to Austin, Texas, for the Formula Sun Grand Prix, our national competition," Stark said. "There were about 12 of us, and it was stressful because we were working on the car late at night. But the last day when we got the car running and doing laps—it was a really fun experience."

With only about 50 people on the MSU Solar Racing Team, the members hoped that driving the car in the parade would not only allow the public to find out more about the club, but that it would open people's eyes to renewable energies and solar power. To the little boy sitting on his dad's shoulders, it was a big, shiny car, but to the students who designed, built, and drove it, the car was much more than that—it was a way to improve sustainability.



A Fresh Perspective

MSU senior runs for office

Aaron Stephens had always been involved. In high school, he worked on a project that created a realistic video for suicide and drug awareness to truly connect with students, something the stereotypical and impractical videos shown in high school assemblies failed to do. In college, he's been involved in as many political campaigns and groups as possible: He's spent time in the House of Representatives,

volunteered for the Bernie Sanders presidential campaign, worked for the Hillary Clinton presidential campaign and spoken at many social rallies on campus. In 2017, he ran for office.

"I've always believed that a life of public service is the life for me," said Stephens, a political science pre-law senior. "I think it is the best way to dedicate your life. I want to give



back to the community that gave so much to me."

Stephens was one of three people running for two city council seats in the city of East Lansing. Political science by major and political organizer by trade, Stephens had cultivated strong opinions on the importance of local politics and believed that East Lansing was the place for positive change.

"Local politics is important because when you see something that you want to fix, you don't have to convince an entire representative body; you have to convince maybe two people," Stephens said. "East Lansing is a community in which...there are resources and you can get things done, and I love that."

Despite having extensive experience in politics, Stephens still needed the endorsements of others to help make his campaign successful. One of these critical endorsements came from State Representative Sam Singh. Singh began his political career within the East Lansing City Council and became a Michigan House Representative.

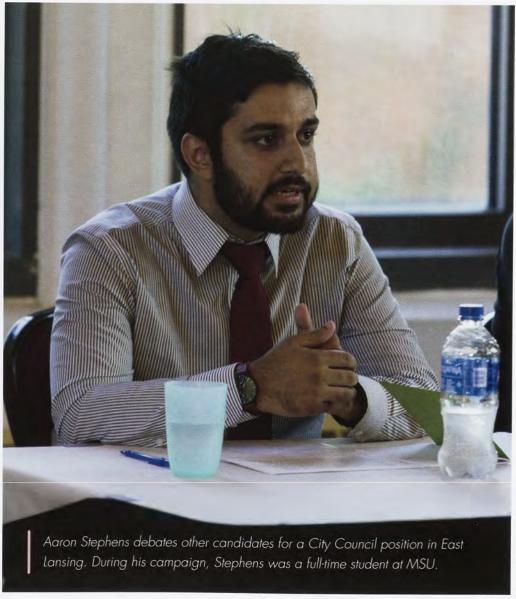
"I met Aaron two years ago during the beginning of his college career and got the opportunity to work with him during Hillary Clinton's campaign for president," Singh said in a press release. "He is a bright, fresh voice, and after hearing his plan for our city, I am proud to endorse him for East Lansing City Council."

Not only did Stephens get critical endorsements from politicians, he also gained the support of locals, including Ingham County commissioners and a member of the East Lansing school board. On the night of the election, 50 people gathered at HopCat to watch the votes roll in.

"Not often do we see someone our age running for office," senior journalism major Laina Stebbins said. "It's amazing to see that Aaron has a competitive chance right now."

The watch party at HopCat soon realized that they had more to celebrate than simply Stephens' chance: They got to celebrate his official election onto the East Lansing City Council. Stephens took 3,042 votes, beating incumbent Susan Woods by 333 points. Stephens' underdog election halted political normalcy and would forever live on as an example of what could be accomplished when someone gives it their all.





Passion for Fashion

Senior Emily Bankes wins a trip to New York Fashion Week





She was 22, but wait—only 22 years old? Emily Bankes, an apparel and textile design senior, won a trip to New York Fashion Week through MSU's first-ever Spartan Fashion Design Collection Competition. Her journey started in elementary school when her parents purchased her a Barbie sewing machine and carried on into high school when she received her first electronic sewing machine. She developed her talents, stayed dedicated and her fashion dreams turned into reality.

"I first fell in love with fashion in high school," said Bankes. "I had a really amazing teacher who introduced me to the field and taught me to really love and appreciate so many different things about it."

When she joined the Spartan family, she was originally enrolled as a pre-med student, but her passion for fashion interfered with her medical studies. Bankes took classes in the apparel and textile design program, but she only took these courses for fun. As a junior, she enrolled into the apparel and textile design major and committed completely to her dreams of being a designer.

The opportunity to attend New York Fashion Week was not easily given. New York Fashion Week was invite only, and MSU, partnered with WME IMG, a global leader in entertainment, sports and fashion media, hosted a contest that would grant only two Spartans an invitation.

"As her instructor in courses, and as a mentor throughout this competition, I was continually impressed with Emily's ability to both take direction, but also show ingenuity," said Rebecca Schuiling, apparel and textile design professor and academic specialist.

Bankes turned in 11 sketches and then created her final piece, a Spartan dress made of fleece, poplin and tulle. She chose to center her piece around the alma mater, MSU

Shadows, incorporating subtle Spartan logos and colors into the white skirt, as well as a bold green top decorated with helmet logos and the classic words "Go Green, Go White."

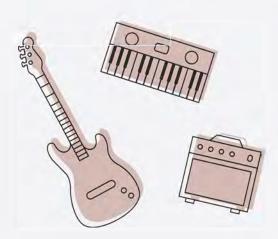
"During the whole process, I ended up creating enough pieces to make three whole garments, but then worked really hard and decisively to create one final piece," said Bankes.

The apparel and textile design program was centered around the idea that if you could push the limits of your creativity with innovative design, then you could use that level of creativity and apply it to any area within fashion design. Although the apparel and textile design program was smaller than many other programs at MSU, that didn't slow down Bankes or her aspirations.

"...I WAS CONTINUALLY IMPRESSED WITH EMILY'S ABILITY TO BOTH TAKE DIRECTION, BUT ALSO SHOW INGENUITY."

"The apparel and textile design professors work very close with us and this is why students produce so many success stories like Emily," said apparel and textile design sophomore Tiffanie Quinn. "We receive so much support and this is why I love my major."

Emily Bankes left a shining legacy with her accomplishment, showing up-and-coming designers that their dreams were possible. Her peers were sure success was within her reach. Bankes showed the true meaning of MSU's famous saying, Spartans Will, with her collection.



Festive Philanthropy

Charity music festival brings opportunity for local bands

Five years ago, Young Pioneer started as a punk rock band trying to make it big. Since then, the band has followed the mainstream pop route, gone on tour and pushed themselves to make it as professionals.

This past fall, the band had the opportunity to debut some of its new music at the third annual East By East Lansing Charity Festival (EXEL). Founders of EXEL, Austin Pabian and Lee Cleaveland, followed the band on Instagram and asked them to play at the festival.

"We are working on our new record," Jonny Walker, member of Young Pioneer, said. "We are getting ready to put it out along with a new music video, so, we've got some cool new things coming up. A lot of what we play at the show will be on that record."

All of the bands at the festival were gathered from cities around Michigan. Pabian, an MSU graduate, and Cleaveland, a senior theatre major, tracked down bands they wanted and attended their shows to ask them to play at EXEL. None of the bands were paid; they all donated their time and talents to the cause. One hundred percent of the proceeds from the festival went to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Michigan and the Capital Area Humane Society.

Pabian came up with the idea for a music festival on campus in 2015. Though there had been concerts sponsored by the University Activities Board in the past, nothing like EXEL had ever occurred at MSU. At the time, Pabian said he couldn't get any support for it, so he went to Cleaveland, who was immediately on board. Cleaveland decided to make it into a philanthropy event for Phi Kappa Sigma, the fraternity they both were members of.

"I am pretty active in the Lansing and Detroit music scene," said Cleaveland. "So I just kinda asked a few of my

buddies and said, 'Hey, you want to play a set or two?' We booked the space at [the MSU Summer Circle Theatre] and we kinda just went for it."

Cleaveland and Pabian were the only two planning everything the first year. It was a total flop. They "ran around like chickens with their heads cut off," trying to figure out how to run the event. However, they knew it was not going to take off the first year, and they saw it as an opportunity to grow.

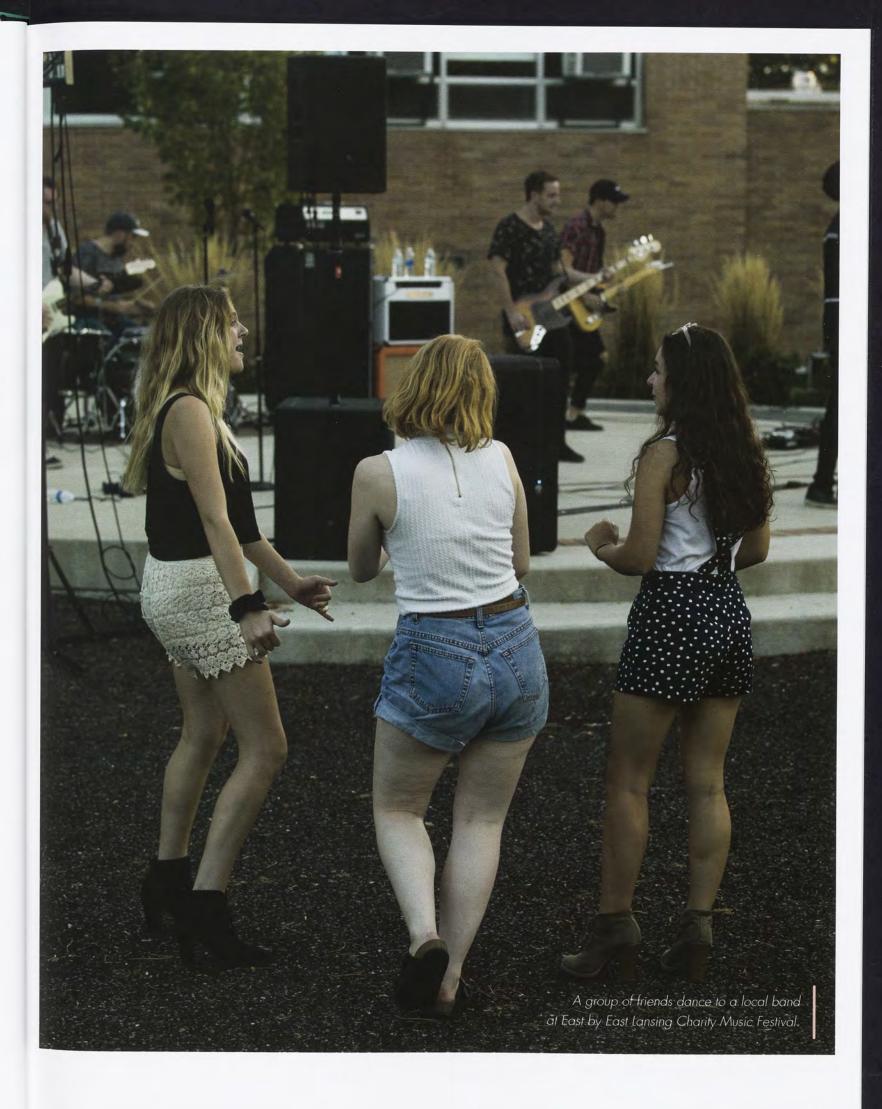
Fifth-year senior Riley Bruen came out to the event this year to support Pabian, her roommate. While Bruen went to support Pabian, she was also there to just listen to the music. She was very impressed with how the event turned out.

"We never have anything like this on campus," Bruen said. "Nothing with live music or something similar."

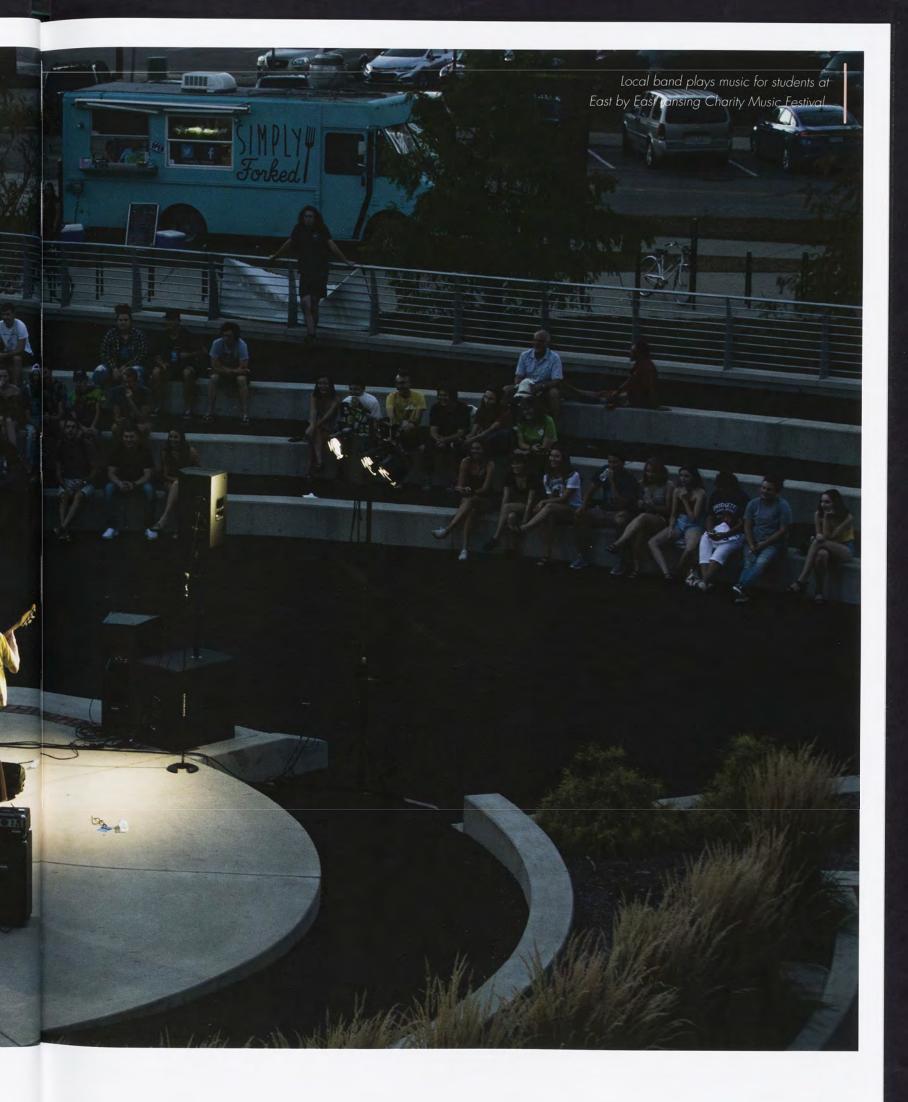
Aside from the music, the festival featured Simply Forked, (a food truck from Lansing), the MSU Dairy Store, raffle items, Insomnia Cookies and Monster Energy. The music festival also encouraged local student artists to set up their displays. The big selling point for many students was the Capital Area Humane Society of Lansing, who brought pets available for adoption.

"You obviously can't just walk into the venue, sign some papers and take home a pet," Pabian said. "But it's good local awareness, especially with college kids, to kind of promote that adopt, don't shop mentality."

EXEL was the perfect event for bands to get exposure, artists to debut their work and for students to come together for a worthy cause. In the next five years or so, Cleaveland said it would be interesting to see another stage, more business involvement and to have the ability to shut campus down for a weekend. This event could be an annual staple of MSU's culture in the coming years.









Interior Designer... Outdoors

Not just a bridge, but a collaborative art project

A student took another dreary walk to the library, dreading the coming hours of studying and flipping through textbooks. Upon arrival to the bridge, however, the student stopped. He noticed that the railings had been renewed—a metallic shine and unique design covered the once-iron-ridden barricades.

It was the month of October, and the bridge had been brought to life, all thanks to Gavin Kata.

Kata, a senior interior design major, was particularly

responsible for the change in the MSU bridge between Spartan Stadium and the Main Library. The art department turned the university's plan to fix up the bridge into an art showcase, where students could compete to have their works be applied to the new creation. Kata was announced the winner, putting his works on display for the entire campus to see, and giving life to the railings above and the river below.

Having initially submitted panels that didn't completely



follow the contest's instructions, Kata didn't expect to receive a call that he'd won first place. When he did, he was shocked.

"I was blown away," said Kata. "It was a great feeling that they looked past the fact that I didn't totally design my work to their specific guidelines, because I didn't get that information until the last minute. So, I just sent my panels in as is, and I really kind of thought there was no shot."

Art Nouveau was one of Kata's favorite design styles. It takes art forms found in nature and channels them into abstract motifs, and it was the artistic approach Kata took when creating the panels for the bridge. He constructed a piece heavily influenced by nature—a whimsical look of the four seasons. Kata's hope was that the bridge would convey a kind of story, which was his artistic goal.

"The best thing I've learned from Gavin is you don't need to talk about your own qualities; you express it through your work," said Ana Rovai, a friend of Kata's and fellow senior interior design major. "Although I've gotten to know him very well as a classmate and friend throughout

our program, Gavin expresses who he truly is through his innovative designs—both welcoming and talented."

April Allen, an assistant professor of interior design at MSU who proved influential to Kata's art and designing abilities, worked closely with him throughout his years in the interior design program. From foundational studies to a trip abroad to Italy and Spain, Allen was right by his side.

"He has proven himself to be a capable, creative, conscientious student," said Allen. "I was honored to learn that his inspiration for the bridge design was based on the Art Nouveau style from my History of Interiors class. We expect to see great things from Gavin in the future as he begins his career while leaving his legacy of the bridge at MSU."

The bridge, enduring boundless foot traffic each day, stood tall and strong as it radiated—day and night—with its newfound allure. Whether it was a trip to Spartan Stadium on game day or an academic on his or her way to the library, the make-shift canvas surrounding the fans and students did not go unnoticed.



Reconciling Race through Religion

MSU Project 1:17

It was a calm Thursday night at The Rock as people began gravitating into pairs, talking with one another and sharing their thoughtful spirits. Slowly but surely the smiling, laughing and hugging of a few turned into ten, which turned into twenty, which turned into thirty. Then the group formed a giant circle and the clapping started. Bodies swayed and voices sung "Lord I Lift Your Name on High." Harmonies blended and carried out onto Farm Lane as pedestrians began to watch and even join in the reconciling of race.

Named after Isaiah 1:17, MSU Project 1:17 aimed to be an example of what the world should be, rather than protest what the world was. Isaiah 1:17 says, "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow." That spirit was just what Rachel Nanzer wanted to capture at the event.

"It's teamwork makes the dream work," said Rachel Nanzer, a senior professional writing major responsible for organizing the event. "I kind of had this idea last year to try and create some sort of movement on campus for Christians to show love and to have unity [with] different identities, because when people that are diverse...are together, it shows the power of God's love."

Jelani Mathews, sophomore and president of the MSU Gospel Choir, was excited to help Nanzer with the movement. Mathews organized the choir to start the evening with a few soulful hymns. He observed that when people are like-minded and they actually want to do the same thing, it makes for a brighter outlook on life.

"Last year...there was a lot of turmoil going on with a lot of different protests, and one thing that was really challenging was the Christian community," Mathews said. "It was all just a disarray of a bunch of stuff. I think this is a really good way to funnel just straight love."

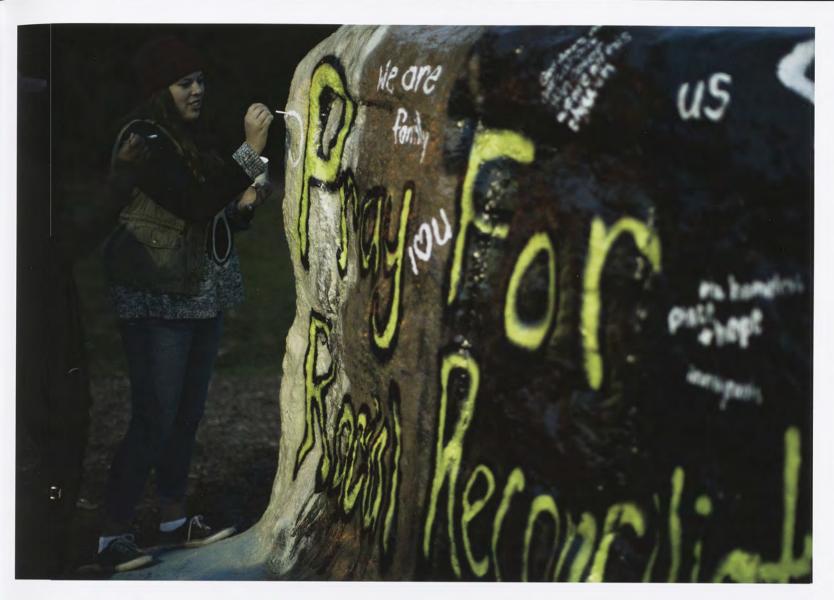
Tony Chen practiced at Cutting Edge Ministry, a nondenominational church in Lansing that taught through discipleship, seeking to make sure that everyone felt included and had a purpose. As an intercultural aide, Chen said that his goal was to be a leader and show people through example how to exchange ideas, talk about their differences and make positive connections with others. He had never done worship at The Rock before.

"Over here, it's a little bit smaller, but honestly, I love that," Chen said of The Rock. "[The prayer] was really, really inspiring. There's a need for unity in our current climate. Politics has played a huge role in the division on campus, so how do we reconcile people of different thoughts, backgrounds and beliefs? Especially as Christians, we know that we have brothers and sisters from different countries, ethnicities, talents and thoughts. We are really diverse, but we're also very separated. We are not as unified as we should be, so that's something that we're trying to work on."

"WE ARE REALLY DIVERSE, BUT WE'RE ALSO VERY SEPARATED. WE ARE NOT AS UNIFIED AS WE SHOULD BE, SO THAT'S SOMETHING THAT WE'RE TRYING TO WORK ON."

Reconciliation is the restoration of friendly relations. It's the daily gestures of goodwill to those who look like they are in need of a little comfort. It's picturing the world as it might be and holding people close no matter where they come from.

The collective group of diverse students gathered as brothers and sisters. With closed eyes and bowed heads, they lifted each other's spirits through prayer, shivering together in the chilly wind. They let their voices out to God for the entire campus to hear in an attempt to strengthen the bonds of racial fellowship on campus, something truly needed at a time of political strife.







Witches, Pumpkins and Ghosts, Oh My!

Greek community event provides safe environment for trick-or-treating

A tiny princess ran up to the table and held up her basket. The older girl standing there smiled at her as she dropped a piece of candy into the girl's waiting basket. The pint-sized princess said, "thank you," turned and ran off to the next table. Little boys and girls dressed in their favorite costumes walked down M.A.C. Avenue with their parents in tow, trying to amass as much candy as they could from the students standing along the road, all while singing along to the Halloween tunes filling the air.

The MSU Greek community put together Safe Halloween on Oct. 26, a free event that gave kids a safe place to trick or treat for the night. Students in each sorority and fraternity, as well as other non-Greek campus organizations, were expected to create kid-friendly games, like candy corn ring toss, mummy race or spooky bag toss, and to pass out candy to kids who passed by. In addition to trick-or-treating, there were other activities and attractions, like face painting, a costume contest, a DJ, and arts and crafts. People could also grab a bite to eat from a variety of food trucks.

Linda Alexander, assistant director of Greek Life, said that this event has been extremely successful for the MSU Greek community. This year, the Greek councils also extended invitations to additional organizations. Nine other groups outside of the Greek community participated, including the MSU Rodeo Club and the Golden Key International Honor Society.

"This event is really a partnership between the city of East Lansing [and MSU Greek Life]," Alexander said. "The fraternity and sorority community is continuing to build relationships with the city and is working to partner with the East Lansing Public Library."

Mark McDonald, a student who helped put the event together, has seen it grow throughout the years. Dating back to the 80's, trick-or-treaters would go in and out of the sorority houses. Since McDonald has been involved, they moved to the street and have added more activities. This year, all of the money raised by the event went to the East Lansing Public Library.

"This is one of the more intimate interactions that Greek Life has with the community and definitely one of the more impressionable events as well," McDonald said. "It's not every day you can come face to face with your neighbors and really share that moment and interact with the kids; it really brings the best part of the communities to light."

The Greek community is overseen by a panhellenic council, and each house has a delegate on the council who takes information and organizes it within his or her house. Julia Loring is the panhellenic delegate for her sorority, Kappa Delta. She organized the decorations, volunteers, shirts and game for her sorority's table. However, it was the council who put the entire event together.

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"It's a staple in East Lansing," Loring said. "It's my favorite event in Greek Life. We do give back all of the time, but I feel like I'm making an impact directly. With this many people in one area, you really feel like you're making a difference. The kids are all smiling and having so much fun."

The pint-sized princess skipped down the street, waved her wand and cast a magical Halloween spell on the mass of people enjoying the Halloween festivities. Trick-or-treating in a college town may not be ideal for young kids. However, during Safe Halloween, kids were able to dress up as whatever they wanted to be for a night—whether it be a princess, a witch or a zombie—play games and eat so much candy that their stomachs hurt.







An Immersive History Lesson

The Gilbert Pavilion and Tom Izzo Hall of History open

Students had almost gotten used to the fences and construction equipment just outside of the Breslin Center. From freshman convocation in the fall to senior graduation in the spring, it stood. Then, as the sight of scaffolding and the sound of heavy machinery started to feel like another part of campus, the construction disappeared. Just before the 2017 basketball season, a new side of the Breslin Center was

revealed, staunchly contradicting the scaffolding. A clean concrete pavilion and glass wall stood proud.

The new additions added 27,000 square feet to the Breslin Center and created a new environment for students and visitors alike. The additions included a trophy room, a new weight room, a recruiter's lounge, an alumni locker room and various updates to the concourse.



"We are privileged for the opportunity to support MSU Athletics and specifically the basketball programs," donors Rick and Suzanne Lasch said in a statement. "The programs, coaches and players have provided our family with many wonderful experiences. The achievements displayed in the Trophy Room are a result of great leadership, effort and sacrifice."

MSU enjoys welcoming back its alumni whenever they return to East Lansing. The addition of the Draymond Greensponsored Alumni Locker Room was meant to do just that, and it's the only locker room of its kind in the country. For many alumni, MSU holds a special place in their hearts, and the locker room gives them the unique chance to reflect on their experiences.

"Michigan State means everything to me," said Draymond Green, a 2012 graduate and former MSU basketball player, in a statement. "I grew up in Saginaw and was lucky enough to attend Michigan State University where Coach Izzo believed in me and gave me the chance to succeed. I want

more kids to have the opportunities I had thanks to Michigan State and want to use this to stimulate all Spartans to give back to the best university in the world."

Not only was the new construction meant to honor alumni, but also Coach Izzo and the teams he had coached so far. In 2017, Izzo had been with the university for 23 seasons, and in 2016 he became a part of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. He's had many players in the NBA draft, and Spartan alumni have played for over 20 NBA teams.

The Izzo Hall of History documents the two decades of service Izzo has given to the university. It has a piece of the NCAA court from 2000, the year MSU won the national championship. It also has pictures of old teams, old uniforms and a count of all the achievements Izzo and his players have earned, as well as Izzo dressed up in Gene Simmons makeup from his famous entrances into the Breslin Center during preseason festivities.

"...THE ACHIEVEMENTS DISPLAYED IN THE TROPHY ROOM ARE A RESULT OF GREAT LEADERSHIP, EFFORT AND SACRIFICE."

"The Hall of History is such an honor," Raquel Izzo, Coach Izzo's daughter, said. "He has been the head coach here for as long as I have been alive. So to see the progression of his time here live forever on the walls of Breslin is unbelievable and a dream come true for us, especially for my brother and I when we get the chance to bring our kids here someday and we get to say, 'Look what grandpa did.'"

The additions to the Breslin Center encompass the rich past that MSU basketball has. They capture the effort amazing athletes have put on the court season after season. The already stunning display of success will only be added to, as teams continue to make history.







Starting with a Blank Canvas

Spartans use their paintbrushes to connect the community

Blues, reds, yellows and colors in between splattered on the ground. Four students stood in front of an expansive board covered with pencil drawings and half-finished paintings. One student painted people of different colors on the left while another student worked on a scene of a river lined with trees on the right. Each image was separate, created by

individual artists, but came together to produce one cohesive mural that hung in East Lansing's Artist Alley.

The mural was created by eight students in a department of art, art history and design study away program during the summer of 2017. Starting in New York, the class visited museums and talked with other artists. From there, they looked



This mural was done by the Michigan State University Department of Art, Art History and Design as a class project. The mural is full of vivid colors and adds to the ambience of Downtown East Lansing.

each student created a collage. Each collage was then moved around until one coherent piece was created. The mural took about two-and-a-half weeks to create.

Richard Tanner, a studio art junior, worked on the mural's depiction of the Broad Museum, the tree and river scene, and the elk in the top right. Tanner said it was hard to create the entire mural because each student had a different style, but while they had different ideas about what should be painted, each student had the same view of what the mural meant.

"It was all about the community [and] making something that was important to all of us here in East Lansing," Tanner said. "It is about the variety that is in East Lansing, cohesion and the different values we hold dear. It is about acceptance of people in the community and everyone being part of one family with many different views."

"IT IS ABOUT THE VARIETY THAT IS IN EAST LANSING, COHESION AND THE DIFFERENT VALUES WE HOLD DEAR"

at public art in Detroit and Grand Rapids and, upon their return, came up with a vision for their mural.

Heather Pope, community development analyst for the East Lansing Downtown Development Authority, said the city was looking for options for additional art in the downtown area. A few summers ago, murals were installed in the Grove Street Alley, also known as Artist Alley. The Downtown Development Authority reached out to the university in September 2016 to discuss having a class create another mural to be installed alongside the other art in the alley.

"The class presented their ideas to a committee," Pope said. "But it was ultimately up to them to come up with the vision. There were some ideas of what the committee was looking for, but it was up to the class to come up with the design."

The students came up with a proposal explaining their goals for the mural, and once their vision was approved,

The students examined the ideals and values of the community and used them as inspiration for the piece. They understood the idea of being part of a family with many different views because each artist had an individualistic work ethic. The best parts of the community were displayed by combining each view and creating a cohesive piece.

"It's about the city and trying to show the nicer sides of the city," said Alyssa Thornton, a studio art senior. "We have all of these other events for people of different ages, kids and older people. It's not just a town of college kids."

Thornton, Tanner and the other students stepped back and looked at the finished piece. From one end to the other, each picture stood for a different value: agriculture, urbanity, morality and sustainability. From paper collages and sketches to the fully painted picture, each artist's contribution, while lost standing alone, came together to form something truly special, giving life not just to the alley, but to the community.

Ready to Rumble

WWE Live returns to MSU's campus

From the big screen to MSU came WWE Live. Lansing locals and students filled the Breslin Center to watch the male and female fighters throw down in various fighling matches. For WWE, the center of the floor was transformed to look just like a boxing ring, accompanied by huge screens, flashing lights and adoring fans.

Students who grew up watching WWE'did not hesitate to come out for the event. Reliving childhood memories was not only a way to reflect on the past, but to simply take a break from the stresses of college life.

"Around middle school is when I started watching wrestling and it was something I really enjoyed," said Christopher Raxton, a senior economics major. "Me and my younger brother used to watch it every Monday, every Friday. We used to have all the action figures and video games. [There were] a lot of wrestling events that came to Georgia, where I used to live in Atlanta, so we went to those

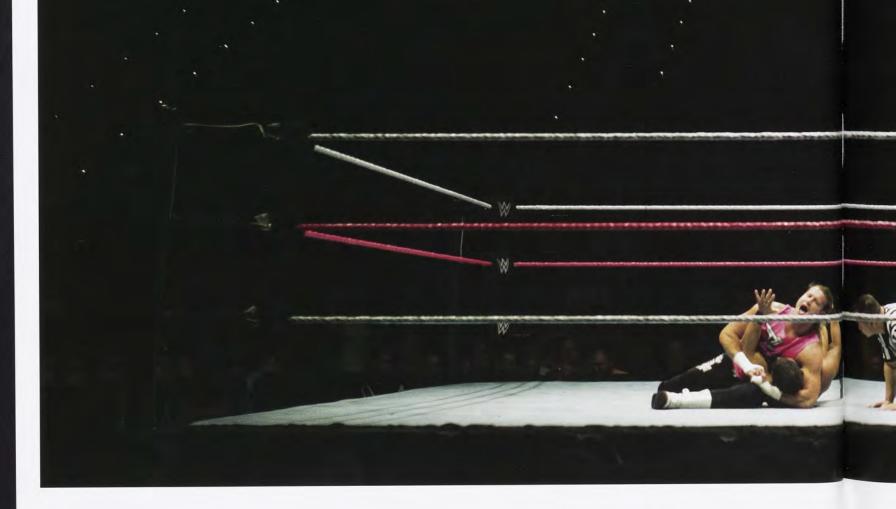
sometimes. So when I saw it coming to East Lansing, I was like, 'might as well.'"

Fourteen fighters showed up and showed out during the event. Kids came with custom-made posters, their own WWE belts and a magnitude of energy to support and represent their favorite fighters.

"It was definitely entertaining just for the fact that I saw a lot of people who I grew up looking to," said Raxton.

WWVE Live may appear to be less aggressive than fights that frequently occur in other major sports and competitions like UFC, but the amount of effort it takes to prepare the shows they perform should not go unnoticed. Students who grew up watching WWVE gave credit to the fighters and what they do.

"Doing all that flipping and all that extra stuff would tire the average person out in five seconds, so it's like it's over the top sometimes," said Raxton. "Even though a lot of it is theatrical, you have to realize that the people doing it are



very athletically talented and inclined, because it takes a lot of talent to do those things and they make it look easy."

Though the pros make all of their wrestling moves look easy to do, there is always a warning to never try those same moves at home, especially without the proper training. Some kids listen while others have to test the waters.

"They tell you not to do it at home, but I used to do it at home with my friends," said Will Agodu, sophomore computer science major. "Me and my friends would have fights and all of the fights were based on wrestling moves. And we would only do signature moves that people do, and we'd place beis on the floor and do wrestling moves off the beds. It was all really fun."

come to MSU's campus, Spartans wanted to take advantage of the experience. Though the event is based on entertaining through wrestling, it was able to captivate a large audience

, and bring friends and family together.

· "My experience was interesting," said Galeb Conley, a sophomore advertising major. "Seeing that I was a child that never watched WWE, I was entertained by something new.",

"THEY TELL YOU NOT TO DO IT AT HOME, BUT I USED TO DO IT AT HOME WITH MY FRIENDS"

What was a new experience for some students was just a trip down memory lane for others. Being a college student Because it had been four years since WWE Live had __ is always more demanding than reverting to the age of six, but simply experiencing WWE Live was enough to want to go back to the "good ole days."



Seniors Step Up

Seniors hope to win a championship and leave their legacy

It was the last point of the game. Senior Abby Monson watched the ball in the air as her teammate set it to senior Autumn Bailey. Bailey jumped and her hand connected hard with the ball, sending it over the net. Monson and Bailey froze, waiting for a reaction from the other team, but the ball slipped past their hands and slammed against the wooden floor. The audience roared, and the MSU volleyball team won their fifth game against Minnesota.

Monson said since she is from Minnesota, getting a win made it her favorite moment as part of the volleyball team. The team had an outstanding season in 2016, with 25 wins and only six losses. For the 2017 season, the women wanted to continue improving. Monson said the team looked at the Big Ten championship first and then after that, the national championship.

"I know as a big group of seniors, we are trying to end very high," Monson said. "I know we have really high expectations this year to end up with a Big Ten championship banner up there [at Jenison Fieldhouse]."

Head coach Cathy George had high expectations for the team in 2017 as well. Players were older and more experienced—able to handle things differently and focus more. However, while the team finished with one of the best overall records the year before, there was more to work on.

"I like to think about us maximizing ourselves and being the best version of us we can be," George said. "For us, we know good things happen if we do our small parts. It's everybody doing their part, fulfilling who they are and how they play and just doing everything to the best of their ability."

The seniors who played their last season, with the Big Ten championship in the back of their minds, worked to end on a high note. That meant getting in the gym every day and working harder than any other team in the nation. Aside from focusing on the team goal of winning a Big Ten title and national championship, the seniors also wanted to leave a lasting impression on MSU.

"Obviously we want to go far in the tournament," senior

Brooke Kranda said. "But, I guess the biggest goal I have for myself is to finish with a good season. It would be really cool to have a good enough season to be chosen to be an All-American. Other than that, I just want to finish on a high note."

Bailey received honorable mentions a few times, but had a personal goal of being a first-team All-American as well. Monson, while pursuing personal goals, wanted to impact her teammates and let them know that she was there for them on and off the court. In doing so, Bailey, Monson and Kranda would be leaving their Spartan legacy.

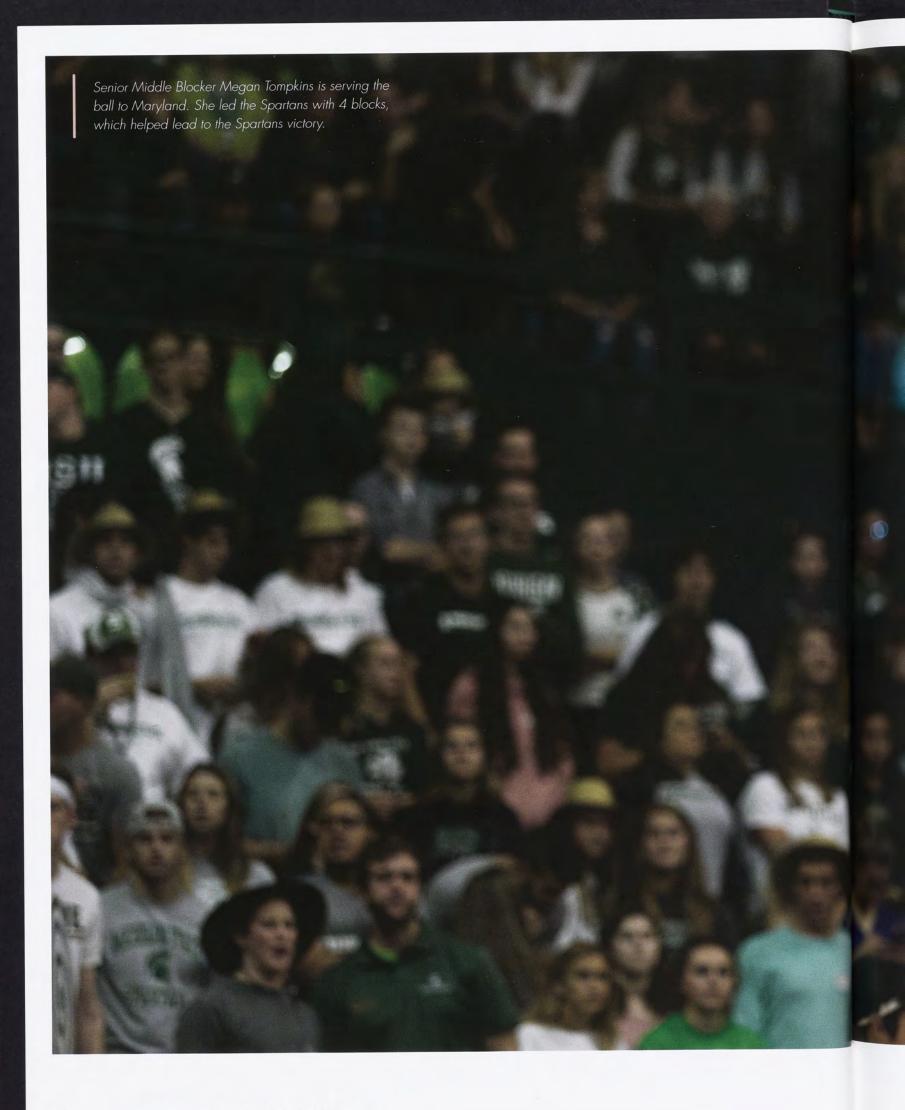
"IT"S EVERYBODY DOING THEIR PART, FULFILLING WHO THEY ARE AND HOW THEY PLAY AND JUST DOING EVERYTHING TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY."

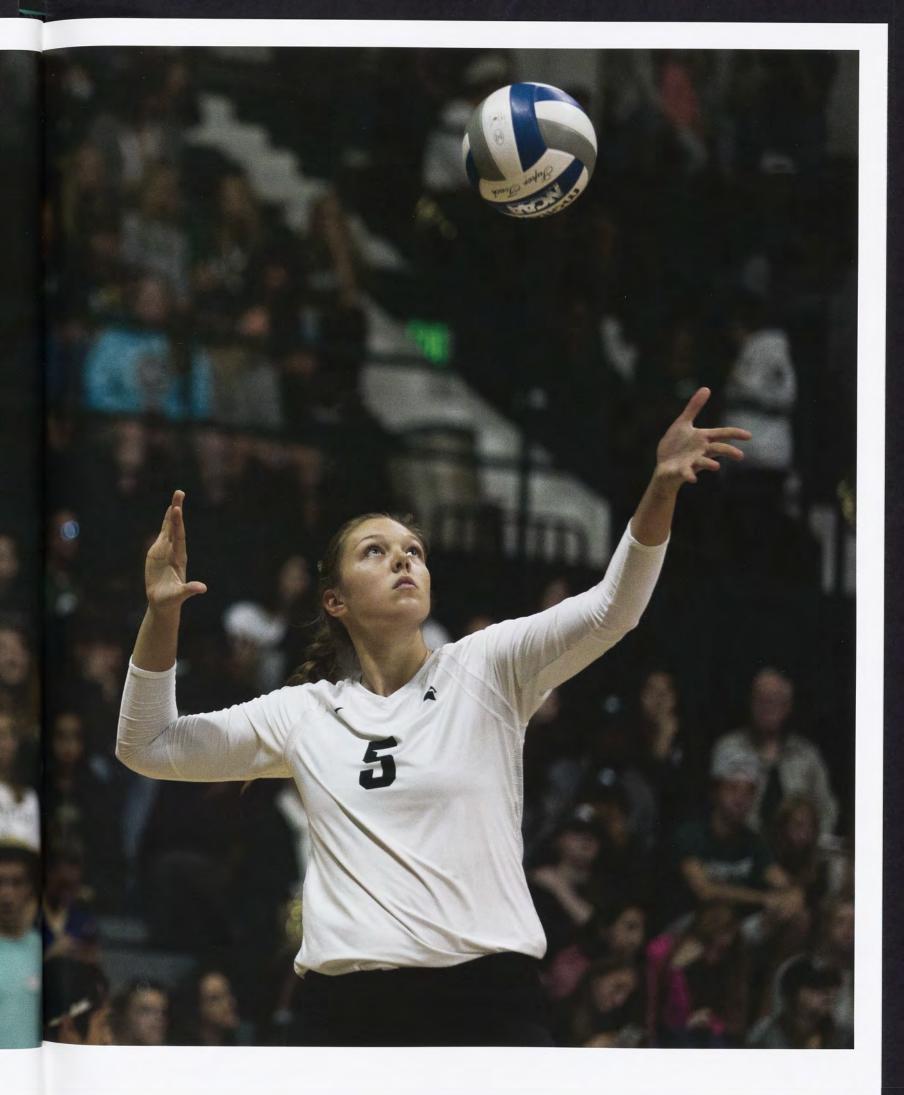
"I hope that they become everything they hoped they would," George said. "That they dream big, that they work hard and persevere through everything, and that this experience helps them and equips them to be the best that they can be."

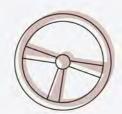
While the last season for the seniors came to a close, everyone left their mark on and off the volleyball court. George helped the team grow and put them in a position to do great things in the world. Just as Bailey's teammate set her up for the win in their fifth game against Minnesota, MSU's volleyball program set up its seniors to be successful even after graduation.

SEASON RECORD: W: 24 L: 9









Need for Speed

MSU Racing Club is on the move

For most students on MSU's campus, the CATA buses are one of the go-to forms of transportation, along with bikes, mopeds, skateboards and the like. Even though cars are still used by students on campus, there aren't many students who get to enjoy the benefits of having one because of an array of conflicts, like parking.

A group too passionate to leave their cars at home, the MSU Racing Club has been admiring various vehicles and teaching its members about improving their overall driving skills since 2001.

"The club started after 'Fast and Furious' blew up! To this day, we have members who style their cars in the same exact fashion that enthusiasts did back then, with neon underglow, crazy sound systems, nitrous bottles and big, powerful engines. It's nice to see that our roots are still showing today," said Alex Mackoul, the social media officer for MSU Racing Club.

"SO FAR, I'VE BEEN TO TWO MEETS AND MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT THE CLUB IS THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND HOW WELCOMING EVERYONE IS."

The club has been such an important platform for car lovers that most of the original members are still active in the club, ushering in new members.

"As a freshman, I actually didn't think I would be really accepted at first, but now this is one of the coolest and nicest groups of people I've ever met and we have a lot of fun together," said Jake Genaw, a freshman mechanical engineering major.



Hundreds of students were attracted to the events held by the MSU Racing Club, including its spring car show and cider mill run. The main focuses may have been about cars, but students were happy to engage with others and make new friends as well.

"So far, I've been to two meets and my favorite thing about the club is the sense of community and how welcoming everyone is," said Bryce Corey, a senior computer science major. "They are very sincere people, and I think because we all have the love of cars in common, we are able to bond on a different level than others."

There is no doubt that MSU Racing Club is a car enthusiast's haven. With many members comes a full lot of



cars, and the members adore all the vehicles they get to see.

"The one thing that I love about our group is that we have such a diverse selection of vehicles. Everyone loves something different, and that's really what makes our group so much more than just another car club," said Mackoul. "We have members with passions for everything from American Muscle to small Japanese legal go-karts [and] German luxury cars, as well as crazy exotics and all sorts of different motorcycles and track cars."

Unlike many car clubs, the MSU Racing Club does not tolerate any type of street racing or "hooliganry," as they call it. The cars and their drivers are treated with respect, which allows club members to create and maintain strong bonds

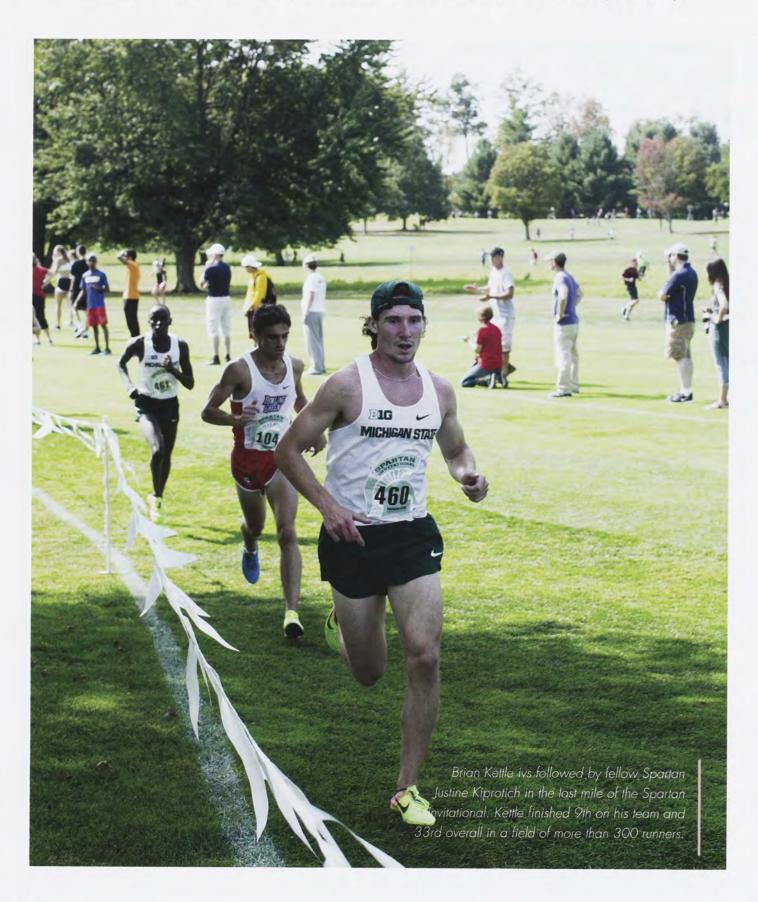
and still retain their legitimacy.

"Whether you drive a \$100,000 car or you drive an old BMW that you built yourself, we are all able to bond over that," said Corey. "There is something about car people that is just different. We all have so much respect for each other, and it really makes you feel like you are a part of a large community within MSU."

One CATA bus may be able to fit many students at a time, but there is not a CATA bus in sight that can whip around a track and bring together an abundance of MSU students. The MSU Racing Club was more than just a niche group; it was a developed community that loved the smell of oil and the roar of engines.

Expectations Pay Off

MSU's cross country team advances to the NCAA championship





After lacing up her spikes and pinning her race bib to her green and white uniform, junior Jeralyn Poe jogged to the starting line with the rest of her teammates. Murmurs of "good luck" buzzed among the 200 or so runners at the starting line of the Great Lakes Regional meet. With her adrenaline pumping, she shook out her arms and legs, looked down at her foot on the white line painted on the grass and then looked back up, focusing on the open course in front of her. The gunshot sounded, and she took off among a sea of colored jerseys.

Starting out strong in the beginning of the season, Poe was one of the top runners for the women's team. She finished first overall for MSU at the Great Lakes Regional meet. This top finish helped the women's team place second at the meet and earn an automatic bid to the NCAA cross country championships, a joint meet between Division I men's and women's qualifiers.

"I didn't even know I made it to nationals individually," Poe said. "It was honestly all about the team. I was just really excited to be in a crowd with over 200 girls and just seeing what I could do to improve from the previous season."

Walt Drenth, head coach and director of MSU's cross country program, said that Poe was a role model during the season and a point of reference in terms of growth. During her first year on the women's cross country team, Poe was a redshirt freshman and worked on the transition from high school athletics to college athletics. Since then, she competed for two years in the green and white uniform.

On the men's side, Drenth said Max Benoit and Clark Ruiz were outstanding leaders as well. The athletes, however, did not look at their individual finishes, but instead focused on the overall team. As a result, both teams exceeded their expectations during the 2017 season, and they looked to advance even further the following year.

"When you count on each other, when you trust each

other, I think it goes a long way in taking some chances and just being at your best, even when it may not be your day," Drenth said. "I think their attachment to each other and their commitment to each other is how we stay consistently good."

Benoit, a senior runner, ended his last cross country season on a high note. For the first time in school history, the men's team won the Great Lakes Regional meet and, like the women's team, earned an automatic bid to the NCAA championships. The team had great expectations for the season, and while some fell short, others were fulfilled.

"WHEN YOU COUNT ON EACH OTHER, WHEN YOU TRUST EACH OTHER, I THINK IT GOES A LONG WAY IN TAKING SOME CHANCES AND JUST BEING AT YOUR BEST, EVEN WHEN IT MAY NOT BE YOUR DAY."

"Looking back at it, [winning regionals] was a lot more special than maybe we thought at the time because it was our first one ever," Benoit said. "We made it to nationals the last three years, so that was the goal—to get back to nationals—and it kind of became our expectation. So, we approached the meet like we wanted to advance and that's what we did."

As spectators watched, a stampede of jerseys came barreling down the straightaway. Spikes dug into the grass, and heavy breathing filled the air as runners moved toward the finish. After crossing the line, Poe stood with her hands on her hips to catch her breath, waiting. As each one of her teammates crossed the line, they hugged and patted each other on the back. One race was over, but the focus and determination carried on.





Rising Black Men

Tim Herd heard mentoring was needed in the black community

There is no guide that tells people mentoring is needed to be successful in life, but often, if someone else can successfully tackle a problem, others are inspired to tackle it as well. Mentors are those people who bring coffee and listen to complaints after a stressful day, or keep others on track with classes. Mentors are those people who give others that extra connection, who help set goals and who essentially serve as life changers.

Tim Herd was a junior and natural mentor at MSU who started Rising Black Men, his own mentoring program for young black men on campus who were pursuing degrees. Herd saw that many of his peers were in need of an extra push, and he knew the power of mentorship. He grew up in the inner city of Detroit and couldn't imagine where he would have been without the impact of his mentors in high school.

"A lot of men from my old neighborhoods and schools didn't get an opportunity to go to college, but the few that did rarely even make it out," said Herd. "This was my ammunition to invest back into the black community and let young black guys know they can attend college."

The group was founded by Herd in 2016. Rising Black Men had a total of 59 black men, 33 of those men were freshman and the others were upperclassmen. Several of those Herd mentored himself, all while juggling his class load and serving as an MSU Intercultural Aide. Mentors filled a gap for those men who didn't have male figures in their lives who graduated college or, in many cases, didn't have fathers growing up. For Rising Black Men, access to academic success was important.

said freshman Christian Huddleston, Herd's mentee. "He's spreading our organization vastly around campus and his attitude toward school is so inspiring. I see myself attacking

school and building these relationships just like him. He is a true inspiration."

Herd's peers were also owed recognition to the building of his organization. Many others, like Victor Ruiz-Divas, showed Herd the importance of friendship along with mentoring and how to make connections with people through common goals.

"THIS WAS MY AMMUNITION TO INVEST BACK INTO THE BLACK COMMUNITY AND LET YOUNG BLACK GUYS KNOW THEY CAN ATTEND COLLEGE."

"We both feel the need to go out and help others succeed, especially those who are starting their first year of college," said Victor Ruiz-Divas, a senior and Herd's close friend. "Tim, to me, is like my younger brother. Like myself, Tim has greatly benefited from having a mentor. It has pushed us to shoot for bigger and better things, to never stop asking questions and to never back down, especially as students of color in a predominantly white institution like MSU."

While mentoring was not a necessity for all, it was necessary for some. Herd went above the ordinary to plant a seed in other Spartans' educational development. Uplifting a community took an advanced leader, and Herd's quick success moved mountains, showing his dedication to the constructive progress. Herd's passion to be a better student, future leader and educator truly shined through his mentoring movement.

As Comrades

Alex's Great State Race

It was drizzling at 2 a.m. on Oct. 6, 2017, with light droplets falling on more than 50 Army ROTC cadets as they pumped their legs back and forth on a 64-mile route from East Lansing to Ann Arbor. The cadets, from both the University of Michigan and MSU, bounded along the path leaving Demonstration Hall carrying the game ball and American flag at the very front.

Before the runners took off, members of both military training programs gathered together in a prayer to remember Alex and to keep them safe on their journey. Firm hugs, wide smiles and hearty laughter echoed throughout Demonstration Hall as the runners and students waited for the race to start.

"We are running for Alex Powell," said Steven Dinverno, an MSU cadet. "He needed help from [the University of] Michigan Hospital when he got sick. Now we run to continue to bridge the gap between rivals. There's no better reason to

wake up in the morning."

Alex was a student at MSU who passed away in 2011 after a brave battle with cancer. During his time at school, he was taken care of by MSU's Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities, or RCPD, as well as the University of Michigan Hospital.

Juliana Powell, Alex's mother, wanted to find a way to thank both of the organizations for what they did for her son. That's when she met Mike Hudson, director of RCPD.

"She said she wanted to help the RCPD be more visible and help more people like her son," said Hudson. "I could see the energy. I said, 'Scott [Westerman, former executive director of the MSU Alumni Association], I think I have a story here. What if we ran the game ball from Ann Arbor to East Lansing?""

Westerman, after hearing about this idea from Hudson

Not only did the two ROTC units run together the entire distance, they carried the American flag and the official game ball.



during the weekend of the 2013 UM-MSU football game, was so inspired he wanted to get it started that weekend, but he knew he couldn't pull the resources together in two days. A year later, the cadets from UM and MSU ran the game ball from Ann Arbor to East Lansing, inaugurating Alex's Great State Race in 2014.

"The inception was quite small," said Juliana. "I had nothing to give them. I said...'I have this crazy idea. I have no money, but I want to give back to both schools.' This year, [Lt. Gov. Brian] Calley and [Michigan Supreme Court Justice Richard] Bernstein ran the last five miles. We're really excited about having them involved. It continues to be such a blessing."

Powell believed the event was no longer just about her son, but about giving back to both institutions and helping future students have access to more opportunities. She emphasized that it was all about getting the word out there, because this was a generation that would change the world.

In 2017, the fundraiser helped the RCPD create the Alex Powell Spartan Experience Leadership Endowment. The endowment helped MSU take on the varied needs of MSU students with disabilities.

"I think it's just a fun event," said Conrad Keurejian, a fourth-year cadet with ROTC. "There's an aspect to the event that while you're running, you're helping the RCPD and organizations raise money. When you can have this moment—when the students from the two rival schools can come together in support of something—it seemed really special to me."

" ...NOW WE RUN TO CONTINUE TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN RIVALS. THERE'S NO BETTER REASON TO WAKE UP IN THE MORNING."

As rain droplets continued to sprinkle over the cadets, they stood with a look of bravery and courage. The same that a young man six years ago had shown them. In memory of that lovely soul, they gathered every year on both sides of the line to come closer together, not as rivals, but as comrades.



Redshirt freshman Weston Bridges celebrates the game with a score of 17-10. BIG MICHIGAN STAE



Perseverance Off the Field

Spartan football players show us the importance of serving others

While many students spent the weekend of Sept. 16 and 17 partying at the local bar, shopping or drowning in their studies, a few of MSU's football players made their way to Houston, Texas, to give back to the communities who had suffered from Hurricane Harvey. They took flight during their bye weekend to help out those who were struggling through a tremendous tragedy.

This was bigger than football—it was an opportunity to serve. Ten Spartan football players saw what was happening in Texas and could not simply sit around and watch.

"We had to dig up molded floors and tear down houses," said junior wide receiver and Texas native Darrell Stewart. "It was an emotional experience, but it was worth every moment. I was happy I could donate my time and strengths to lift my communities. I was raised in these neighborhoods and they were home."

Stewart was also a panelist in MSU's Welcome Black Week panel prior to the Hurricane Harvey relief trip. At the panel, he spoke about many of his challenges growing up and how he did not know what to expect from playing football for the Spartans. He also expressed how important it was to give back to the communities that helped you proceed to the next level, and to never forget where you came from. Two weeks later, Stewart and his teammates got on a flight to Texas, showing that he had been speaking from the heart.

"It's a great thing that my teammates were able to represent our brand and the university in helping those affected by the disaster down in Houston," said sophomore linebacker Tyriq Thompson. "It shows that there is more to life than football, and to not get so caught up in this game that you forget that there are things going on in this world that require more attention."

Similar to Houston trying to persevere, junior Tyson Smith had his perseverance tested in 2016 when he faced a season full of serious health problems. Smith suffered a stroke last season that left him confused and unsure about his future with football. He underwent treatments and was finally cleared in June 2017 to get back on the field.

In the first game of the 2017 season, Smith scored an interception for a touchdown and the Spartans dominated the field with a 35-10 win.

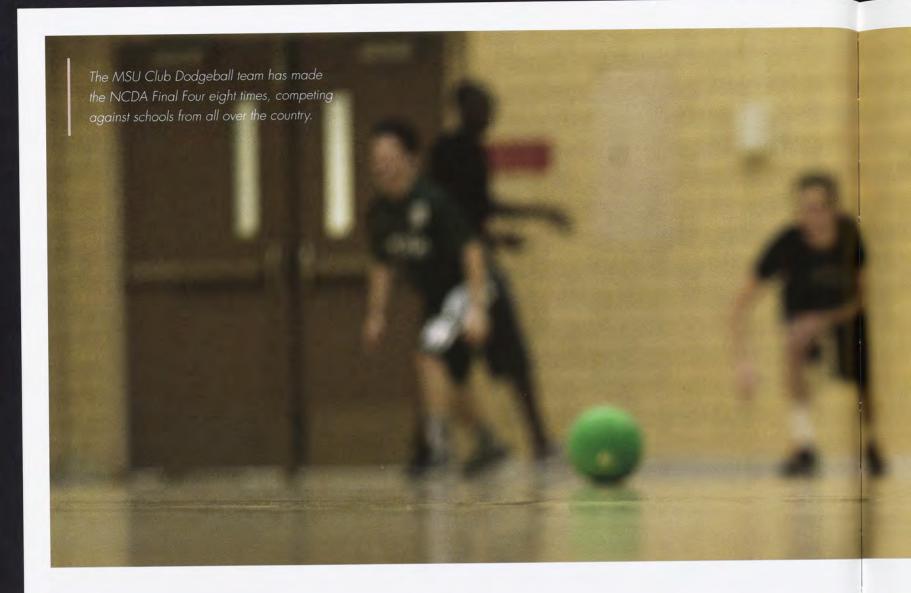
"PLAYING FOOTBALL TEACHES YOU HOW TO PERSEVERE ON THE FIELD AND OFF OF THE FIELD IN OTHER ASPECTS OF LIFE."

"Perseverance plays a major role in sportsmanship; you learn both ends of perseverance," said Smith. "You may end up on the short end of things and things become overwhelming, but playing football teaches you how to persevere on the field and off of the field in other aspects of life."

The Spartan football team showed students the importance of being multifaceted and how to break the stigma about people's perception of them. They were students who wanted to be known for more than just athletics. Both strong characteristics for members of the Spartan football team, Smith's perseverance showed through overcoming his medical complications, and Stewart's tenacity showed through his will to give back to his community.







It's More Than Dodging a Ball

MSU Club Dodgeball competes in top 15

For most, the sound of dodgeballs bouncing off walls is reminiscent of lighthearted games in a high school gym or a four square court. But the sound of dodgeballs in IM West had a much more intense connotation. Balls whirred in the air before ricocheting off bodies; shoes squeaked as players sprinted away from the line; laughing college students turned into stone-cold athletes. Welcome to MSU Club Dodgeball.

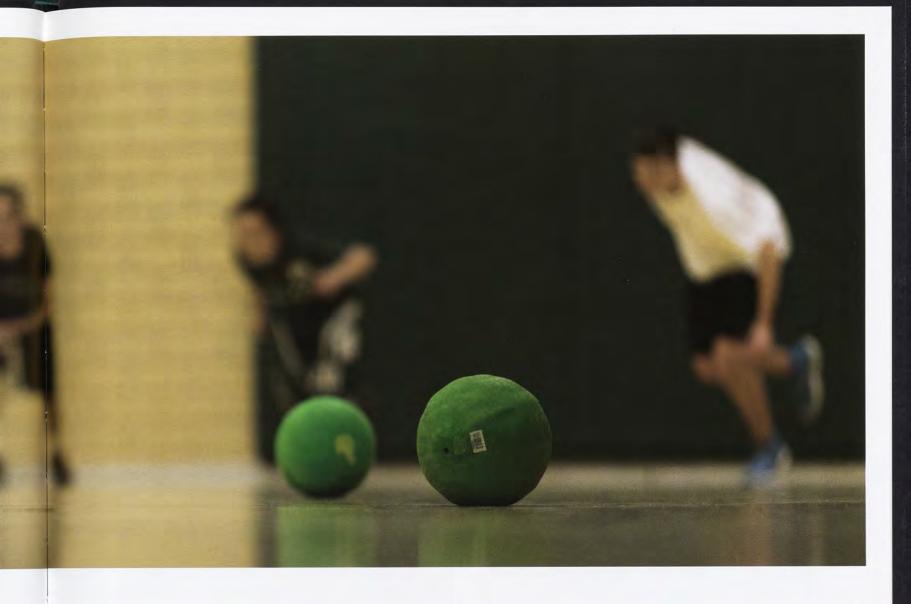
MSU's team was made up of a diverse array of competitive players. Everyone had some sort of athletic past, but no one had the same story.

"I actually played dodgeball for a league in my high

school and I obviously loved it from there," said senior club member Rebecca Shappell. "Freshman year of college I was walking around Sparticipation and I found the club, and ever since then I've just been here."

But, unlike Shappell, most players didn't come in with extensive dodgeball experience. Sophomore member Sandros Rivera joined after he couldn't make the club baseball team, but he learned how to adapt his baseball skills into dodgeball. Other club members just wanted some sort of athletic experience in college.

"I always wanted to be in a sport, mostly just a club or



intramural sport," freshman Dennis Sullivan said. "At first I was nervous whether or not I was going to make the team, but now everyone is family."

"IT NEVER GETS OUT OF HAND, BUT IT'S VERY COMPETITIVE."

Each dodgeball game consists of two 25-minute halves, and teams score points by hitting opposing team members, thus taking them out of the game. To score, one team has to get the entire other side out. The clock is not a running clock, so the games can last up to an hour and a half. If it comes to a tie, 12 players dwindle to six for each team and the team that scores first wins.

It sounds simple enough, but games are more intense than the rules make them seem. With games lasting so long, tournaments are normally all-day events. Dedicated players shout back and forth at each other, as well as at referees. There are often disputes over who is or isn't out. Yellow cards

are brandished for players who step out of line or argue a little too much.

"There's a lot of testosterone flying around on the courts," said Shappell. "A lot of heated debates about calls and chatter back and forth between teams. It never gets out of hand, but it's very competitive."

And, for Michigan teams, there was good reason to be heated: This year, they were some of the best in the nation. MSU, Saginaw Valley State University and Central Michigan University were all within the top 15 of the 32 teams in the National Collegiate Dodgeball Association.

"Teams in Michigan hold themselves pretty high because they tend to play pretty well," Rivera said. "It gets really competitive, especially when it gets toward nationals—that's when teams really come out and show what they've got."

Games were undoubtedly intense. Green rubber balls looked like blurred streaks as they flew across the gym. The only things louder than the sound of rubber slapping off skin were the shouts of angry players. Each point was fought for like it was the final point of the game. And, it might as well be, because the games came down to points, and to seconds, and to miracles.



Science, Art and Beer

Bell's Brewery educates Spartans on the science behind their beer

Gather barley, hops, water and yeast. Put the barley through a process of heating, drying out and cracking. Steep the grains in hot, but not boiling, water for about an hour. Drain the water from the mash to get wort, a term for unfermented beer. Boil for about an hour and add hops and other spices. Cool, strain and filter. Put the wort into a fermenting vessel and add yeast. Store for a couple of weeks at room temperature for an ale, or for many weeks at a cold temperature for a lager. The yeast will eat up the sugar in the wort and release CO2 and alcohol—also known as beer.

A band of biochemistry enthusiasts known as the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Club gathered promptly at 7 p.m. on Nov. 16 to enjoy pizza, soda and a lecture from a Bell's Brewery technician, Harry Ashbaugh, who was a former MSU student. Inside the Biochemistry Building, something was beginning to bubble in room 101. A frothy conversation indeed.

"I was drinking beer and I thought, 'Doesn't beer require biochemistry?'" Ashbaugh said. "Now, I essentially don't [have to] pay for beer! I also understand how hard it is to make a good beer. It's easy to make a crappy beer. It's a combination of science and art."

Ashbaugh stood at the front of the classroom as the students looked at him in awe. He started his beer career at Harper's Restaurant and Brewpub in 2015 and, after graduating from MSU in spring 2017, he moved to Bell's Brewery straight out of college. He called anaerobic fermentation, the process of making beer, an art form. During his presentation, he referred to the human palate as an extremely sensitive instrument and said that all of the spectrometers in the world couldn't tell you how beer tastes.

Garret Clark and Numan Bashir, senior biochemistry and molecular biology students and members of the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Club, were able to share a little bit of their enthusiasm for biochemistry. While neither of them were planning on working for breweries, they both said the event taught them a lot about the field, enough to take what they

learned and apply some of it to their own fields.

"These kinds of events are really good for community engagement," said Clark. "We wanted this club to be student-oriented—something that a freshman would benefit from. I enjoy providing freshmen practical opportunities that I didn't have when I was a freshman."

Katie Harmer, president of the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Club and host of the event, said she wasn't thinking about becoming a brewist, but she knew it was an interest for a lot of people in the biochemistry and molecular biology major.

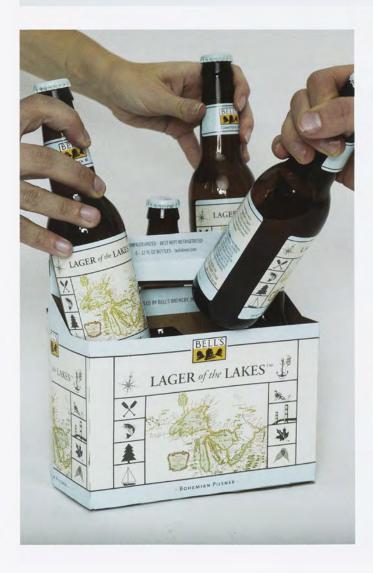
"I enjoyed the event. I think it's one of the more entertaining ones we've hosted this year," said Harmer. "I learned more about the technical side of brewing. I think that, if anything, the event made me more likely to attempt home brewing in the future."

"I ALSO UNDERSTAND HOW HARD IT IS TO MAKE A GOOD BEER. IT'S EASY TO MAKE A CRAPPY BEER. IT'S A COMBINATION OF SCIENCE AND ART."

It isn't broadly known that Saccharomyces Cerevisiae is ale and Saccharomyces Pastorianus is lager. Or that an alcolyzer not only determines alcohol content but beer density, original extract, real extract, degree of fermentation, calories and more. As the students started to leave, several stuck around, engaging in a light conversation and asking each other whether they wanted to go out to the bars. Blame it on the topic of anaerobic fermentation and the images of craft beer flowing into an empty glass.

Student attended to learn from a Bell's Brewery Technician himself. Bell's has been a cornerstone of of the Michigan beer community ever since it opened the first Michigan brewery on-site pub in 1993.









An Inclusive Collaboration

Spartan Marching Band kicks off year-long African celebration

The winter wind whipped viciously, coloring cheeks red. Flurries fell, covering the ground with a fine layer of white powder. Students stood, waiting to take the field in their long green jackets and white and green hats adorned with the MSU logo. Band members walked onto the field, took their positions and readied their instruments. The twirlers held brightly colored flags that rippled as the wind caught them. Moments later, the first note sounded throughout the stadium, and the sweet sounds of Africa came singing from the horns and wind instruments.

At the last home game of the 2017 football season, the Spartan Marching Band took the field to perform its most extraordinary halftime show yet—a show that brought together sounds, dances and visuals from different regions of Africa. People in the stands were able to travel around the world, all while sitting in their seats inside Spartan Stadium.

"The challenge for us was trying to make the performance true to the culture," said Michael Perry, senior trumpet player. "The day of, it was cold. After a month of putting it together, other than the cold factor, it went really well and was fun to perform."

The Africa performance was part of MSU's thematic year initiative. Each year, the Cultural Engagement Council decides a new theme. President Lou Anna K. Simon asked the council and the band to kickstart 2018, the Year of Global Africa, with a special halftime performance.

It took more than six months to put the performance together. The Cultural Engagement Council and the African Studies program met with the Spartan Marching Band and its director, David Thornton, to talk about African culture and what the performance meant to them. African students performed some of the dance routines and artists from Mali and Ghana were brought in to help design parts of the show. The band chose native songs that represented African culture. West African drumming, a song from South Africa and colorful visual pieces were also featured.

"We tried to put together music that represents different

regions on the continent of Africa: north, central, west and south," said Thornton. "It is different music for sure, and it is definitely a different culture we have learned a lot about."

The Year of Global Africa was chosen as a way to emphasize MSU's collaboration with Africa and to include the people of African descent living in the MSU community. MSU had been actively engaging with partners in Africa since 1960, when it began its partnership with the University of Nigeria. The halftime show brought together different groups and organizations, including MSU choirs and African artists, in a celebration of MSU's partnership with the continent.

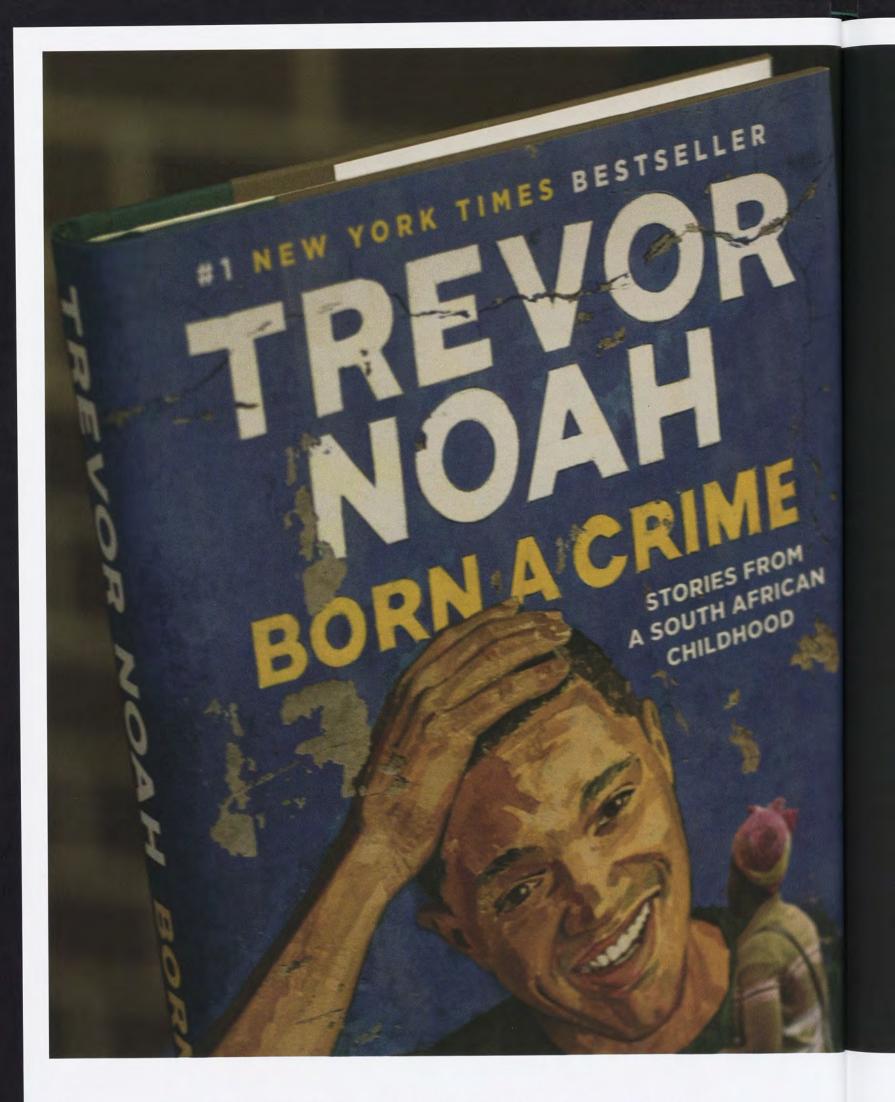
"We are proud of our long tradition at MSU in the African Studies program and the African Studies Center," said Jamie Monson, director of the African Studies Center. "We are kicking off the Year of Africa and we have also launched a new initiative in the African Studies Center, which is continuing our engagement with our African partners."

"WE ARE PROUD OF OUR LONG TRADITION AT MSU IN THE AFRICAN STUDIES PROGRAM AND THE AFRICAN STUDIES CENTER."

The Africa show was postponed from the previous game because of a three-hour lightning delay, but the band was not going to let the weather stop them this time. Snow kept falling, and as it got closer to halftime, more and more people left the stands, too frozen to keep watching. Even though the spectators were few and far between, the bright colors of the flags flew through the air among the snow flurries, while the succinct sounds of African drumming and singing resonated off the stands.







Through a Comedic Lens

Trevor Noah visits the Wharton Center

A comedian from South Africa. That was his Twitter bio. As a speaker of six languages, he would jest that it wasn't as many as his mother, who spoke nine. Conversing in a humble tone, with a gentle demeanor that made the depth of his observations apparent, he put the "awe" in audience.

Trevor Noah, a comedian and a television and radio host, was best known as the host of "The Daily Show" since September 2015. In his interview at the Wharton Center on Nov. 12, he talked about being an outsider, the power of language, the origins of his comedy, "The Daily Show" and even basketball superstar LeBron James.

"They say comedy is tragedy plus time, but these days we have no time in between tragedies for the comedy to build up," Noah said. "What I acknowledge is that people choose 'The Daily Show' for catharsis—to seek an escape. I've always found that humor is the anesthetic that helps me process pain. It doesn't mean that the pain is no longer there, but it helps me process what is happening. It helps me deal with it."

Jeff Wray, a professor of film studies in the department of English at MSU, sat next to Noah as more than 1,500 people in the Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall listened attentively. He had originally prepared 15 questions to ask Noah, but after the first one, he realized they weren't going to get through them all. Noah was a conversationalist.

"The College of Arts and Letters asked me this summer if I'd be willing to [interview Trevor Noah] and I was like, 'Duh, of course,'" said Wray. "I'm a big fan and I like to talk, so that was not a hard choice there at all. The coolest thing, in my fanboyness, was just meeting him. We talked at the end and had a pretty significant chat. He asked me about my son, who I mentioned on stage. He was just very, very gracious."

Grace Beltowski, sophomore professional writing major,

was a part of the Citizen Scholars program, a scholarship program in the College of Arts and Letters that introduced students to cross-cultural events to help them gain a broader understanding of the world as a global citizen. Her favorite takeaway from Noah was that comedy was about questioning and being able to analyze what was going on in the world through a comedic lens.

"Specifically with the Citizen Scholars program, it has really allowed me to get involved in so many different levels, not just on campus, but in the community in general," said Beltowski. "I don't think I would've seen a political-based comedian on a random Sunday night."

"WE TALKED AT THE END AND HAD A PRETTY SIGNIFICANT CHAT. HE ASKED ME ABOUT MY SON WHO I MENTIONED ON STAGE. HE WAS JUST VERY, VERY GRACIOUS."

Noah would say he was the least funny individual in his home. He said that most comedians are just the people who are most willing to put in the work to turn their humor into a career. After all, Noah said, his mother was the funniest person in his household. After getting out of the hospital after a serious injury, the first thing she said was a joke. Perhaps that's where he found his passion and why it was the filter through which he saw the world.

Trevor Noah's book was on display outside the Great Cobb Hall where he performed. The book quickly hit the New York Times Bestseller's list and was named one of the 'Best Books of the Year' by numerous news outlets.

45 Years of Black Excellence

Black Power Rally showcases resilience within the black community

On May 31, 1907, the first African American student graduated from MSU. By the end of the 1960s, there were 1,600 black students enrolled as undergraduates. Those students who were fortunate enough to attend and graduate college during some of the hardest times in American history, including the Jim Crow era, exemplified leadership and scholastic achievement.

Black Student Alliance was founded on Sept. 9, 1966, in the basement of Dr. Robert L. Green's home. Green, a civil rights activist who received a Ph.D. from MSU, felt that black students needed a safe spot to unite on a campus that was predominately white. On Nov. 5 at the Wharton Center, that very same alliance hosted the 45th annual Black Power Rally, a rally that promoted the same values Green founded the group upon.

"As the adviser, I feel inspired every year not only by the content of the show, but also by the immense talent, the conquering of stage fright, the development of conflict resolution and team management skills and most of all the love and passion participating students have for the black community at MSU," said Black Student Alliance faculty adviser Dr. Jasmine Lee. "I am honestly honored to work with Black Student Alliance, and the annual Black Power Rally is definitely one of the reasons why. They keep me on my toes, but ultimately refuel my passion for this work."

At the rally, there was poetry, dancing, monologues, singing and art. CNN commentator Angela Rye, the keynote speaker of the night, spoke about the power of being black and her experiences growing up with politically involved parents.

"We have to invest in our communities," said Rye. Speaking of investments, many black MSU alumni were found in the crowd watching the rally and showing their support for current black students. Some traveled all the way from cities like Detroit and Chicago. Previous campus leaders even brought colleagues and friends along with them to watch the rally. The crowd cheered along with each performance, emotions freely flowing.

"A few years back, we changed the tradition of having a weekday show to having a weekend show, and this change helped attendance increase and allowed alumni to travel back to support since it wasn't a work day," said Myya Jones, former president of the Black Student Alliance. "It's cool to actually sit and watch the show as an alumna of MSU and the Black Student Alliance."

The Black Power Rally educated the audience about how it feels to be black, the history of black people and the progressions within the black community. It calmed racial tensions, bringing racial communities together.

"I loved the performances, and it was nice to hear Angela Rye speak in person," said freshman English major Stephanie Haliburton. "My favorite performance was the three males performing the different stages of oppression. It really, really stayed with me."

Shanika Kidd, president of the Black Student Alliance, took the stage at the end of the rally, accompanied by the 2017 Black Power Rally planning committee and Black Student Alliance. Audience members watched Kidd distribute roses to those who contributed to the production, tears rolling down her face. The crowd could feel her emotion and as the final applause was clapped, an energy of triumph sprinkled the room as the black community felt inspired to continue working together for progression.



Rensing's Reward

Leading the path to victory for the men's soccer team

A collection of athletes were running sprints across the field in the mid-day sun. Alongside them, a pack of coaches stood on the sidelines talking, their assertive energy palpable. The players stop running when they hear the familiar call arise from the crowd of coaches. With one word from one man, the balance and focus on the field is shifted.

Former MSU soccer standout from 1993-1996, Damon Rensing became the fifth head coach in Spartan soccer history when he assumed the role on Jan. 1, 2009. Flash forward to the year 2017, as Rensing began his ninth season as head coach and 19th year on staff. By the end of the season, his record at MSU stood at an impressive 103 wins, 61 loses and 26 ties.

"What I try to do is progress the team forward from when I played here," said Rensing. "It's a family. Some people use that word very lightly—we don't. If kids aren't performing on the field or academically we don't write them off; we try to help them. It's competitive, but we make sure that we support each other. With the special group of seniors this year, we tried to bring out different things in different players. We tried to push these guys to their greatest lengths while making sure that they knew we had their backs."

Brad Centala, senior center-mid from Grosse Pointe Woods North, committed to MSU his junior year of high school. He started subbing in as a defender, a position he didn't normally play, his freshman year. Under the guidance of Rensing, Centala became one of the team's three captains. While at MSU, he earned CoSIDA Academic All-American honors as well as Academic All-Big Ten.

"Playing on the soccer team was a dream come true," said Centala. "I had the opportunity to play with all of my best friends for four years. There's just nothing like it. Damon? I think he is a great guy. He doesn't only care about winning. He wants us to grow as people. The coaching staff made it seem like home; they cared about you."

Jimmy Fiscus, senior center-back from Northville, Michigan, committed to MSU his sophomore year. He was also a captain his senior year. As Fiscus grew into his role at MSU, Rensing taught him that superior soccer skills were not the only important aspect of making a team great. Being surrounded by the openness of campus and the tremendous support of elite coaches inspired him to want to foster this same level of inclusivity for the rest of his teammates.

"We are one big family," said Fiscus. "As we grew up and the younger guys came in, we did a really good job at eliminating the age barrier. My class did really well in bringing everyone together, which, I think, is why we have performed so well. We've been so close. Damon really cares about the guys. I can't imagine having another coach. He wasn't perfect, and neither were we, but if he was in the wrong, he'd apologize. That's the most important part of leadership."

"IF KIDS AREN'T PERFORMING ON THE FIELD OR ACADEMICALLY WE DON'T WRITE THEM OFF; WE TRY TO HELP THEM."

After the team's win over Ohio State University on October 1, kids were lining up to get signatures from all their favorite MSU athletes. The players sat smiling as they passed memorabilia down the table to be autographed. The kids looked at the players in awe, like they had just conquered giants. It looked as if they were quietly studying every detail about their heroes in hopes of acquiring their abilities. Little did they know, that power came from strong leadership. Rensing wasn't basking in the spotlight, however; he was standing off to the side, gazing proudly at the scene before him.

SEASON RECORD: W: 13 L: 3 T: 4









VIM and Virtue

VIM Magazine recruits models from all walks of life

In the modeling age of Kylie Jenners and Adriana Limas, followers of the fashion world often see only a few examples of what a model should be-namely skinny and rich. These stereotypes can be damaging to college students' self esteem. Fortunately, there are fashion magazines that have evolved to recognize these issues in an effort to make modeling more

inclusive. It is extremely important that people know there is not one type of beauty, and VIM, MSU's own fashion and lifestyle magazine, worked to preach just that.

"There are a lot of feminist movements and activism happening in the model industry right now," said freshman member of VIM's casting team Elena Chevante. "We see a



lot of diverse campaigns, and even the singer Rihanna just came out with her Fenty [Beauty] makeup line that has every skin complexion available to make our models feel included in beauty. I appreciate people trying to help others find their inner beauty versus the traditional way of people dictating who is beautiful."

VIM, similar to Rihanna's makeup line, encouraged diversity when scouting models. Consider a student who wants to improve her self confidence through modeling, but does not meet fashion-world norms. VIM made Spartans who had no background in modeling feel like kings and queens, giving them a chance they might have never thought possible.

"We want people to read about people they can relate to or see models that they see daily walking on through campus," said freshman model scout Abigail Rothe. "MSU has so many people and it's important we include everyone. Realistically, there is not just one body type in the fashion world."

VIM released a fall and spring edition. These two editions focused on lifestyle, events on campus, fashion trends, food and day-to-day living as a student. VIM held a casting call both semesters to seek out Spartans who had an interest in representing diversity and building their portfolios as models. A variety of students lined up in the MSU Union to see if they

could make the cut.

"I was very hesitant to stop by and go to the modeling casting call," said freshman journalism major Kartale Walker.
"But something told me to give it a try because it's better for them to tell me 'no' versus me telling myself 'no.'"

VIM's co-editors-in-chief, Hannah Bullion and Julia Le, made it their mission to have their recruiters find diverse Spartans and choose men and women of all nationalities, races and social backgrounds. The modeling scouts were proud of their role in the legacy of VIM, ensuring the product was different and attracted readers from all walks of life.

"I love the opportunity of the casting team because it is the newest team to join VIM Magazine," said Shannon Parr, assistant casting director for VIM. "I knew that we would be starting new and we could cast fresh faces for the magazine's fall 2017 edition with no bias."

VIM changed the fashion game, expanding the expectations for lifestyle and fashion modeling. The magazine planned to continue supporting the progression of the modeling industry, setting a high standard of inclusiveness and representation right here in East Lansing. The fashion world was evolving, and VIM made it clear that it was at the crest of this new wave of progressive thinking.





Unlocking Linguistic Potential

Through Passion and Practice

It was on the first floor of Wells Hall where a place of collectivism and expression seemed to shine above all other facets of life. Native speakers and aspiring amateurs came together to speak in different languages in an open environment. This place, the Center for Language Teaching Advancement (also referred to as CeLTA), set a standard for inclusion at MSU known as Conversation Hours.

Outside the window of the CeLTA space stood the tremendous 18,000-square-foot luxury concourse, Spartan Stadium. Thanks to the dean of the College of Arts and Letters back in 2012, who helped add the B-Wing to Wells Hall, its location couldn't get any better.

"They used to be called help rooms, but then that got confusing," said Diana Mndrucic, a junior in the James Madison College. "Now they are called Conversation Hours. It's based on a casual, walk-in basis where native speakers volunteer to help non-native speakers practice another language."

Conversation Hours, which normally lasted about one hour and involved a facilitator and anywhere from one to six students, were designed to be an open and friendly place for people who wanted specific help using a language. English was already the most popular language, and the language was in its second year.

The room had a disposition toward openness that not many other locations on campus could match at the time. Everyone who came was diligent, thoughtful and smiling. Soft voices were heard throughout the small space as students spoke openly, laughing about the silly nuances of

language. Without walls, the light conversations blurred into a cacophony of gentle tones.

Lei Chen, a spartan from China, was a new addition to Conversation Hours in 2017. Chen was from Guangdong, China, and was pursuing his Ph.D. working with MSU's High Performance Computer Center. Chen had a bright smile on his face as he walked out of the CeLTA.

"My friend told me about it in the summer and I've been waiting ever since," said Chen. "I came here because I want to have very fluent conversations with native speakers. Since there are only two people talking and there's not a large group like a classroom, there is so much more opportunity to communicate."

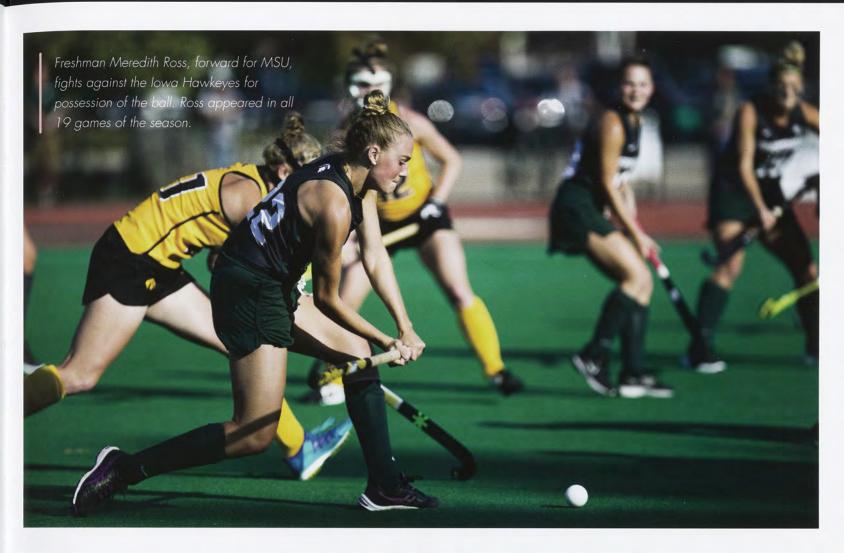
Angelika Kramer, who serves as the executive associate director in the CeLTA, was with the project since its beginning in 2008. Its purpose was to provide a support unit for the language programs at MSU. Nine years later, it was responsible for providing assistance not only to enrolled students, but to preschoolers, kids, teens and even adults.

"This is where the magic happens," said Kramer. "The personalities in our office speak for that. We're a happy place. We don't have 'taco tuesdays,' but we do a pretty good job of being open and welcoming."

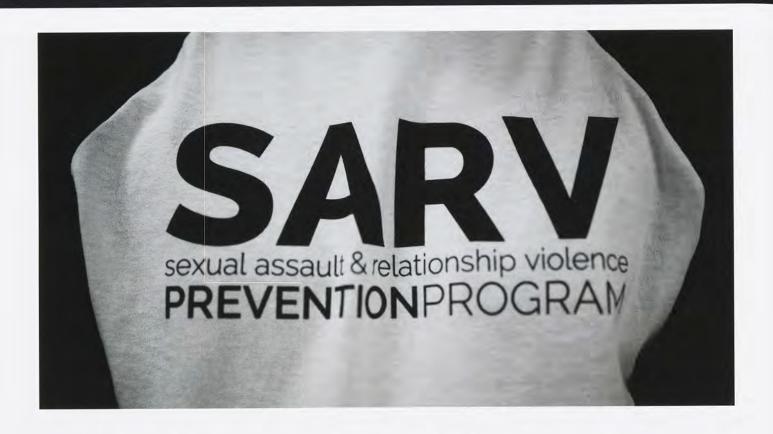
Conversation Hours weren't just about communication skills, they were about personal skills. Those who wandered under the B-Wing stairs and stole a peek through the glass could see the laughing faces, and when someone opened the door, they could hear it. The students and their instructors were the ones who could feel it.











Activate and Empower

SARV brings widespread education to campus

The Sexual Assault and Relationship Violence Program (SARV) at MSU seemed insignificant. It was simply some online questions before starting the school year. It was about 30 students in each session. It was a handful of volunteers talking about a subject most are squeamish or unresponsive to.

And, in some ways, the assumption that SARV wasn't incredibly significant was correct. In others, though, it could not have been more wrong.

In 2017, SARV had existed on campus for nine years, and while it had just one full-time employee, Kelly Schweda, and 70 part-time trained peer educators, it had only grown.

"We know a one-time, one-size-fits-all approach to education and awareness is not enough," said Jessica Norris, MSU's director of Title IX and ADA Compliance and Education programs, in a statement. "We make sure every new student learns the basics, including institutional values, behavioral expectations, and reporting and resource options. Then we build on that knowledge with additional programs aimed at turning awareness into action and fostering a community of caring, respect and safety."

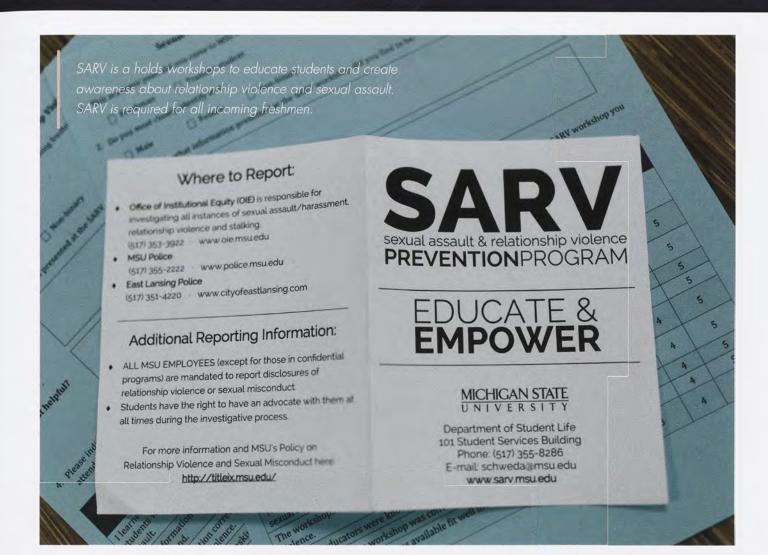
SARV was best known for its entrance workshop, which reached over 6,000 freshmen and transfer students annually. To cover all bases, SARV educated with the assumption that each student was a blank slate and that no two had the same knowledge base. In the workshop, students learned university

definitions for sexual assault, relationship violence and learned relevant university policies. The problem was, some students tuned out the information being handed to them because they didn't realize the importance of what they were told.

"WE KNOW A ONE-TIME, ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL APPROACH TO EDUCATION AND AWARENESS IS NOT ENOUGH."

"My freshman year, I was definitely one of the students that didn't want to go because I thought I knew everything, but I actually learned so much from being there," said current peer educator Mary Russell. "My peer educators were so interactive and made the experience enlightening and fun, when normally those subjects can be awkward to talk about."

SARV tries to not only educate underclassmen, but to educate as much of the university as possible. In the 2017 fall semester, SARV piloted "Bystander Network," an interactive and MSU-based workshop aimed at upperclassmen. Instead of recapping information students already knew, the expansive program educated students on more advanced information that taught campus members how to help someone else in a dangerous situation.



"It's so important if you see something to say something. Be the person to make the change, because creating a supportive environment starts with us," Russell said.

SARV offered several other unique programs tailored specifically to individual communities on campus. Since members of MSU Greek life have a higher chance of encountering assault and therefore face unique dangers, they had their own separate program. International students could attend a program adjusted to face potential barriers in understanding the material presented. Members of the LGBTQ community also had the option to go to a non-binary program that included information on what they may be more susceptible to.

"We're trying to prevent sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking on campus," Schweda said. "I want students to be able to have the power to make change if they see something happening. I want to create a more supportive environment for students who have been victimized in some way."

Since SARV's inception, the number of reported assaults had increased. At first, it seemed counterintuitive, but the increase in numbers had more to do with culture. The culture of violence hadn't increased, but the culture of reporting it had. As SARV and adjoining sexual assault programs continued to empower, more students felt comfortable to stand up against what they knew was wrong. And, according to Schweda, SARV was just getting started.



Who You Gonna Call? (MSU Paranormal Society)

The paranormal world in the eyes of a student

Ghosts, ghouls, goblins and spirits. These are all terms in MSU students' minds around the time of Halloween—a sacred holiday in the eyes of a college student. But who is willing to look past the cinematic portrayal of these entities and dig deeper into the truths about the paranormal world? The MSU Paranormal Society, that's who. It was breaking into the paranormal scene on a regular basis.

The average incredulous student might view the society as full-fledged believers of ghosts and write them off as naive. The society, however, was challenging that misconception. Many of the members were more skeptical than certain and were more interested in remaining impartial to the controversy rather than shutting out the possibility of a world—or beings—outside the one in which they lived.

"You have to keep an open mind," said Danielle Slade, a senior environmental studies and sustainability major. "No one is pushing that ghosts are real. We have a ton of members that are skeptics; I'm a skeptic. Some members don't believe at all, some are religious, some aren't. We're very diverse in our beliefs."

The most significant aspect of the club was the ability it gave members to connect with paranormal entities they wouldn't otherwise encounter. Tara Eavy, co-president of the MSU Paranormal Society, was a senior studying environmental studies and sustainability. She had been involved in the club since her freshman year, and on numerous occasions she witnessed things others had only seen in movies.

On one of the club's excursions, they visited "Blood Cemetery," which was named after the late Dr. Blood, who allegedly hung himself at that location—according to Eavy. The group members were walking around with their equipment, specifically utilizing a K2 Meter, which measured

electromagnetic frequencies and allowed entities to respond using different colors. Each color signified a different response.

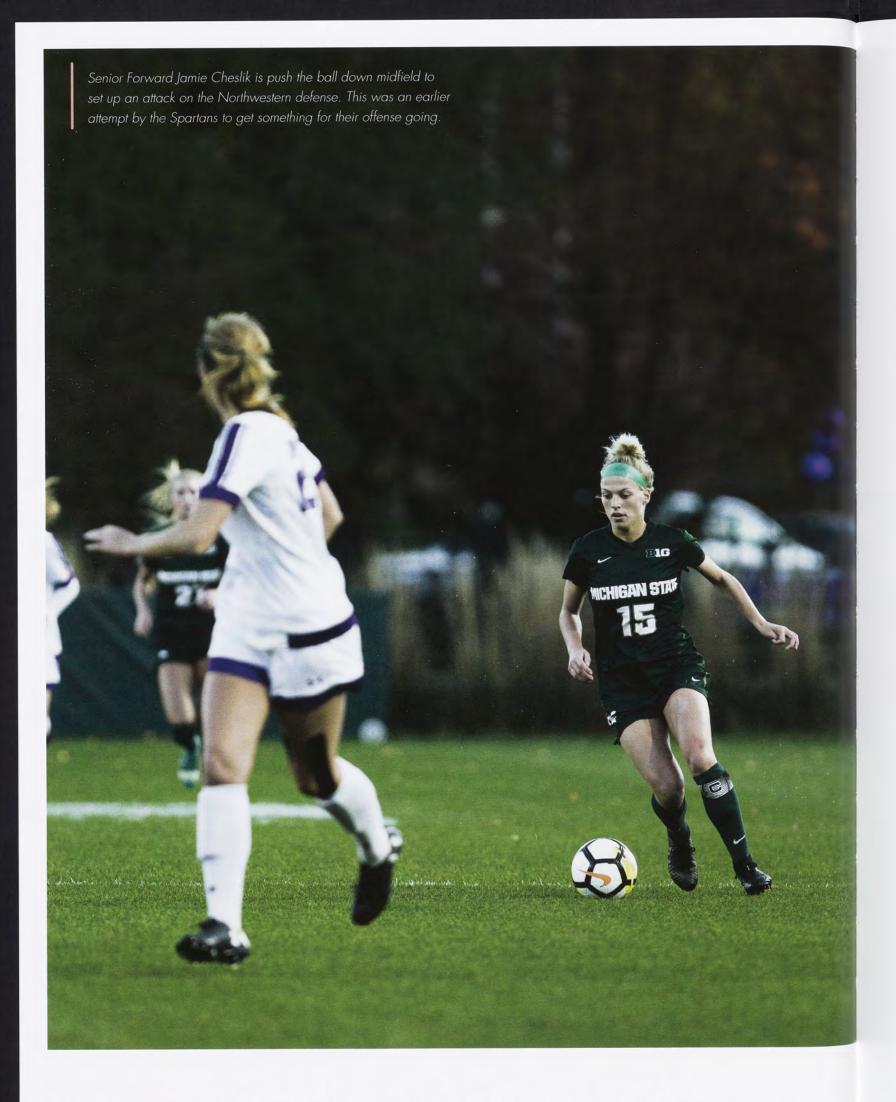
"At a certain grave, we started receiving a lot of different readings, so we sort of ... started talking to it," said Eavy. "We were like, 'Hi, you're George maybe?' and it gave us a bright red reading, which is super strange being somewhere out first a middle of nowhere like a cemetery that's just dirt and graves. So, we ended up talking to this guy named George for hours, and he followed us around the cemetery and we got some really concrete stuff."

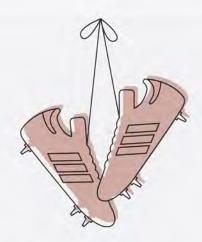
Shea Howe, a senior studying psychology, led as co-president of the society alongside Eavy. She had been working with the group since her freshman year and, like Eavy, had experienced inexplicable encounters on their expeditions to haunted locales—she had almost become accustomed to the weird happenings.

"We've heard things through our Spirit Box equipment say, 'Go!' or 'Run!' and my reaction is just always interested rather than afraid," said Howe. "I'm still totally skeptical, and we investigate every piece of evidence to try and figure out if it could be something other than a spirit, but there are definitely some unexplained things, and I've just really opened up to that possibility."

In a world of skepticism and fear of the unknown, the questions that lie in a world beyond humankind remained ambiguous. While some students preferred to keep their involvement in the paranormal world audience-based, there were others out there on the front lines, searching for the truth. Questions didn't always get answers, and equipment wasn't always trustworthy, but one thing the MSU Paranormal Society firmly believed was this: Something else was out there, not only in the world, but on its own campus.







The Triumph of One

The support of a team

When the game clock hit zero, seniors shed their jerseys and cleats for the last time at DeMartin Stadium. Even with a team record below expectation, there was one MSU women's soccer player who stood out in the Big Ten.

And yet, despite her individual strengths, no progress would have been made without the support and unity of the team. This was what Jamie Cheslik, senior co-captain of the women's soccer team, humbly made evident when asked about her success and her recent award, a second-team All-Big Ten naming—a prestigious title in college athletics.

"The first people I told were my family members...and they're really the only people I told," said Cheslik. "But honestly, it's so amazing to be able to receive an award like this. So many people go through college soccer, or any college sport, and don't get recognized how they deserve to be or don't get recognized at all. It's something that will stick with me and something I'll always really appreciate."

The coaches at MSU had been watching Cheslik from a young age. Head coach Tom Saxton recalled that even when Cheslik was in ninth grade, she played with great tenacity on the field. Having just finished his 27th season working with the women's team, Saxton said that while the Big Ten award brought a good name to the program, he believed the importance of the accolade was that it gave Cheslik the personal recognition he felt she deserved.

"She's been a great asset to the team, and we're going to miss her next year," said Saxton. "Her relentless work ethic and 'never say die' attitude that she demonstrated all the way though her career is a team demeanor I hope to uphold as she moves on."

While Cheslik's statistics and work on the field were what got her noticed nationwide, her teammates and coaching staff believed that her character off the field was just as remarkable. Kristelle Yewah, a senior and fellow teammate, was roommates with Cheslik and recalled the friendship that

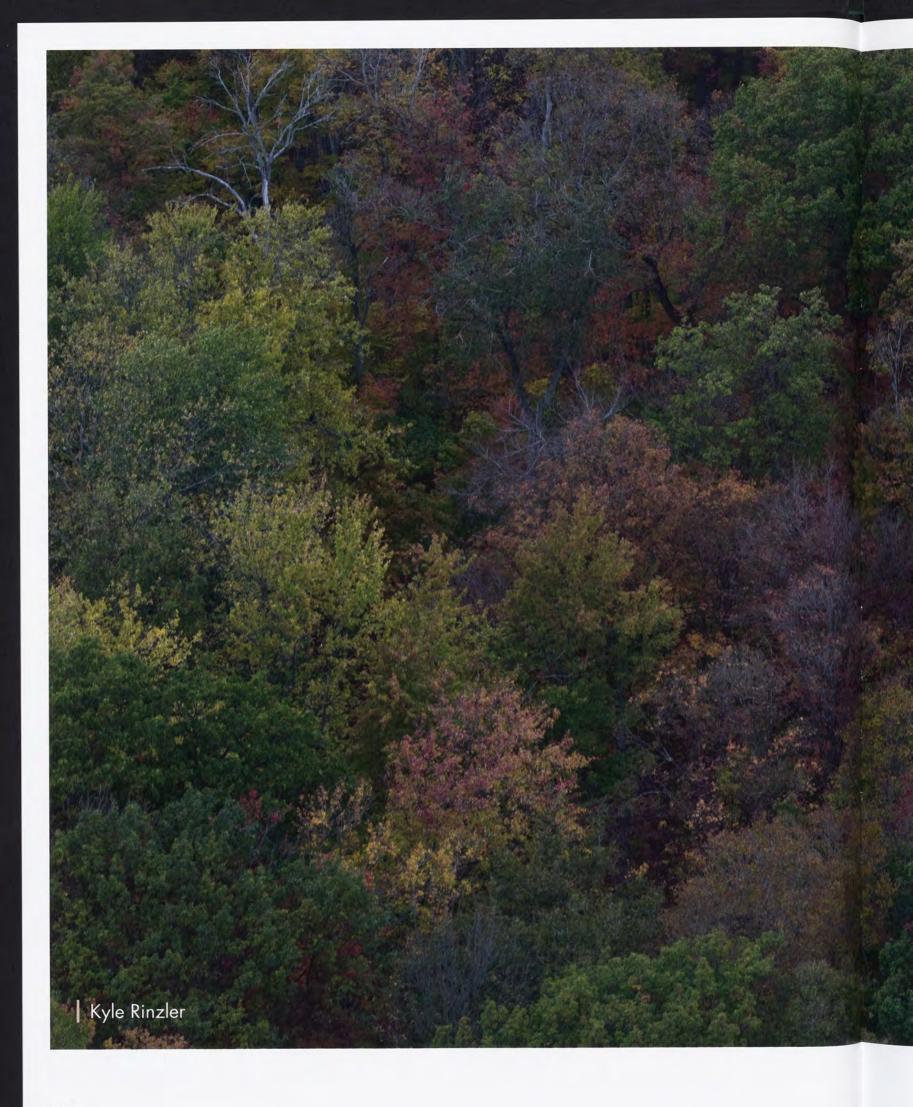
grew over their four-year bond. While Cheslik remained humble about her recent award, Yewah had no problem talking her up.

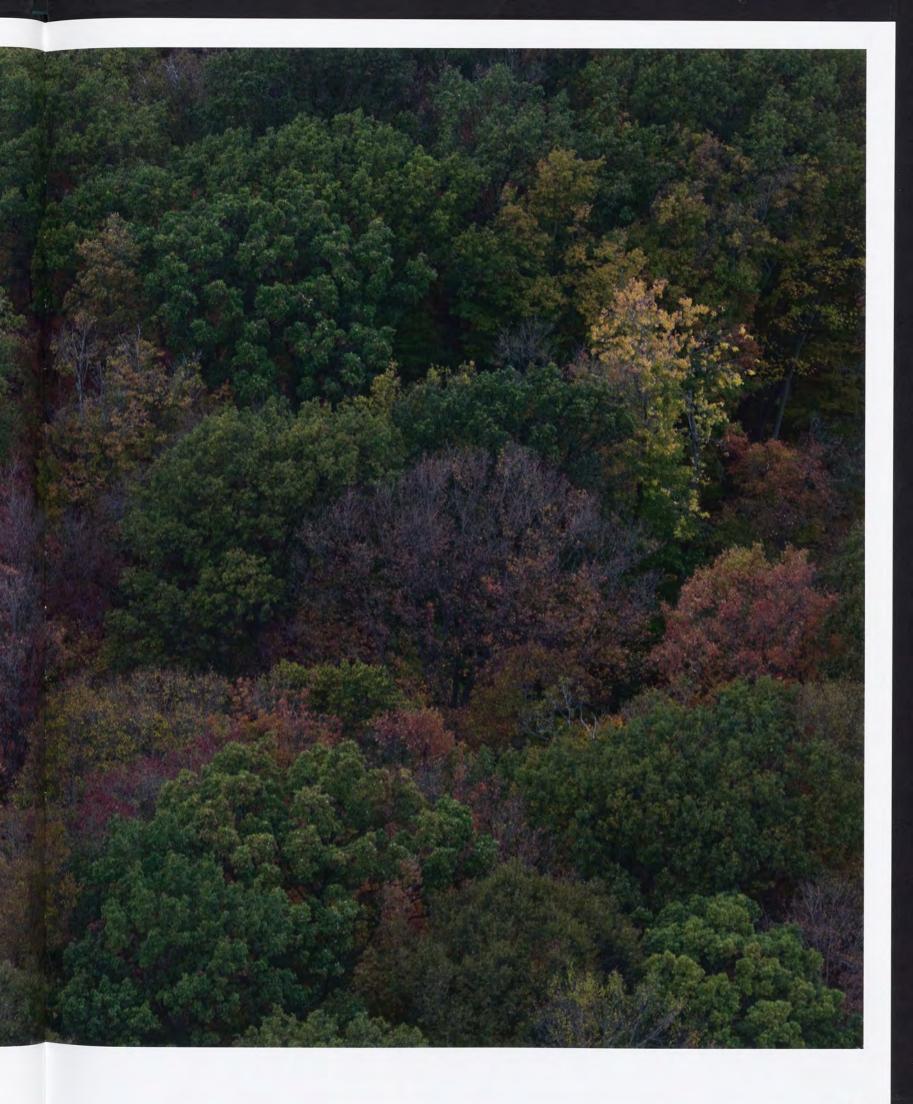
"I'm really proud to see her finally get what she deserves," said Yewah. "I know sometimes, like in this season, our team doesn't do as well as we hoped, which makes it harder because sometimes they look over the team's statistics and just throw the chance of any individual title away. I'm just really excited and, you know, I'm still trying to convince her to enter the draft!"

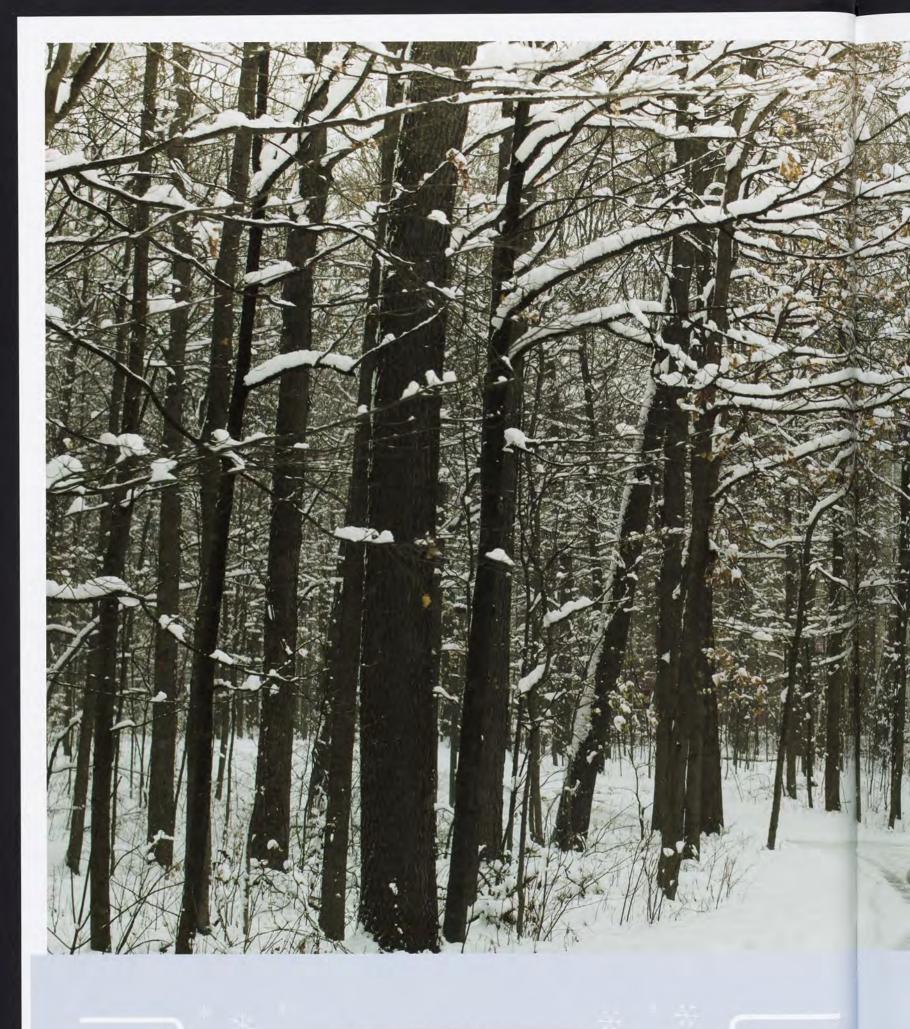
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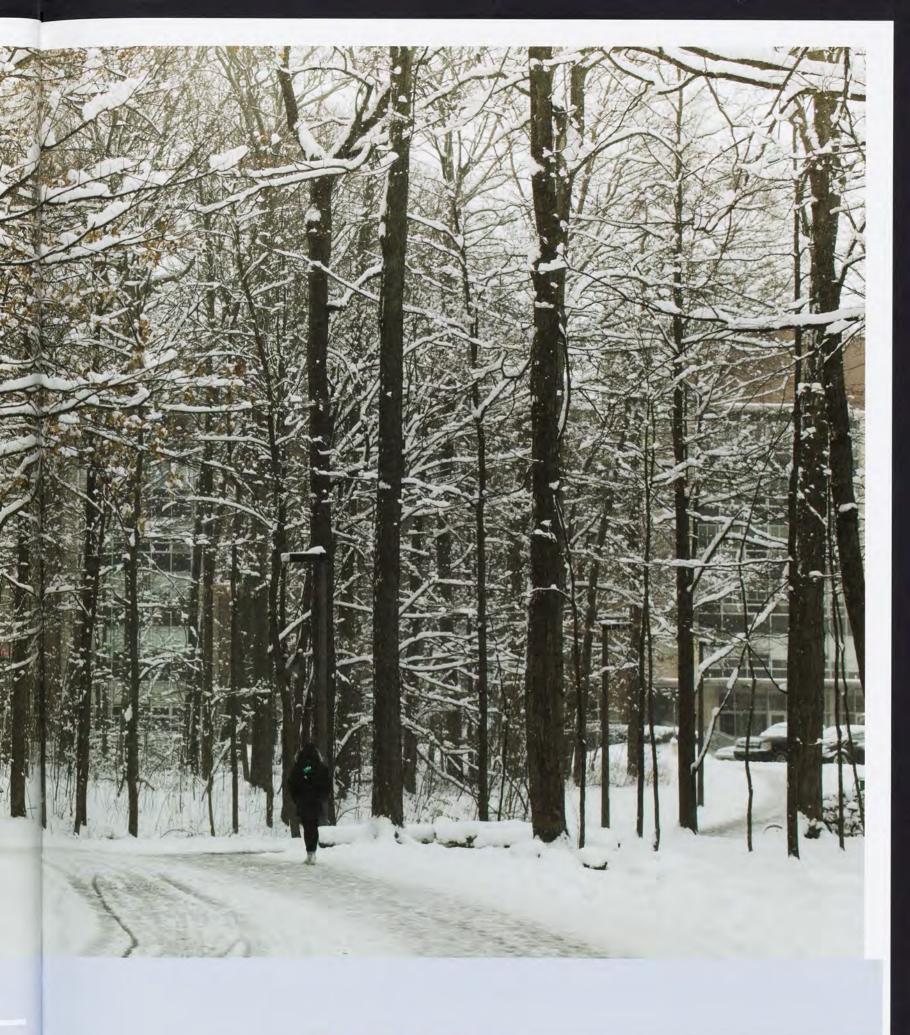
With four years of awards and game-winning goals to look back on, Cheslik was ready to move on from the world of college soccer. She planned to take some things with her, though: The strong ties she established with her teammates and with the program would remain crucial, even after her time playing at DeMartin Stadium had come to an end. While the awards were honorable, Cheslik recognized that her greatest accomplishment was her growth as a player and as an individual throughout her journey as a Spartan.

SEASON RECORD: W: 6 L: 11 T: 1









WINTER

Finding Common Ground

Association of Big Ten Students gathers in East Lansing

On a blustery January weekend, wind-whipped MSU students weren't the only ones walking the snow-covered sidewalks of campus. Alongside them trod ambassadors from Big Ten schools' student governments, as the Association of Big Ten Students held its annual winter conference on campus. It had been seven years since the conference last came to East Lansing, so for Associated Students of Michigan State University, or ASMSU, hosting the event was a privilege.

"It feels amazing to have the conference here," said Vice President for Internal Administration Katherine Rifiotis. "It's an opportunity to show what we've learned from other places and situations. It feels comfortable, like when a friend comes over and you want to show them around."

The Association of Big Ten Students had been around for over 20 years, holding conferences several times each year. Their mission as an association was to help all 14 Big Ten student governments collaborate and be the active voice for their universities.

Besides showing off the beauty MSU exudes in the winter, the governments were treated to a weekend schedule brimming with activities from Jan. 12 to 14, which included dinners and discussions. On Saturday, they spent the morning

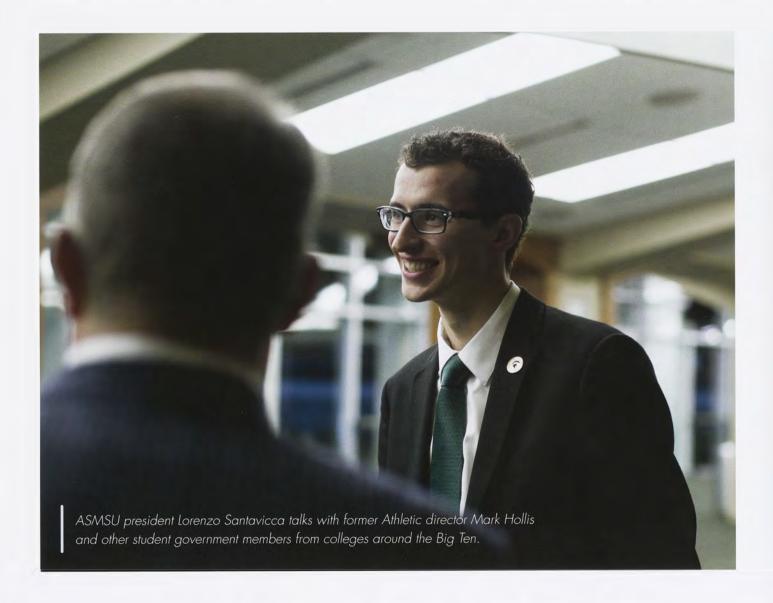


PHOTO: CRAIG HEDGES

CONTENT: SIERRA REHM

DESIGN: ALEXANDER BROOKE

at the Michigan State Capitol and ended it by participating in the first ever "swap shop," where members exchanged promotional materials and contact information with the goal of achieving better outreach.

"HAVING THESE CONFERENCES GIVES US A REASON TO KEEP TALKING TO EACH OTHER."

"The winter conference is a great place for collaboration between all of the Big Ten student governments," ASMSU Chief of Staff Lauren Fish said. "It's also a place where we do our legislative session [and] where we pass initiatives and things that we want to advocate for at the Big Ten on the Hill [conference at the U.S. Capitol] later in the spring semester."

It isn't only at these conferences that student governments came together. Fish also noted that they kept in touch through social media, getting ideas from pictures and descriptions of events held at other schools. The organized events allowed them to meet in person and talk through issues all the schools

face in a professional setting.

"It really holds us together," Fish said. "Having these conferences gives us a reason to keep talking to each other."

MSU Student Body President Lorenzo Santavicca has been with ASMSU for his entire college experience. He remembered going to the Association of Big Ten Students conferences not knowing what to expect. Under his leadership, ASMSU grew to earn recognition as the outstanding student government of the year in 2017.

"Personally, it's such a treat to see the organization I've poured my heart into end on this note for my time of leadership," Santavicca said. "It's a pinnacle for everyone in the organization to see that what we do has an impact nationally."

The Association of Big Ten Students brought student governments from across the nation to meet face-to-face. It helped the universities realize not only what made them special, but also what common issues brought them together. Representatives were able to make long-lasting relationships and figure out how to better serve their university upon returning home.





The Kendo Kid

The MSU Kendo Club is training students in the art of Kendo

An uncommon sport was making a name for itself at MSU. Kendo, the Japanese martial art of swordplay, now had its own club on campus. Kendo means "the way of the sword," and the MSU Kendo Club spent its time introducing and teaching the cultural art to Spartans. In Japan, students tend to begin their training at the age of six, but in the United States, the practice of Kendo does not typically begin until young adulthood, and is much less popular.

"Kendo is, for me—and I believe most others—about striving for self-improvement," said Nicholas Todoroff, a senior physics major. "My goal is not to win; my goal is not to be better than anyone else. My goal when practicing is always to be better than I was before, and to always feel that I am progressing in my physical skill as well as [in] my conception of kendo."

Students of kendo, known as "kenshi" or "kendoka" roughly translating to "fencer," were unlike most American athletes in their competitive conduct. Instead of dumping gallons of Gatorade on their coaches heads, kissing trophies or throwing celebratory parties, kenshi are more reflective. They acknowledged and respected their place of practice, those who practiced beside them, their instructors—anything that aided in their performance.

"Yes, tournaments [and] competitions are fun," said Todoroff. "But what I get from that is not a chance to win against other people; it is a chance to practice and test my kendo against people who I haven't before, in the hopes that I can learn something new...it is important to show respect for your opponent, the effort they have put in and what you may have learned from fighting them."

From the outside, it appeared that Kendo was a typical American sport or self-defense activity. But participants saw kendo as a form of self development involving physical activity.

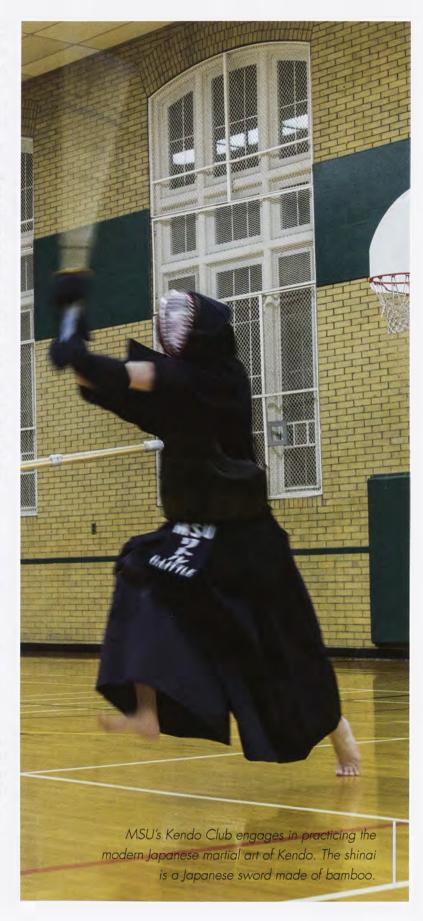
"Kendo made me to be more formal, taught me how to represent myself in front of the referees and how to be respectful with people you are practicing with," said JinHee Han, a senior double majoring in mathematics and economics. "By practicing how to spar, it made me to be more patient [and] concentrated and taught me [to] seize the moment if it's given. And kendo taught me that to seize that moment, you must be ready."

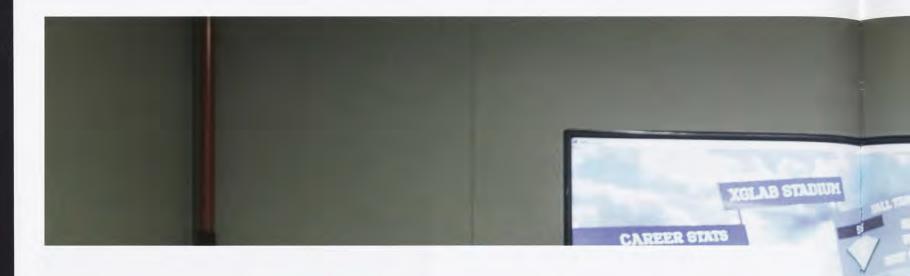
Kendo originated nearly 1,000 years ago. Despite this long tradition, there are only seven dojos in Michigan, and three of them are owned by universities. The MSU Kendo Club was working to develop their club and culture by facilitating discussion of kendo's history, providing challenging practices and placing graduating kenshi in dojos to continue their journey while promoting its practices.

"Occasionally alumni come back and practice with us," said Colleen Little, a junior computer science major and an active kenshi in MSU's Kendo Club. "When I first started, I felt so uncomfortable and scared and really wanted to quit. Facing off against people who hit harder, yelled louder, and frankly were just better at kendo than me, I kept turtling up and backing away from them. But the sensei talked a lot about throwing yourself into your practice regardless of what happens, whether you miss or get hit or whatever. And that's really taught me not to be so afraid. It's made me a lot bolder about confronting uncomfortable or scary situations, in kendo and in life."

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MSU Kendo Club made an impressive impact on the lives of its kenshi. With over 900 clubs on MSU's campus, it was encouraging to know that one was truly driving students to be their best selves, respect others and enjoy themselves during competition.





Surrounded by Screens

MSU's Digital Scholarship Lab is the first in the country

Pan over a U.S. military base in Zagan, Poland. Snow covers the tanks like a coat of frosting. Cut to hundreds of soldiers gathered in front of a TV broadcasting the Super Bowl, smiling and cheering. Three soldiers are pulled aside and taken into separate large oval structures. Once inside they take their seat on a single chair surrounded by darkness. After a few seconds of anticipation, a 360-degree visual screen clicks on, immersing them in a video call with their families back home. This Super Bowl ad did more than just make Hyundai big bucks.

Paul Cooper was an information technology professional for MSU Libraries in 2017. Witnessing the Igloo Vision visualization cylinder concept in that Hyundai Super Bowl ad, which allows for multiple people to work together while surrounded by an immersive 360-degree projection screen, was the singular phenomenon that inspired the commitment of recreating that same Igloo concept in the MSU Main Library. The Digital Scholarship Lab project finished within a year and instantly peaked the curiosity of second-floor passers-by.

"In terms of building a digital scholarship space at the library, these conversations have been happening for ten years," said Terence O'Neill, head of the digital scholarship and makerspace services at the library. "We got the go-ahead in the middle of last summer and we have been building it in earnest since September. It came together pretty quickly once we had the plan in place. It is wild that Paul saw that commercial just last year."

The core team was between six and eight people, but at their disposal was an expansive network of experts. MSU Infrastructure Planning and Facilities was instrumental in reworking the existing framework to make the space possible. The lab was fitted with a digitization projects room, a virtual reality room with an Oculus Rift and HTC Vive and a fully immersive 360 visualization space, including glass-walled meeting rooms and futuristic curved computers.

"A lot of the designs came from conversations with people over a couple of years and from visiting other spaces

and other libraries across the country to learn what worked and what didn't," said Terri Miller, assistant director for public services at the library. "No one thought we would get this done this quick. Even though it's only been six months, it feels like it has been two years."

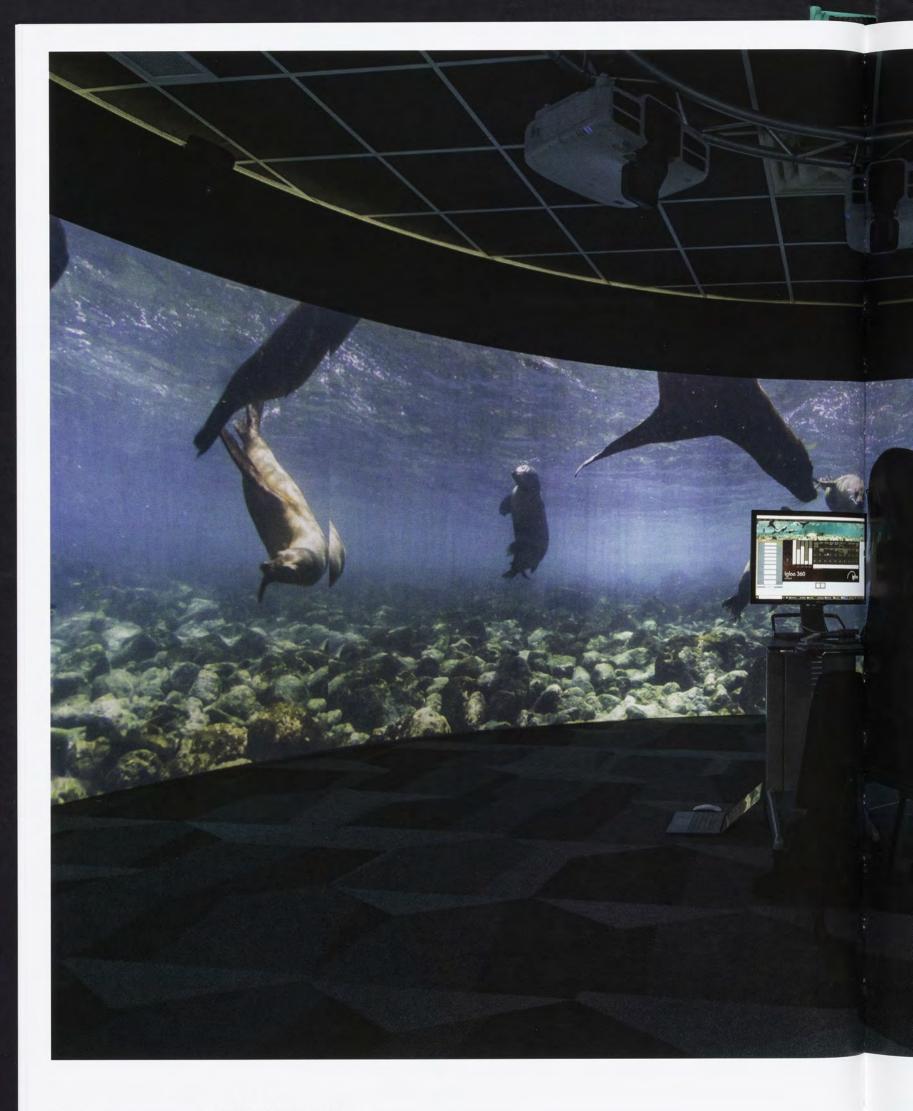
Alex Babbitt, a senior English major and the lab's first student hire, heard about the Digital Scholarship Lab from Kristen Mapes, his digital humanities adviser. The one thing he looked forward to most was the countless opportunities to learn about digital scholarship. Every time he went into work, he learned something new from someone.

"It's all so cool," but I really think the 360 visualization room is one of the coolest parts because MSU is the first university to have one," said Babbitt. "We are creating new spaces to expand intellect and providing new educational spaces that are challenging us to think super critically about what we can do with digital tools."

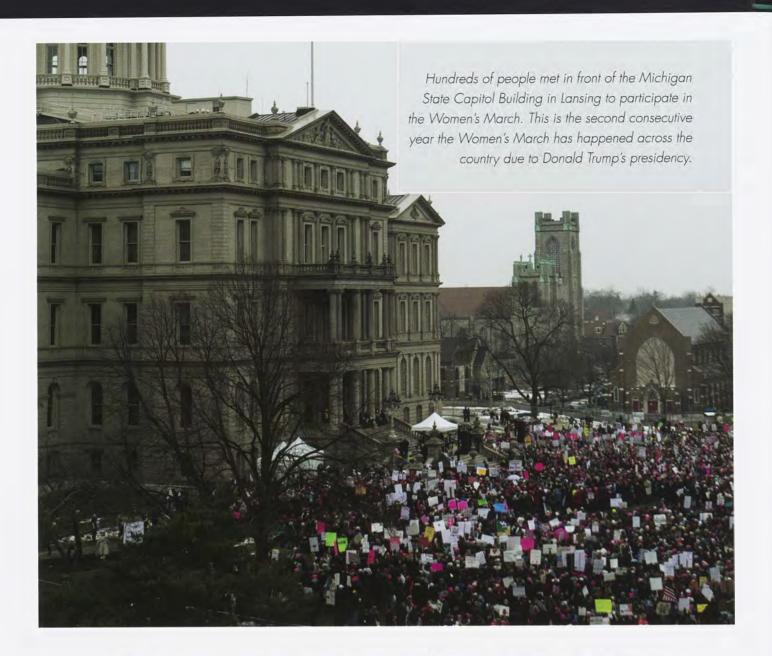
"IT'S ALL SO COOL, BUT
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It was unlikely to find an unimpressed face among the the observers. Each person unlocked their cell phones and spun around the 360-degree room like children. It felt imaginative and limitless. The Digital Scholarship Lab signified a new age of technological achievement for the local community. It was evident that gears were spinning around in their heads as they contemplated the possibilities of the new space with each other.









Power to the Polls

Women's March meets for the second year at the Capitol

The chants signature to the movement started quietly, when the crowd was dispersed randomly across the lawn of the Michigan State Capitol. Soon though, as the crowd stood together shoulder-to-shoulder in the mud, the chants turned to defiant roars as Women's March Michigan met for its second annual protest on Jan. 21.

When Women's March convened across the nation for the first time in 2017, it was dubbed the largest single-day protest march. Lansing was one of many cities to take part in the movement, with an army of supporters taking a stand on the steps of the state Capitol. One year later, the crowd showed up at the steps again, with an even more refined purpose and a larger crowd.

"This year and this event has proved that this is not a moment—this is a movement," said Pheobe Hopps, president

and founder of Women's March Michigan, in a speech. "You cannot stop what has been put into motion."

The Women's March movement began as a resistance to policies that President Donald Trump planned to instill while in office. Those who marched protested these potential enactments that they believed endangered health rights—specifically the loss of the Affordable Care Act, Native American rights and environmental protections.

"We have the power to change things," Native American activist Heather Bruegl said. "We can make our voices heard and we can take control. Power to the polls."

While the Women's March held themes of intersectionality, equality, diversity and empowerment, the phrase that tied everyone together was "power to the polls." The slogan was meant to make a statement about what women and minorities

could do when they took to the ballots for the 2018 midterm elections.

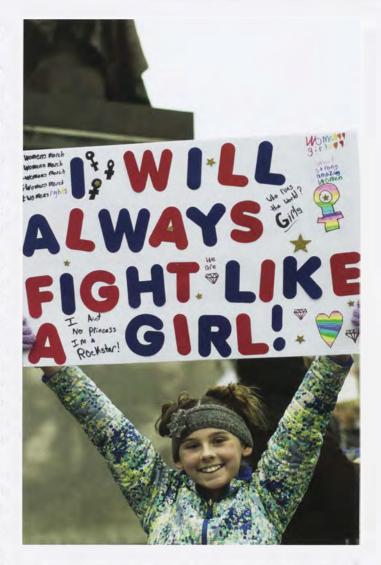
According to Women's March Michigan, the Michigan Legislature was made up of less than 25 percent women. Consequently, women's rights were not getting equal representation in politics, leading to unrest. Part of the message of "power to the polls" was to recognize women and minorities that were running for office in the state, at all levels.

"I love what we decide as a people when we decide we are not going to take it lying down," said hip-hop artist and activist Mahogany Jones. "We will not be oppressed; we will not be pushed down; we will push back."

Inclusion was another main focus of the Women's March. Women, men and children were welcome to join and have their voices heard at the event. Everyone was encouraged to work together, no matter the individual or idealistic differences, in order to achieve a larger overall goal.

"The focus on intersectionality and inclusion will further the march's mission," said Alexandra Stano, a senior comparative cultures and politics major. "It will help mobilize different communities and groups that may have otherwise felt alienated. Activist groups and movements gain strength when their base grows and becomes more involved, which is what the march was attempting to do."

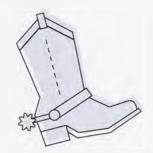
The year-long gap between the first and second Women's Marches would seem like an opportunity for people to forget about the movement. Instead, the space allowed for emotions to brew and for the movement to become more focused. The second march, which had matching, if not exceeding, numbers of attendance, showed that the movement had only grown. And supporters were ready to take their "power to the polls" in the upcoming election season.



Tessa Masengale shows off her poster at the Women's Warch at the Michigan State Capitol Building in Lansing.



People of all ages came together to participate in the Women's March in front of the Michigan State Capitol Building in Lansing.



A Ride in the Ring

The 49th annual Spartan Stampede brings the Rodeo to MSU

The hooves of bulls and bareback broncos kicked dirt into the air, dusting the stands filled with fans dressed in cowboyinspired boots and plaid apparel at MSU Rodeo Club's 49th annual Spartan Stampede. More than 350 competitors from Oklahoma to Texas made their way to MSU's Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock to enjoy the cheers from their supporters, the skills of other riders and an atmosphere that encompassed a common passion: rodeo.

Khalila Smith, sophomore animal science major and Miss Michigan State Rodeo Queen for the 2018-2019 year, was the first person the crowd caught the eye of after settling into their seats and placing their popcorn in their laps. With an American flag in hand and a sash draped over her shoulder, Smith flew around the ring on her bronco, signalling the start of the Spartan Stampede with a smile that shined all the way into the nosebleeds.



"As the face of the rodeo, it's cool getting to meet new people who come hours away to compete and do the same thing that I do," said Smith.

Spartan Stampede had been awarded the International Professional Rodeo Association's "Indoor Rodeo of the Year" award five times, and the MSU Rodeo Club held titles itself, including the Student Life Leadership Silver Spartan Award for both "Outstanding Professional Organization" and "Service Award." Brian Nielsen, club adviser since 1997, said that these accomplishments bring him the pride and honor of being such an important part of the club's success.

HOUSE TO LISTEN TO YOU YOU HAVE TO BE COMPURTABLE AND YOU NEED COMPURTABLE

"I thought, you know, I might be involved for a few years. But, here we are twenty-some years later," said Nielsen.

Nielsen said that Spartan Stampede is always changing and improving, with new students and competition coming as each year passes. He said that most events like it are put on by organizations or groups of people who have been doing it for a long time. The Spartan Stampede, however, is put on solely by students.

"It's been a fun thing for them," said Nielsen. "It's been a lot of work. But as soon as we're finished with this, we're going to take a week off and then start it all over again."

Claire Daugherty, senior agribusiness management major, vice president of the Rodeo Club and the 2017-2018 Miss Michigan State Rodeo Queen, said that a popular event at Spartan Stampede, and one of her personal favorites, is barrel racing. Barrel racing involves three barrels set out in the arena as riders attempt to ride around each one, all competing for the fastest time.

"I love the speed of it," said Daugherty. "You have to get your horse to listen to you, you have to be comfortable and you need confidence."

For three days, rodeo-lovers got the chance to witness some of the sport's top events as athletes competed in bareback bronc-riding, barrel racing and bull-riding at the Spartan Stampede event. The MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock was crowded for the 49th time with competitors from across the nation coming together for a love of the rodeo. Dust encircled the riders as they made ambitious moves in the ring, aiming for glory. All eyes were on them.





Do You Even Selfie?

Sometimes Art House presents Highly Reflective



Enter the gallery. Hand them a \$5 donation. Turn right into the main room and see a photo shoot. Walk past the models stretching their thin bodies, filling the entire volume of the tiny booths they are lying in. They pose under neon green, red and blue fluorescents like seductive statues, occasionally pulling out their phones to take a selfie. Look at the paintings of naked bodies mixed with pictures of chocolate-covered bananas. It's an art house...sometimes.

Audrey Matusz, a senior arts and humanities major and manager of Sometimes Art House—an MSU-based art collective built to empower women, people of color and the LGBT community—came up with the theme for a gallery called Highly Reflective in early January, and through social media outreach, realized her vision a month and a half later.

Matusz knew that somewhere in the vast sea of MSU college students her people were just waiting to be found.

"I felt I was just disconnected," said Matusz. "At MSU, as an art student, I knew a couple of girls, but it just wasn't working. A couple of days after the new year, I made a Facebook page and uploaded a video of me talking about the concept I had. [I told people to] message me if they were interested and wanted to start doing stuff. We had 100 people in the group at one point, and eventually, I had my crew of about 12 girls coming to meetings, and we started a new one."

Social media allowed Matusz to find those with whom she could collaborate. With her new tightly knit group of friends at her side, she sought to explore digital identity through the context of empowered women's stories.

"Highly Reflective is a showcase to reflect how we see ourselves on social media and just in general," said Diamond Henry, senior journalism major at MSU who wanted to help create a platform for feminist artists. "There are artists from all over MSU and around the Lansing area. It's a lot of planning, a lot of meetings and a lot of dedication and hard work, but it always pays off in the end."

Andrew Sandstedt, an artist who spent six years on the board with the East Lansing Art Festival, was the creative

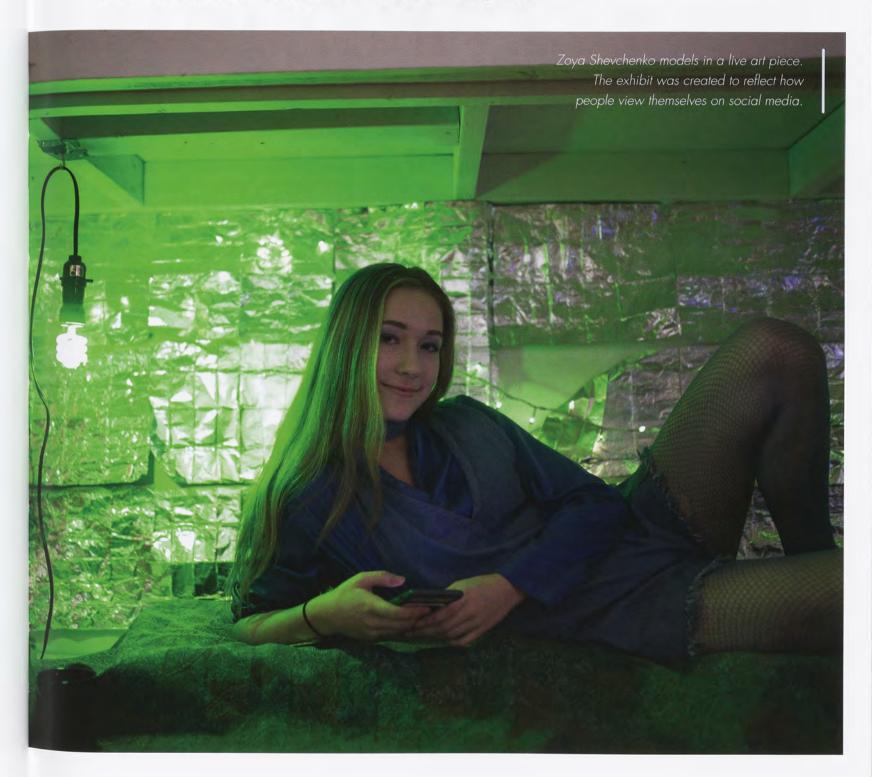
director for the Cedar Street Art Collective, the organization that rented the space for Highly Reflective. Its mission was to connect emerging local artists from the Greater Lansing Area by giving them a place to showcase their work.

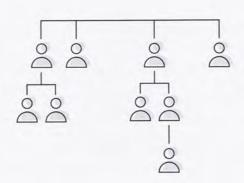
"[The Cedar Street Art Collective] provides space for shows like [Highly Reflective]," said Sandstedt. "The primary focus of the main floor is gallery space, retail art, and pop-up artists and shows. The whole goal, within a few months, is to have a monthly show with one or two artists at each gallery to continue to bring in new artwork. I think the Greater Lansing Area is definitely an up-and-coming hotbed for artists."

For people like Matusz and Sandstedt, who studied and worked full-time while also needing somewhere to display

SHOWCASE TO REFLECT HOW. WE SEE OURSELVES ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND JUST IN GENERAL.

their creative endeavors to the public, these galleries meant a lot. The Sometimes Art House was inspired by the creative undercurrent at MSU, and because of social media, young artists were able to find each other. Social media wasn't just a good place for selfies, it was also good for finding long-lasting friends.





College of Social Science

Building an open-access slavery database

Located on the fourth floor of the Natural Sciences Building, the MATRIX was the Center for Digital Humanities and Social Sciences at MSU. With the top-ranked African history graduate program in the nation, MSU worked with partners across disciplines to build an interconnected environment that fostered the development of new research.

MATRIX research assistant Duncan Tarr graduated in 2016 with degrees in history and jazz studies. He worked



with some of the biographical information featured on the Slave Biographies website—created in 2010 out of a planning grant with the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation—the precursor to a new project, titled "Enslaved: People of the Historic Slave Trade."

"I think digital history is super important. It's a way that historical information and data can be extremely accessible," said Tarr. "With Enslaved, the dream is to put all these different sets of data into one place to stitch together the lives of people who may not have been considered important at the time."

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded a \$1.47 million grant to the project to build an online data hub for referencing African slavery information. By linking data collections from multiple universities, the website was built to tackle the challenges of searching for relevant information that often made analyzing across projects difficult.

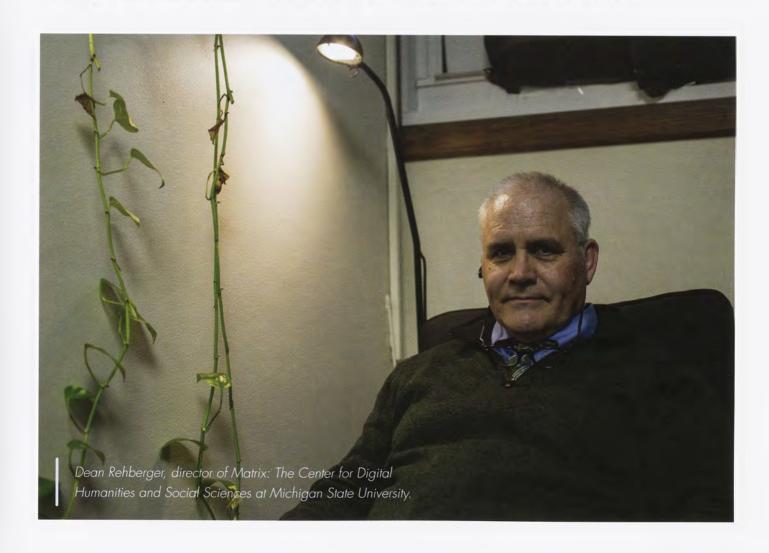
"We've been looking for ways to try to leverage some more recent developments in the semantic web and linked open data and that's what Enslaved is," said Ethan Watrall, associate director of Matrix and assistant professor of anthropology. "Enslaved is a much larger, much more robust, realization of that model we originally conceived of with Slave Biographies. Enslaved is essentially a series of moving

parts that are bound together by the linked open data web."

Dean Rehberger, director of MATRIX and an associate professor in history, was the leader of the Enslaved project. His main priority was to compile the accounts of slavery to provide a richness of understanding that a majority of the public did not have access to. The most important part of his mission was to make the hub not only a space for research, but also a space for education.

"This is going to be a multi-phase project. The funding we got was for phase one, which is called a proof of concept," said Rehberger. "Within a year and a half we want to have a version of the hub running. At the end of phase one we are going to have a slave data conference and bring in a lot more partners that could add their data to the hub. Each phase will add not only more data, but more things that can be done with the data."

People were the primary focus of Enslaved—individuals who were enslaved, owned slaves or participated in slave trading. Since its creation in the 1990s, MATRIX was devoted to the preservation of historical data. With the creation of KORA, it's online digital repository application for multimedia objects, the organization was primed to connect the world through information as only Spartans Will.





Wheeling in Innovation

MSU students create award-winning solutions for wheelchair users

Returning to MSU from winter break made for tough travel—layers of snow blanketed walkways and roads. Mopeds, bikes and skateboards became an uncommon sight as CATA buses overflowed with students avoiding the arctic environment. Being confined to a wheelchair made these daily struggles even more palpable. Karl Gude, a professor in the College of Communication Arts and Sciences, recognized this problem and decided to use his Design Thinking class to challenge students to ideate innovative solutions.

"It's becoming very popular in America to employ this design thinking process for innovating new solutions to really challenging problems people have," said Gude. "I basically felt that since my class is about creative problem solving, I needed to start studying this process in a big way—and not just the theory of it, but actually applying it and practicing it so that they really understand all the different stages of the creative process."

This project began with Gude's friend Michael Johnson—a man restricted by a wheelchair who, despite his disability, spent much of his time driving race cars. Though Johnson was able to race cars, he couldn't figure out how to clear his driveway of snow. Gude asked the 500 students in his class for solutions. The first response was to place a shovel-like blade on the front of the wheelchair. While this response was shared by the majority of Gude's students, it was deemed useless by Johnson. He expressed that all the snow collected by the shovel would only build onto his legs. They needed a more intricate invention.

"I wanted to come up with something that would allow Michael to remove snow from his driveway safely and efficiently," said Chloe Alverson, a freshman journalism major who won first place in the contest. "One of my ideas was to create a sprinkler system, but with salt to melt the snow on Michael's driveway. Another plan was to install heaters

around Michael's driveway so that he could turn them on and off according to the weather. I won by combining these two ideas."

Design thinking puts the individual first when a solution is needed. Gude explained that empathy would allow students to gain a better understanding of Johnson's life, and by putting themselves in his shoes, they would be able to come up with the most fruitful designs.

"To help with idea generation, I viewed other types of handicap assistance devices. I also tried imagining myself in the position of someone who is in a wheelchair," said Elias Naddaf, a junior advertising management major who won third place in the contest. "From there I began sketching..."

POPULAR IN AMERICA TO

EMPLOY THIS DESIGN THINKING

PROCESS FOR INNOVATING

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CHALLENGING PROBLEMS

PEOPLE HAVE

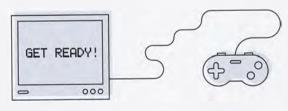
When faced with a difficult task, it was easy to choose the simplest solution to a problem. Design thinking has been researched and created to push the limits of one's thinking to create innovative solutions to any problem—no matter how complex. The students who created prototypes in Gude's class were able to not only evoke the methods of an effective design thinker, but also leave Michael with an advantageous solution to his problem.











We Want Weepboop

The Rise of the MSU Esports Student Association

Terrence Peugh, a senior media and information major, pointed to the cameras on either side of the screen where the two students would hold their gaze during the broadcast. He motioned to the prompters and walked the students through the process of using them. A cohesive system of leaders, once gamers, stepped up and ran the show—literally. Peugh's fingers rolled from a three, into a two, then a one, and two gamers became casters for the very first time.

The nine-hour MSU Esports Student Association Kick-Off LAN event was held on Jan. 20, with over 70 attendees and

four tournaments. LAN stands for local area network, meaning players competed together, in the same room, as opposed to playing in isolated locations. The entire event was streamed on Twitch, a live streaming video platform, and the students hardly missed a beat.

"Like every other club, you just want to find people who share the same common interests as you," said Alexis Ly, a civil engineering junior who joined the Overwatch team last year, which was a team-based multiplayer online first-person shooter video game. "Getting together is really different from



going online and playing with friends across dorms or across campus. Being in one single location and playing in person is a lot more interactive. There's a lot more hype."

The Esports Student Association provided students not only with a place to get out of their dark dorm rooms, but also an outlet to practice their passions in professional environments. They helped players in the community turn their personal interests into future careers. Created from scratch, the club did just as well as clubs funded by their universities. Through sponsors, competitions and prizes, MSU's Esports Student Association drew inspiration from giant tournaments such as the League of Legends North American Championship held at Madison Square Garden.

"I love how we do a lot without the resources other schools have. If you want to look for a career in esports you can get the experience here for free," said Kyle Kilponen, chemical engineering senior and vice president of the League of Legends Club, whose members played an intense real-time strategy game with many roles and positions. "It's crazy what we all can do when we all come together as a community. I think the cool part about it is that it's all student-driven. Everyone's here because they want to be here and they want to promote esports."

Sydney Shea, senior advertising management major and public relations manager for MSU's Esports Student Association, started playing League of Legends her freshman year after her friend mentioned a combative multiplayer online game she might be interested in.

"I think [the Esports Student Association] stands out because it brings out this huge community that's asleep to everyone else. As if it doesn't exist; it's just some people playing video games," said Shea. "Having each game have its own club and then have an esports club help with all of the clubs really shows people that it's a huge community."

"BEING IN ONE SINGLE LOCATION AND PLAYING IN PERSON IS A LOT MORE INTERACTIVE, THERE'S A LOT MORE HYPE."

As the comments scrolled down the Twitch chat, the Twitch manager watched attentively to make sure there were no hiccups. Casters stood on stage and camera directors waited on deck for the next game. Someone in the chat was saying, "We want Weepboop!" Others echoed the cry, and in minutes the famous Weepboop, a player known by his gamertag, was in the newschair, mic'd up and ready to go. There was no doubt these students loved every minute of it.



One Last Chance to Play

Women's basketball fights in WNIT despite injuries

MSU women's basketball team competed against Indiana in a historic game in Bloomington, Indiana, on Dec. 28, 2017, for the Big Ten Championship. The game broke records, going into four intense overtimes and with Spartan sophomore Taryn McCutcheon playing a total of 60 minutes in the game.

"I don't think I can explain how tired I was," McCutcheon said. "I was telling myself the entire game, 'You're fine. You practice longer than this,' but I knew it was all a lie. I was

dead. My legs were shaking at the end of the game."

The game went back and forth for the entirety of regulation and each overtime. The determination on the court was palpable from both MSU and Indiana. The incessant game ended with Indiana on top: 111-109. It was a result that most of the Spartan women called a "heartbreaker"—it seemed like their season was over, as they were ineligible for the NCAA tournament.

"It really could have gone either way," senior Taya Reimer





said. "It was definitely a heartbreaker, but we fought as hard as we could. It was hard because we thought that we could have [gone] really far in the [NCAA] tournament."

The players went into spring break thinking that they had no chance of returning to the court to play another game this season. Some players knew they would return for practice in the fall, but seniors were prepared to never play again. When the team returned from the school vacation, a surprise was waiting for them: They had one last chance. MSU had accepted a bid into the Women's National Invitation Tournament (WNIT).

While they were able to continue on, one problem from the regular season followed them into postseason play: injuries. McCutcheon said that they got hit with the "injury bug" twice—once at the very beginning of the season, and once during the Big Ten season. The team lost key player Shay Colley for six games, and at one point, every guard was out with an injury. Three players suffered knee injuries, another had a broken arm, and others were in and out due to more minor injuries like concussions. The team went through 13 different starting lineups during the season, as players rotated in and out.

"The injuries show this team's resiliency to never back down and to keep on fighting in a season where an unusual

amount of injuries happen. I'm proud of everybody," junior Jenna Allen said.

With their turbulent regular season behind them, the Spartan women were excited to play in the WNIT. In their eyes, the season they had just completed was not representative of the strength the team held. The WNIT was their final opportunity to show the fight they had left, despite the adversity they faced all season.

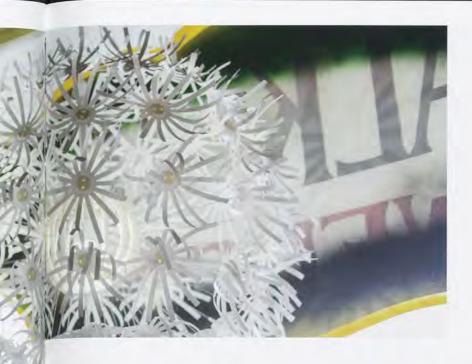
"A lot of people look at it like a few extra games at the end of the season, but that's not how we're looking at it," McCutcheon said. "I think this team is good enough to be in the NCAA [tournament]. We need to win this to prove that."

Entering the WNIT, the Spartan women's team pushed forward slowly but steadily. Taking down both the University of Cincinnati and the University of Toledo, they finally fell in the third round to the University of South Dakota in yet another overtime game. Making it this far was impressive, but doing it after such a challenging season was even more so. Playing every game believing they could win, these Spartan women were remembered for their exceptional resilience.

SEASON RECORD:

W: 19 L: 14





The Ink Begins to Flow

East Lansing tattoo artists create perpetual body art

Psychology major Ericka Judd pulled open the door of the dimly lit tattoo shop during her sophomore year. There was graffiti covering one wall, and a front desk with books of designs sprawled across its countertop. A girl with tattoos scattered over her skin and piercings adorning her face stood at the counter, smiling. Music played over a speaker somewhere in the back of the shop. From one of the rooms, a steady hum came from a needle as the tattoo artist prepared to dip into the first color. Judd looked down and saw an Om, a Buddhist and Hindu symbol, on the girl's hand. Though Judd already knew what design she wanted to get, she decided to get the symbol, too.

Judd visited Ink & Needle, a small shop on the corner of Abbot Road and Albert Avenue in East Lansing where Spartans were able to get tattoos or piercings. The shop was opened by William Brown in 2014, but Ink & Needle was not as young as it seemed. The company was founded over seven years ago, with two other locations in Lansing.

"The shop had a really friendly environment, a safe and sterile environment, which is definitely really important," said Judd, now a senior. "The people there were really relaxed and generally seemed interested in why you want to get your tattoo and are really willing to help with that decision process."

Piercer Danny Aybar worked at Ink & Needle for over five years and said the shop was the best choice for MSU students when it came to getting a tattoo or piercing because it offered high-quality work at low prices. Not to mention, the artists appeared to genuinely love what they did.

"We all love working with people," Aybar said. "Just the environment of people actually wanting to come in and spend money, and getting to goof around with people and getting to listen to their stories, is pretty fun."

At the Abbot location, a majority of the clientele were students, however the shop did see a few regular customers. Tattoo artist Mike Bensinger said that while he did several different types of tattoos, he normally got requests for smaller ones. Infinity signs, feathers and flowers were some of the most common ink applications.

Bensinger had worked at Ink & Needle for over a year at the company's multiple locations. He created art his whole life, and he loved that he could craft new pieces of art for students and clients. A personal favorite of his was taking botched art and making it beautiful.

"I get a lot of satisfaction out of that—turning the monstrosity into a masterpiece," Bensinger said. "People feel so much better about it, and it makes me feel good because not a lot of people can do that."

As each color was added, the artist wiped Judd's hand with a cloth until the Om symbol was complete. She looked down and smiled at the vibrant masterpiece now embellishing her hand. The artists at Ink & Needle had extensive skills in creating unique designs that inspired others like Judd. Students expressed themselves through colors on their skin, and they could tell their stories through ink. Ink & Needle's work was permanent, and their markings could be found on Spartan skin far beyond the city of East Lansing. Wherever students ended up, they took that with them.





College of Music

MSU music students compete in the Running Start Competition

MSU College of Music students were making some noise, allowing not just their instruments, but their voices, to be heard. The Running Start Competition gave students the opportunity to pitch a product or service-based idea within the musical realm that would positively impact the community. This was a chance to flex their creative muscles, and winners received funding to kick-start their careers.

The student presenters all had original ideas—from creating a concert series for those with special needs, to educating other musicians about instruments not typically taught. The Running Start Competition helped fund this innovation through donors like MSU Federal Credit Union, Lansing Area Partnership, Cynthia Kay & Company and more.

"Honestly, it was accidental because we just wanted to play music together," said Michelle Myers, a senior music performance major who pitched her idea at the competition. "Nothing exists for instrumentation [how a piece is arranged for the instruments involved], so we had to go about and find people who would make music for us...we had so many people who wanted to write for us; we were like, 'We should make an album of it and demonstrate all of their work.'"

Students in the College of Music realized it was hard to find a sustainable job in the music industry. This competition increased their marketability through community outreach and brought light to their future.

"I started playing bassoon in middle school, and when I started playing it, I struggled a lot—like many young kids do when they start playing this instrument," said Natalie Law, a music performance graduate student who won the first-place award of \$2,500 and the people's choice award in the competition.

Law pitched the idea of the Bassoon Book, which would be created for bassoonists who need help perfecting their skills. The book would be accessible in print and online, with mini tasks to ensure that beginners learned how to play the bassoon correctly.

"I learned a lot of bad habits, and my band director didn't have a lot of the resources to be able to help me learn how to play it...and that eventually held me back...I would've wished to have had a resource that would've helped me."

For these competitors, music was a way of life. Though not every presenter could win the grand prize, they all left with enhanced skills to fuel their creativity and prospective careers.



"In a Round World, I'm definitely a Square"

The adventures of shopping with Tye Dye Thom

Tye Dye Thom: a man known around campus for his quirky salesman style and compelling stories. Found in the MSU Union on a biannual basis, Thom-whose full name remains a mystery—was an enigmatic being in the eyes of Spartans. Who was he, what was his role at MSU and why did he choose to come here to make his sales?

His role: a vendor of homemade hemp necklaces, bohemian tapestries, state flags, knitted headwear and more. Tables were overcrowded on the Union main floor, budding with his merchandise. But why MSU? Thom worked alongside the University Activities Board (UAB) as one of its most prominent fundraisers for more than 14 years, not only as a top salesman, but also as a strong supporter.

"Tye Dye Thom is such an advocate for UAB," said Catherine Fitzpatrick, manager of UAB. "He makes sure every student is aware of UAB and our programs and has provided our organization with more than \$20,000 in the past 14 years. My staff raises at least \$100,000 each year in vendor sales alone to support our operating budget for events like our comedians, craft nights, open mic nights and live music. Vendors like Tye Dye Thom are vital to our success."

To truly understand the essence of Thom, though, he must be witnessed in action. His bountiful historical narrations and expressions of personal opinion made the simple task of shopping for a new hat an adventure. The moment a student stepped onto the Union's main floor, he would be right next to them, sharing his beliefs and explaining each product. He would even speak over someone's headphones to make sure they were not missing even a fragment of his words.

"Well, I mean, in a round world, I'm definitely a square.

Or at least a rhombus," said Tye Dye Thom when asked by a customer about his eccentric pink hair and enticing persona.

Thom shared his unique timeline: recalling his excursions of riding the one and only Snoop Dogg's bicycle at a music festival he helped film, or when his mother was diagnosed with cancer for a second time and he dyed his hair bright pink as she fought—and won—her battle. With sentiment and humor, he recounted his life's travels, all while helping someone pick out the perfect flag to hang on their dorm room wall.

"He's hard to describe," said Stephanie Calloway, assistant manager of UAB. "He's just Thom. That's what I always tell people—he's just Thom. You have to meet him and you'll see what I mean."

While Thom's eventful appearance lasted only a week in the fall, he returned during the cruel winter. His attachment to the university and UAB revealed his character and his willingness to aid in student expansion and inclusion. Thom, in making these events possible, was helping students find their place on their vast campus and call it home.





Senior Ben Richardson sorts all types of parts used in machines on campus at the Infrastructure Planning and Facilities warehouse at MSU. He deals with over 7,000 parts on warehouse shelves and organized in a computer database.



A Little Direction

MSU internships help students forge their future paths

It was about 4:30 a.m. when Sergio Martinez-Beltran, a senior journalism student at MSU, arrived at the station. He took off his jacket, placed it on the chair behind him and opened his laptop. Various newsfeeds were scattered across his computer. He looked at the host of the radio show softly and said, "Where should we start?"

Martinez-Beltran was a production intern for WKAR's "Morning Edition" show through the local NPR affiliate station. As a production intern, he worked directly with the host, Brooke Allen, on writing breaking news from the night before, researching people and stories prior to her interviews, and making sure that she had enough material and questions to cover each hour.

"Whatever questions I write, she will ask 99 percent of them," said Martinez-Beltran. "She's busy doing a bunch of stuff, so I try to make it easier for her. I am a print guy, so at first I was like, 'This [internship] is crazy.' I've only been here for a month, and it's already muscle memory. Now that I know how Brooke thinks and speaks, I write to her voice. Sometimes I catch myself reading out loud in her tone and style."

All across MSU's campus there were countless opportunities for students to pursue their career interests in specialized environments, like Martinez-Beltran's internship. Jaimie Bozack, a junior majoring in journalism, worked as a production intern at "Conan." As she passed by the writers, graphic designers and camera crew at "Conan," she connected with them.

"I am just a girl from Lansing, and now I am living my dream," Bozack said. "Coming out to [Los Angeles] and starting this internship reminded me of why I have been working so hard for so long. Every day I get to live a dream that I have had for years. Being around all of these incredibly talented people in LA and at 'Conan' has made me work harder and push myself to constantly create. I get to work with

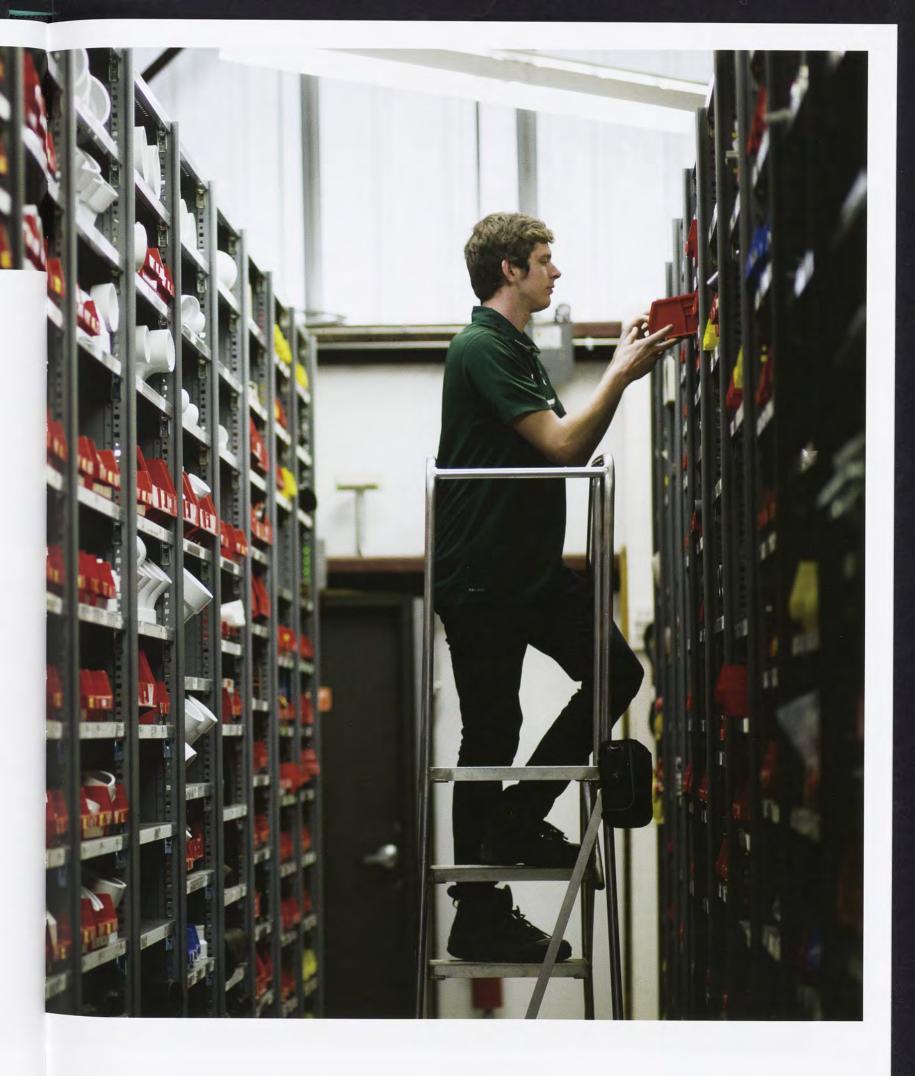
the best writers in the business and so they constantly push me to be better."

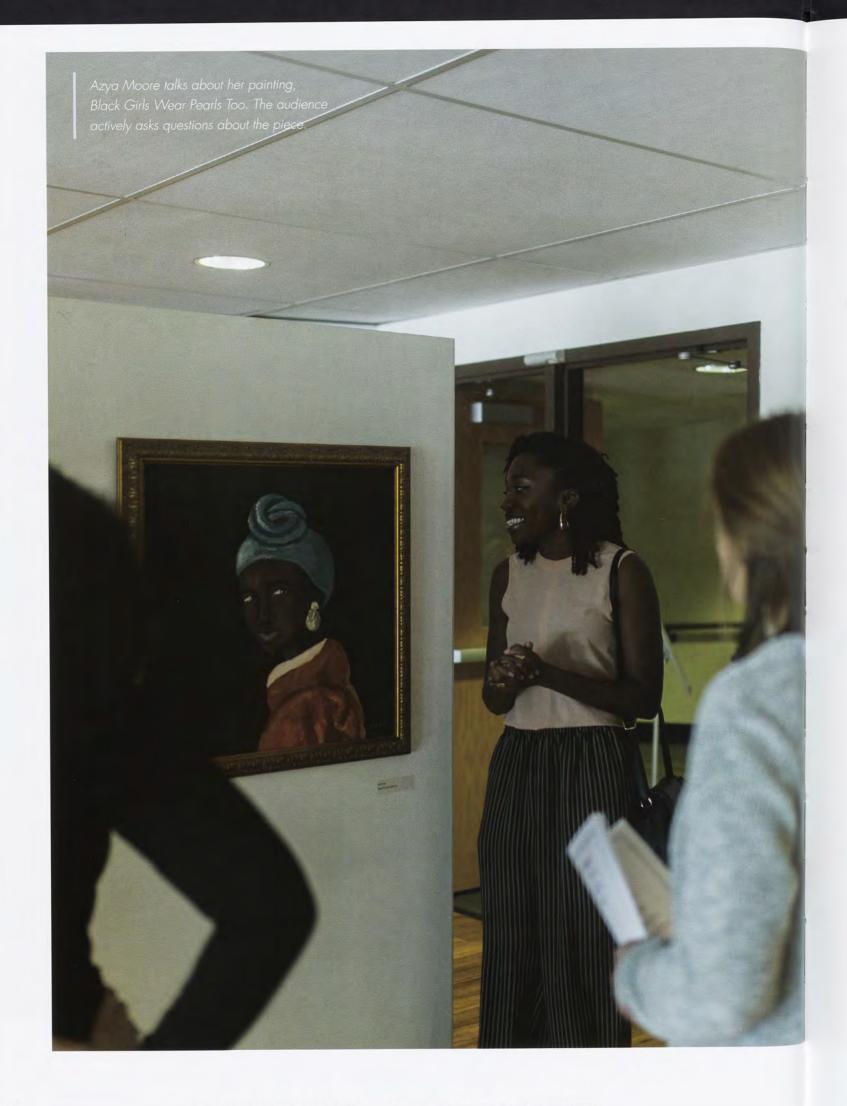
Ben Richardson, a senior supply chain management major at MSU, was a logistics analyst for the Infrastructure Planning and Facilities warehouse at MSU. He started out working at the warehouse as a student employee. After identifying inefficiencies in the process, he proposed a Microsoft Excel document that could be used to keep track of the 7,500 parts in the warehouse. That led to his internship.

"The biggest thing I learned is how important technology is to creating more efficiencies," Richardson said. "Before the internship, I didn't know how supply chain and data could make a business more efficient. Getting this project, actually doing it, and actually getting results was really satisfying to me. I believe that after the semester, the things I did will actually save a lot of time and money in the future. Plus, it's fun to get a project that improves efficiency. It helped me make my mind up that I picked the right major."

ACTUALLY DOING IT. AND ACTUALLY GETTING RESULTS WAS REALLY SATISFYING TO ME.

These were just a few of the students who walked around campus with the budding look of professionals. They were dedicated students with visions of where they wanted to go and what they wanted to do. With the direction of their internships, they set a course for the open seas of job hunting and mortgages—never failing to remember the places where they found themselves.







Art. Unity. Justice.

MSU's first social justice art festival

On Jan. 19, just as MSU was settling into spring semester, art enthusiasts from both the Lansing area and the Spartan community gathered to experience the first Social Justice Art Festival. Taking place in Snyder-Phillips Hall, the festival lasted the entire day, giving students the opportunity to stop by at their convenience. The crowd enjoyed everything from live theatrical and musical performances to spoken poetry, literature and many forms of visual art.

"Planning the event was both intricate and fun," said Gia Toler, a junior political theory and constitutional democracy major who helped coordinate the festival. "There were a lot of moving parts...that we had to do behind the scenes. It was a success and we hope to do this again next year."

Amber Benton, director of diversity programs and student engagement for James Madison College, was the brain behind the festival. Benton wanted to see an event on campus that gave innovative students a chance to illustrate their abilities and educate peers about social justice. She centered the event around student perspectives, allowing them to use creative platforms to articulate their beliefs.

"As you engage in these performances, keep in mind that each piece is coming from a deeply personal space and a lived experience," Benton said to the crowd.

All MSU students had the opportunity to submit any personal work with meaning rooted in social justice. The committee then proceeded to select a number of inspiring pieces to showcase on the day of the festival.

One of the performers, Yun Ju Pan, presented a body percussion piece. The sound of her hands beating against her skin represented the systematic belittlement women often face. This was Pan's way of showing her inner strength, and it provided an example that gender and race should not be a hindrance in music arts.

"I don't think Americans understand how much power we have on other countries," said apparel and design and psychology junior Sierra Tolbert, who was a participant in the festival. "With that being said, if we don't have people trying to grow and expand and know other cultures and love one another, we can not grow as humans. That's why we are in

our current situation, with so much tension between cultures."

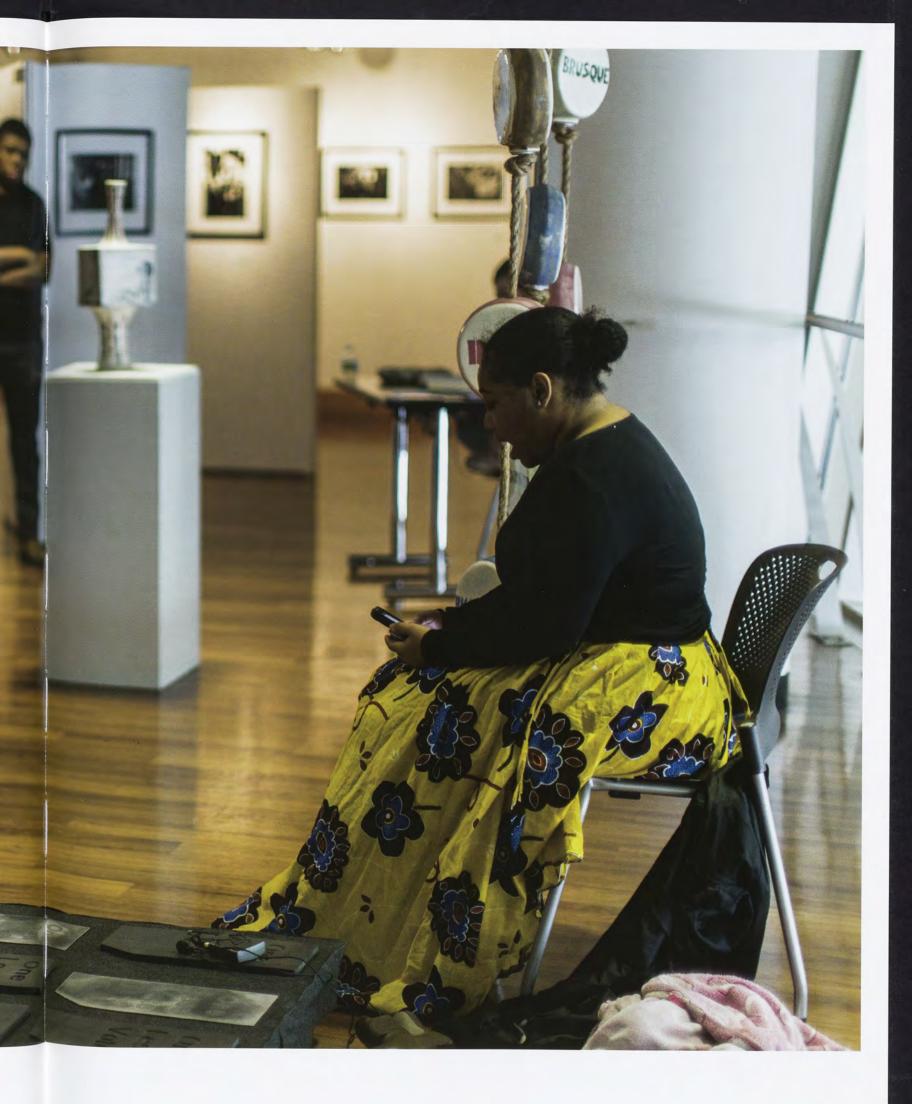
Slavistar, a local Lansing group, performed their project "The Music of Roma People." The Roma people, a diasporic group, are commonly known as Gypsies and have been prosecuted since their arrival in Europe between the 12th and 14th centuries. This band of four men used their instruments to artistically communicate what it felt like to face discrimination, forced sterilization, racial segregation, human trafficking and exploitation.

'AS YOU ENGAGE IN THESE PERFORMANCES, REEP IN MIND THAT EACH PIECE IS COMING FROM A DEEPLY PERSONAL SPACE AND A LIVED EXPERIENCE."

Although the event displayed a great deal of Spartan heart, it also had a competitive aspect. Awards were given for the "most out of the box" and "most inspiring" artistic displays or performances. The former was awarded to Sonali Solanki, a junior art education major, for her studio art piece, and the latter was awarded to Margherita Fava, Will Crandell, Timothy Blackmon and Tissa Kholsa, jazz studies students, for their musical performance. The crowd also voted on a people's choice award, which went to Gerena Walker, senior social relations and policy major, for her theatrical performance.

Audience members had to exit their comfort zones to allow for personal growth as they viewed the controversial pieces—forced to dig deeper into the artistic mediums presented. The 15-minute intervals between performances gave the crowd a chance to reflect on and engage with the content. While the festival marked the beginning of many students' education in social justice, it was, more importantly, a call to action.







The Tables are Turning

Student DJs who started in their rooms are now on stage playing for thousands

Former MSU student Dillon Shamoun stood on stage at PRIME Music Festival, looking out at the expansive crowd before him. Bright-colored lights pulsed along with the beat of the music as people jumped up and down, hands in the air and hair whipping around them. Shamoun climbed onto a large inflatable duck on stage and was catapulted into the dancing crowd and caught by a sea of hands. That festival was one of the largest shows Shamoun had played since becoming a DJ, and he got his start by

making music in his room.

For Shamoun, making music became a way of life. He found himself investing more time working on Dling than working on his kinesiology homework. He began buying equipment and making connections. When Shamoun acquired his equipment two years ago, he played at one of his first shows: Lansing's Life In Color. This allowed him to book gigs at The Landshark and MSU Greek Life events.

"PRIME was the first big festival I did on the main stage



Senior Connor Davis-Green is djing for MSU Spartython at IM circle. Spartython is a dance marathon that is done to raise money for charity.

and I had a decent slot," Shamoun said.

While Shamoun entered the world of music on his own, other student DJs got their start through a new organization at MSU. Students, like sophomore electrical engineering major Alexis Haselwanter, started DJing through the Spartan DJ Club. Haselwanter said the club helped him decide what equipment to get and how to start playing shows

"I really like working together with the guys in the club on different events," Haselwanter said. "Obviously being a part of the campus community, such as doing Spartython [a dance marathon to raise money for the Cassie Hines Shoes Cancer Foundation and Children's Miracle Network] and working with other organizations, is rewarding."

Senior philosophy major Connor Davis-Green worked with the founder of Spartan DJ Club to create a network of DJs to perform at events around campus. He was in a band for about five years, but after it broke up he decided

he still wanted to perform—that's when he picked up DJing. Davis-Green has performed at after parties at PRIME and Breakaway Music Festivals, formals for Greek organizations and other charity gatherings.

"I prefer house parties because it lets you take the reins on what type of music you are playing," said Davis-Green. "If you are playing a bar or event, you kind of play the music that they expect you to play. Playing house parties is a good way to improvise your set and take creative leaps."

College students normally have a hard time balancing school and work. However, Davis-Green, Shamoun and Haselwanter said that balancing DJing and attending class was not difficult for them. Most of the organizations and events they played for were at night, giving them time to be a student by day and a DJ by night.

"OBVIOUSLY BEING A PART OF THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY, SUCH AS DOING SPARTYTHON AND WORKING WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. IS REWARDING."

As the lights continued to pulse and people still danced in the crowd at PRIME Music Festival, beads of sweat breaking out on their foreheads, the beat of the music got higher and higher until it dropped, shaking the whole room. While not all student DJs have performed with The Chainsmokers or had their track played at Lollapalooza like Shamoun, each student started DJing to express himself through his own beats.





Residential College in the Arts and Humanities

Students fine-tune their work at the Language and Media Center

In the basement of Snyder Hall, placed between the art room and the choir room, lay a hidden accomodation of the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities (RCAH). This room, home to artistic exploration and language mastery, was the Language and Media Center. Coveted by artistically inclined students, the center was filled with copious materials available for use by any Spartan. From Hollywood-level production software to printers capable of printing posters, the Media Center truly had it all. It provided students with a space to complete projects in a creative atmosphere, embark on a new, innovative journey, or just relax and watch films from all corners of the globe.

Andrew Duris, a volunteer at the Language and Media Center and a junior arts and humanities major, explained why the media center was vital to the success of arts and humanities majors. He believed collaboration on projects was essential, and that students in the college—and beyond the college—benefited from the artistic environment.

"[The Language and Media Center] helps students who are not sure on how to start or perfect a project," Duris said. "We help RCAH by supporting the technical side of art, and encourage individual expression and constructive criticism in a setting that promotes good work and happy students."

Levi Labruzzy, an arts and humanities junior who utilized the Media Center to print posters for a project, spoke about its importance on her work in design. She believed the technology that the center offered was integral to crafting a powerful final piece.

"The [language and Media Center] offers a lot of resources that would be hard to come by if RCAH didn't have them," Labruzzy said. "It allows people to get more creative, and I think just the fact that people have access to

these things allows them to do more. Resources like cameras, tripods and microphones are important for students to branch out and experiment with new equipment."

While the Media Center was essential to the success of arts and humanities majors, Spartans from all backgrounds were welcomed. Rory Brosnan, a junior majoring in media and information, went to the Media Center to fulfill his own unique artistic requirements.

THE TECHNICAL SIDE OF ART, AND ENCOURAGE ARTISTIC EXPRESSION AND CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM IN A SETTING THAT PROMOTES GOOD WORK AND HAPPY STUDENTS."

"The center is a very good place to focus and finish projects," said Brosnan. "The Media Center has a lot of computers, all with Adobe programs from Premiere to Photoshop, which are instrumental in the filmmaking process. Access to these programs gave me an advantage and really helped me bring my filmmaking to the next level."

Through integrating a myriad of cutting-edge technologies, the Language and Media Center provided students, whether a future Hemingway or a prospective Picasso, with the means necessary to succeed. If Spartans needed musical instruments, industrial printers, computers with professional programs or practically any other item of artistic equipment, they could find it there. The Language and Media Center not only allowed Spartans to create art, it created artistic Spartans.



Make it Official

A Spotlight on Student Intramural Sports Officials

Cleats dashed across the grass, sending bits of sediment into the air as the players launched forward. Bodies in green and purple jerseys advanced and then receded as they gained and lost possession of the ball. Cheers from the fan section on the sidelines drifted over the soccer field and faded into the expanse behind Munn Ice Arena. A swift rip on the ball from a muscular right leg flicked it into the upper left corner of the net and sent the kicker to his knees, both arms jolting up in victory.

Erin Hinojosa, food science major and coordinator of soccer operations for intramural sports, was a senior gratified by his work in the sporting facilities on campus. Starting his sophomore year on an intramural team, an official approached him after a game and asked if he had any interest in seriously joining the intramural community. He found reffing to be a great learning experience, not only for soccer, but for cultural exposure as well.

"I love soccer, so it's cool to be around it multiple times a week," said Hinojosa. "To see the different cultures is great. You see people playing from Africa and it's a totally different soccer culture. It's cool to see it up close and personal and learn the different playing styles. There are thousands of kids who play IM sports. It's cool to be able to know and familiarize yourself with that many people. Before IM sports, I didn't know that many people, and now I do."

Olivia Fox, elementary education major and coordinator of volleyball staff, was a senior who started playing intramural sports as a freshman. Playing basketball since she could walk and volleyball since middle school, she thought it would be wrong to discontinue her passions in college. As an intramural sports official, she gained a lot of experience dealing with difficult situations.

"Most of the time it's fun and entertaining, although

sometimes it can be really stressful and frustrating when you have students who argue with you no matter what," said Fox. "It really helped me with conflict resolution and being able to hear things from two sides of the same story. Working as an official has also taught me a lot about responsibility."

Jacob Bomeli, senior communication major, was a supervisor for intramural basketball, football and softball. He started out working at the service desk in IM East when he was a freshman. He believed that being an official was just as much about commitment as it was about having fun.

"The sport to watch is softball," said Bomeli. "People don't take it as seriously as other sports. So you get a lot of people who don't know what they are doing because they haven't been playing for very long. The best part is that they know they don't have the skills. It's hilarious to see them walk up to bat and just have fun with it."

"IT REALLY HELPED ME WITH CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND BEING ABLE TO HEAR THINGS FROM TWO SIDES OF THE SAME STORY."

Taking time out of busy schedules is difficult for any college student. The officials of intramural sports honored their athletic traditions, dedicating their time to actively engage with the community and represent the Spartan experience at MSU. Student intramural referees, garbed in the classic white and black stripes, took their personal enjoyment for the sports they loved and made it official.



Spartan Bizcast hosts Don Conlon and Caroline Brooks record their voices for an episode of the podcast. Spartan Bizcast focuses on topics such as cryptocurrencies, marketing, and supply chain management.





Eli Broad College of Business

Spartans take the air with Bizcast

A mother walked by the 2016 Lincoln MKZ self-driving Music is often perceived as a pastime that's relaxing, focusing and even energizing—but music wasn't the only sound streaming through headphones on walks to class or resounding through car stereos on a joyride. Ears were now being filled with content deemed more conversational, comical or even educational in nature as podcasts rose in popularity.

"My commutes to and from work—and a good deal of my downtime, in fact—are filled with listening to podcasts that try to dig for the story behind current events in the world," said Zach Hall, co-creator of the Spartan Bizcast podcast. "Podcasts keep me informed and also provide me with more information as to how it is related to me and my interests."

Hall brought up the idea of giving the Eli Broad College of Business its own podcast in the spring of 2017. The following semester, three 15-20 minute podcasts had already been created, meeting their goal for the academic year. Each podcast was hosted by Caroline Brooks and colleague Don Conlon, both faculty within the college, and covered a particular topic, allowing expert guest speakers to elaborate.

"We wanted to find a new way to connect our Broad College experts with audiences that wouldn't typically pick up a business academic journal, or even read something related to specific areas of business," Brooks, communication director for the college, said. "By finding ways to connect our faculty to issues and events impacting the greater world, we can create an awareness for their expertise."

The Bizcast was crucial to the growth of the Eli Broad College of Business community. Students and faculty alike could be educated on subjects within their field that they may not be exploring in their day-to-day work. It expanded the name and brand of the college within MSU.

"The Spartan Bizcast is an enjoyable and knowledgeable podcast to listen to," said Jackson Butcher, a business-preference freshman. "The hosts do a nice job of asking thought-provoking questions that allow the guest to give answers that were informative and entertaining. The podcast kept my attention and probed me to think about what was being said and make connections."

CONNECT OUR FACULTY
TO ISSUES AND EVENTS
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The Bizcast was another way to spread the messages of the Eli Broad College of Business to its followers. It added an on-the-go, tech-savvy option for those who didn't have time to sit down and read, but were eager to stay informed. It was a modern element that showed off the abundance of talented faculty within the college in relation to topics outside of MSU.



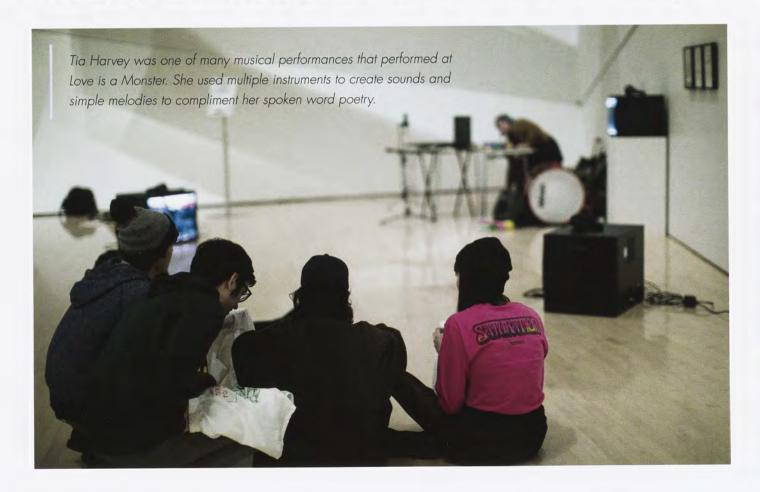
Love is a Monster... Let's Skip Valentine's Day

Spartans who don't need a Valentine host an alternative celebration

Heart-shaped candy, sappy love notes and romantic dinners aren't for everyone—especially on Valentine's Day. Students often get caught up with school, extracurriculars, jobs and the demands of college life that finding true love isn't always their first priority.

"As a student I do think it's hard [to find love], just because our generation places so much value on how available you are to do little things like text back or FaceTime," said Tiffanie Quinn, an apparel and textile design major. "I just feel too busy most of the time."

Instead of eating gallons of ice cream and enveloping oneself in the melancholy soundtrack of sad love songs, there was an event on campus welcoming lonely hearts. A team of people from the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, the MSU LGBT Resource Center and student radio station Impact 89 FM came together to



create "Love is a Monster: An Anti-Valentine's Day Party."

The party was inspired by a local '70s rock band, Destroy all Monsters, that had its own exhibition on Feb. 13 at the museum to honor former band members Mike Kelly and lim Shaw.

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"[The band was] working with a lot of Godzilla films, old monster movies, a lot of old comics and incorporating those into their own visual art work as well as some of their performances," said Brian McLean, the manager of museum programs at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum. "So, aesthetically, the inspiration came from that with our collage-making, card-making and using some of the same techniques."

With a set theme, activities and venue, the party was open to anyone on campus uninterested in kindling love on Feb. 14. There was live entertainment with local band

Red Strike, and members of Impact 89 FM took to DJing to keep the crowd tapping their feet and clapping their hands. Students could work on crafts and enjoy light refreshments, but the most unorthodox activity? Make-your-own underwear. Screen printing was available, allowing attendees to plant unusual alien creatures on a fresh white pair of Fruit of the Loom boxers.

"We knew that if we were gonna do a party around Valentine's Day that we wanted it to be an Anti-Valentine's Day," said McLean. "And we've done a lot of screen printing before at different events, usually on tote bags or T-shirts, so, I don't know, the idea of doing it on boxers or underwear seemed appropriate for an Anti-Valentine's party."

College is stressful, and the question "So, have you met anyone?" was often answered with a cringe. The Love is a Monster event may not have been the key to finding true love, but it gave attendees the opportunity to find a friend who hated Valentine's Day just as much as them.

"I was surprised by how many people I knew there," said Audrey Matusz, a staff member at Impact 89 FM. "Just being able to meet up with people outside of a dusty East Lansing bar made it for me."

Typically, monsters are scary and love is indulged, but all the norms were broken at this Anti-Valentine's Day party. Spartans didn't need boxes of chocolate or candle-lit dinners when underwear was waiting to be decorated right down the street.



SiDESHOW is no Sideshow

SiDESHOW exposes the beauty of developing skills before graduation

Once upon a time, on a campus close, close by, was a student-run sketch comedy show. One of seven shows umbrellaed under MSU Telecasters—a group dedicated to giving students with a passion for film production a chance to experience it—SiDESHOW was established on MSU's campus in 1994. Its videos were published to YouTube, providing viewers with laughs and quality entertainment.

"The 10-year 'Mean Girls' reunion video was the first show I saw," said sophomore and SiDESHOW fan Justin Woods. "I came across it after looking up my major on YouTube and was happy to find how dope they were. I subscribed and every video since then has never let me down."

The video Woods spoke about had nearly 7,000 views on YouTube, making it SiDESHOW's most viewed video of 2017. On average, nine videos were released each year, which was made possible by SiDESHOW's 47-member production team. All of the members were divided into specialized teams: pre-production, production, post-production and marketing.

"My engagement with SiDESHOW began the first semester of my freshman year," said senior and co-head writer Danielle Chesney. "Moving to my sophomore year, I served as social media coordinator and a general writer. Now, being the co-head writer, I see how SiDESHOW maximized my potential, and the connections I've made have reassured me this was the best decision I made."

SiDESHOW met every week in the Communication Arts and Sciences Building to write shows, and they filmed in various places around MSU's campus, sometimes even in the city of East Lansing. Filming in different locations on and off campus lent SiDESHOW a certain realism and legitimacy in its videos.

"We shot a flash mob in the Summer Circle [Theatre]

next to the auditorium," said senior and co-producer Noah Wolinski. "This was so beautiful, and a fun place to shoot with our cool team. During these shoots, we work very closely and it brings us together."

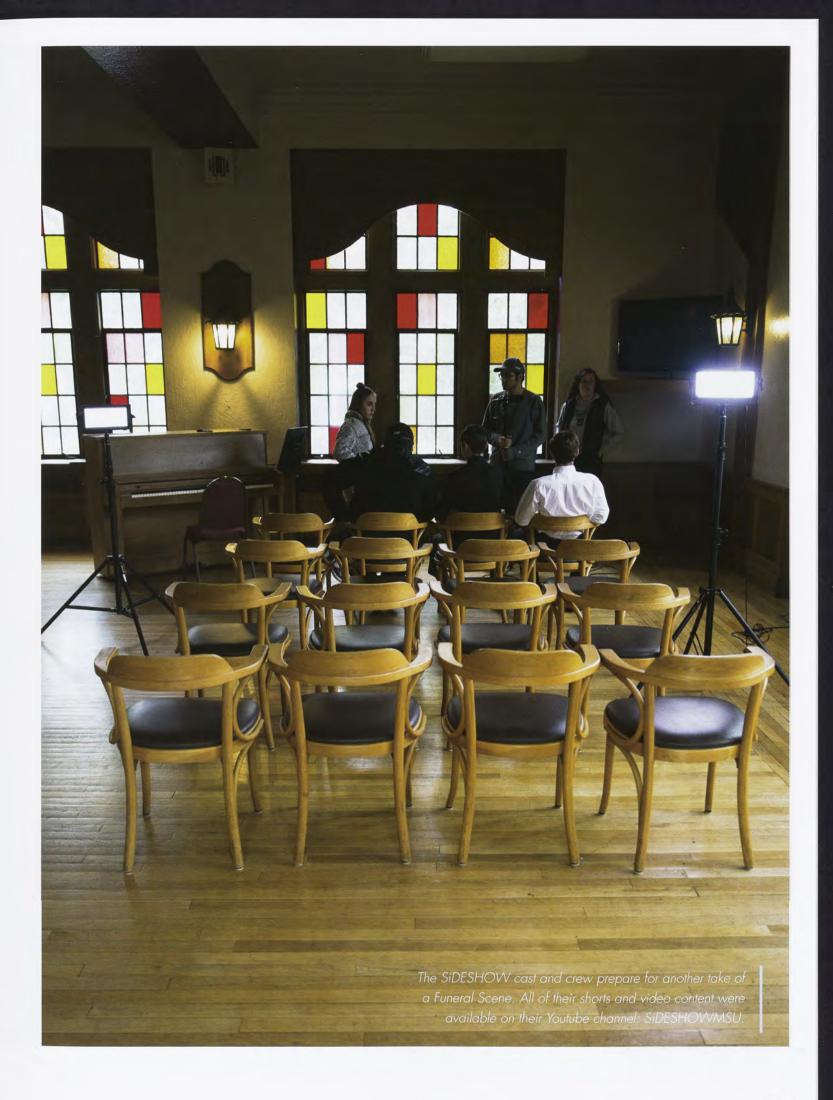
The passion, hard work and eagerness to give people quality content is what set SiDESHOW apart. SiDESHOW wanted to make sure the cast and crew were gaining field

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experience before they began their careers, which included journalism, videography, acting, media consulting and more.

"SiDESHOW became my family while at MSU," said SiDESHOW alumnus Chris Ryan. "My relationships with some of my best friends and my career experience was all happening at once... It was my favorite part of college. Now that I am a professional digital marketer and videographer, I see all of my skills were being perfected during my four years in SiDESHOW."

Experience is great, but when a college organization could offer its members the chance to actually create a wealth of professional-level material, it was a cut above. With their portfolios brimming, these students went into the world ready. It may have seemed too good to be true, but this was no fairy tale. This was SiDESHOW.









Serving up Seniors

MSU men's tennis seniors reflect on their pasts, presents and futures

The definition of legacy is broad. To some, it often details what you leave behind, whether in the physical shape of a trophy or the emotional state of a memory. With each racquet stroke of a yellow Wilson tennis ball and each shuffle-step taken over the hundreds of green and white tennis courts, the MSU men's tennis seniors had one common goal: to leave a lasting legacy after their departure.

Jasper Koenen, a senior hospitality business major, had been playing tennis competitively since he was nine years old. Before he joined MSU's team, tennis had been more than just a sport in his family—and it was that very idea that

pushed him to pursue playing tennis at the collegiate level. The leadership qualities gained in his personal life were just one piece of the supportive legacy he hoped to leave with his team upon graduation.

"Both my sisters played college tennis," said Koenen. "Since it's been a family sport, all the hours and hard work to get here really paid off."

Koenen spent his early years growing up at the tennis courts with his biological family, but when his career began at MSU, leaving his parents and sisters wasn't bitter, because he had a band of brothers right by his side. Over time, he began



to realize that he was becoming a team leader—someone who could create that same nurturing environment for new players.

From hours spent on the courts to days packed in buses traveling for tournaments, Koenen was playing alongside men that were not only talented tennis players, but individuals that created a supportive atmosphere Koenen wanted to see develop after his graduation. They were united in a bond that represented their care toward one another on and off the court. Senior tennis player and biology major Michael Dube stood alongside Koenen, focused on building a brotherhood to last generations.

"I've wanted to implement the idea of building relationships with the team and coaches, and hopefully helping them realize that we're more than teammates," said Dube. "It's hopefully something that they pass along to future players."

Dube, along with masters kinesiology student Brett Forman, clinched huge wins for the team during the 2017-2018 season. The victories granted both Dube and Forman the chance to leave behind a special memory for themselves and for the team, and they also stressed the concept of family that the seniors wanted to leave behind for future generations of men's tennis at MSU.

"It's definitely bittersweet," said Forman. "I'll miss these guys and competing for MSU, but I'm pretty at bay with it and ready for that next chapter."

For these seniors, the end of their time with collegiate tennis was made bearable because they were leaving behind some of themselves for their team—something that would not fade. The journey from freshman to senior year consisted of uplifting wins and painful losses, but the team was a constant. The young players always had their leaders to look up to, to follow and to cheer on. When it came time for the seniors to depart, they knew that they were leaving a legacy of strength and unity, making their final swing of the tennis racquet on the green and white court an empowering motion.

SEASON RECORD: W: 8 L: 19





College of Nursing

MSU College of Nursing creates jack-of-all-trades

The stereotypical depiction of the nursing environment and profession is a dramatic picture, often painted by TV shows and fictional films. Nurses are running from patient to patient, barking quick directions and seemingly thriving in a sense of panic. What TV studios often failed to include were the diverse kinds of nurses and a real sense of just how much they do for the medical community.

"I wanted to become a nurse because a [Bachelor of Science in Nursing] is the jack-of-all-trades in the medical field," said James Reder, a senior in the College of Nursing. "You have the ability to move laterally or vertically due to being useful in so many fields, and also having the ability to further your degree as you see fit."

The MSU College of Nursing was competitive because of how its classes were styled. Available seats in classes were limited, so individuals had to apply to enter the program. Once in, students were shown various options within the field, such as the intensive care unit or the surgery floor. After receiving their initial degree, they had the ability to pursue a specialized field as well as opportunities for further education.

"Nursing is unique because a lot of our learning is not in the classroom—it is in real-life situations in the clinical setting," said Monica Fee, a junior nursing major. "We do clinical rotations in the hospital setting for three years of our education. That means once we graduate and take our boards [the licensing exam for nurses], we will be registered nurses without any additional training."

Students often travelled hours for their clinicals, as they were a serious part of their education. Learning the theory of medical practices was much different than actually doing them on a live patient. Practicing being at ease in stressful situations,

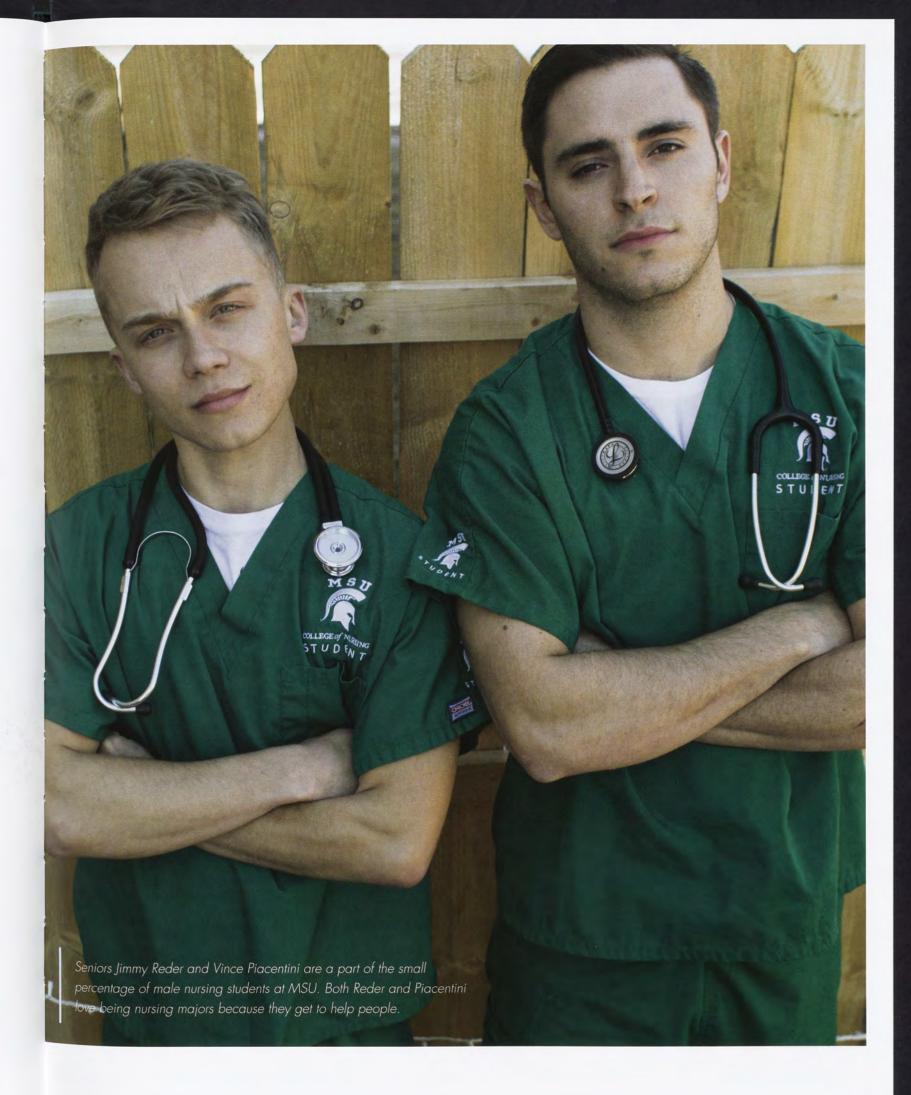
like emergencies or an overflow of patients, prepared nurses for their careers, and could ultimately save lives.

"It's a job where you are extremely accountable for your work," said Kate Pilarski, a junior nursing major. "When you are working as a nurse, you have to be alert at all times and always double checking yourself because certain small mistakes have the potential to be detrimental to another person's health."

EXTREMELY ACCOUNTABLE FOR YOUR WORK.

Spartans were given a special advantage in the education they received. They entered the workforce sooner and were able to provide care longer. This allowed them to become versatile members of the medical community at a young age. At many other universities, clinical training was done separately from schooling, so it took the average student much longer to achieve what Spartans could in a shorter period of time.

An MSU College of Nursing graduate could be thrown into the chaos of an emergency room trauma unit after a catastrophic accident and remain level-headed. Or, they could sit in a room that lists the heart rhythms of patients and know the moment that one changes for the worse. This jack-of-all-trades degree could place Spartans in burn units, oncology wards and anywhere in between, allowing them to succeed wherever they landed.







Unity in Sobriety

Taylor Struna finds support in Collegiate Recovery Community

College: For many, it is a place of freedom. It is a child leaving home and transforming into a young adult as they gain independence and start working toward their career, crossing paths with new individuals and mentors along the way. With all of this newfound freedom, there is the chance of running into temptations to which they have not yet been exposed. Many students are unfazed by the frequent presence of drugs and alcohols, but for some, this world of temptation is a dangerous and all-too-common stomping ground.

Junior Taylor Struna experienced this temptation as an environmental studies and sustainability major at MSU, an achievement that may have been out of reach only a few years earlier. Struna was an addict. Beginning with social use at the age of 12, his addiction quickly turned into an insatiable urge. By 16, Struna was nearly failing out of high school. Knowing that this dependence was unhealthy, he attempted to quit using drugs on numerous occasions. The sobriety never lasted longer than a couple of months though, before his temptations reeled him back in.

"I loved the way it made me feel; I loved that it made me not feel," Struna said. "I burnt many bridges and hurt many people. I traded everything I once loved for my addiction. It had pushed me into the fast lane to failure."

Even though Struna was in a constant battle between recovery and relapse, he knew that he had to find help. The drugs were draining him of his energy and potential, and separating him from those he loved most. However, hope was not lost for Struna—he eventually found Narcotics Anonymous, his first support group. Since that first meeting in April of 2015, Struna has been sober.

The challenge Struna had to face when deciding to attend a large university was finding feasible means of support to maintain his sobriety. This came in the form of the Collegiate Recovery Community (CRC), which was a program that provided students recovering from substance

abuse a supportive safety net that encouraged their success.

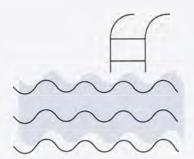
"I couldn't imagine going here without the presence of the CRC," Struna said. "Having easy access to my recovery network was crucial in the decision to make the leap from community college to university. Ultimately, the presence of the CRC was one of the main deciding factors of me coming to MSU."

Now a junior, Struna is the student leader for the CRC where he helps his peers on the road to recovery. The CRC combats the danger of feeling left out by holding their own sober events. On days where substance use is particularly high, like St. Patrick's Day or home football games, they plan events so that members have a place to go and people to be with to remind them that they are supported in their lifestyle choice.

OLTIMATELY, THE PRESENCE OF THE CRC WAS ONE OF THE MAIN DECIDING FACTORS OF ME COMING TO MSU."

"We have been working really hard doing advocacy work across campus so students can have a real college experience without the use of drugs," said Cara Ludlow, the alcohol, tobacco and other drug program director at the CRC.

While Struna may have started his road to recovery alone, he continued it with the help of Spartan companions as they marched determinedly down the same street. He once was the scared addict looking for a beacon of light for help, and now he is the beacon. Struna had taken the lead in helping others in his community recover as he worked toward a world without addiction.



Just Keep Swimming

Swimming and diving team aims to improve on existing success

During the 2017-2018 swimming and diving season, fans and athletes alike came out in force to support their team. The MSU men's swimming and diving team saw nearly a quarter of its athletes depart after the conclusion of the season in the form of graduating seniors. For those who remained and those approaching their first year, it would be a battle to recreate the past success enjoyed by Spartan swimmers and divers—but it didn't damage their spirits. Undoubtedly, the 2017-2018 season proved to be fruitful, but both players and coaches kept their eyes on the future success of the Spartan swimming and diving team.

Coach Matt Gianiodis praised the student-athletes while looking ahead to the upcoming fall season. Knowing that the 2018-2019 season would be hard-fought, he was excited to introduce the incoming freshmen to the team and teach them the way of the water.

"We had a really good season and the kids did a nice job in all phases both academically and in the water," Gianiodis said. "A quarter of the team is graduating, so the roster will need to be changed. We'll have to integrate many freshmen on the team and teach them what it means to be Spartan swimmers and divers."

Charlie Ryan, a freshman swimmer, spoke about his transformation from a high school competitor to a member of a Big Ten university swim team. While he was a younger athlete, he was a dedicated one. Ryan aimed to grow into a mentor for the young, incoming swimmers and was willing to take on new responsibilities if it meant success for the team.

"Transitioning to a Big Ten school means less of a focus on the individual and more of a focus on the team and ensuring that the team wins," Ryan said. "Looking to next season, I aim to improve as a leader and take a larger role on the team."

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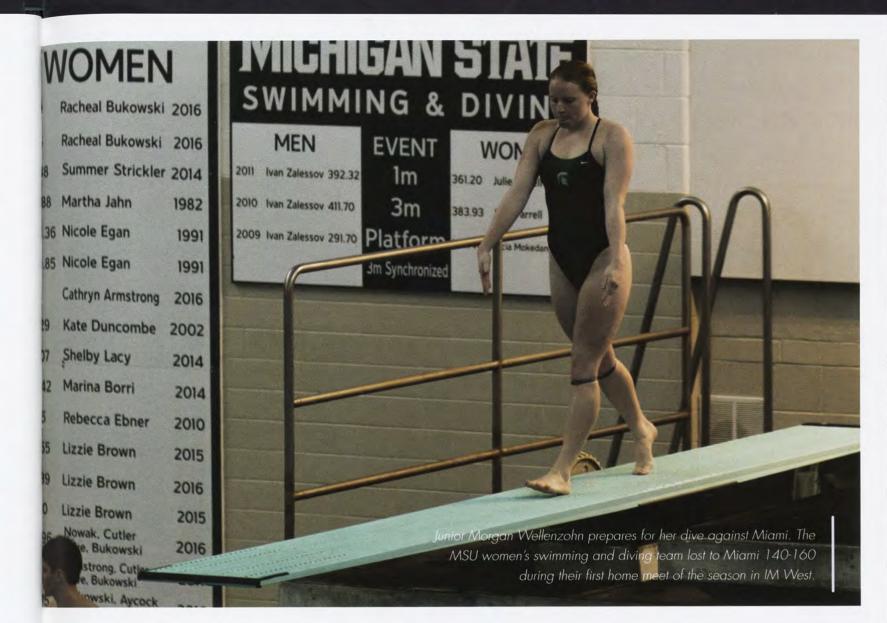
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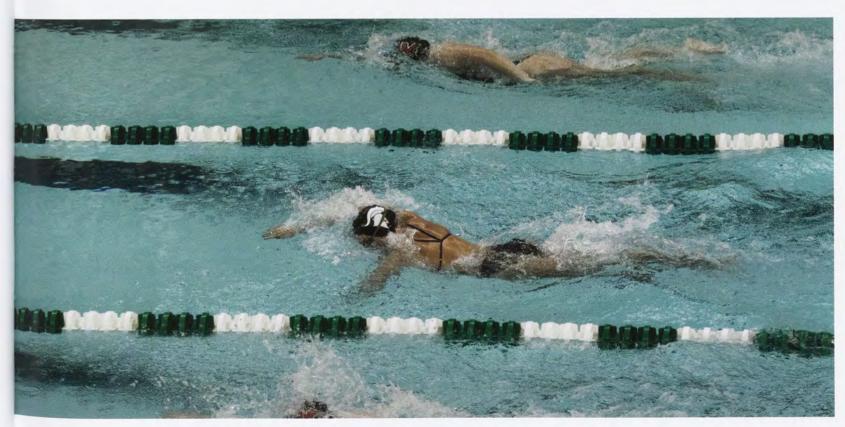
While the swim team pulled in impressive numbers in competition this year, it would arguably be nothing without dedicated fans like Jack Seelye, a junior psychology student and a former swimmer. Seelye encouraged students to attend swimming and diving events, hoping they too would recognize the excitement and emotion felt among the audience as each athlete's feet left the springboard.

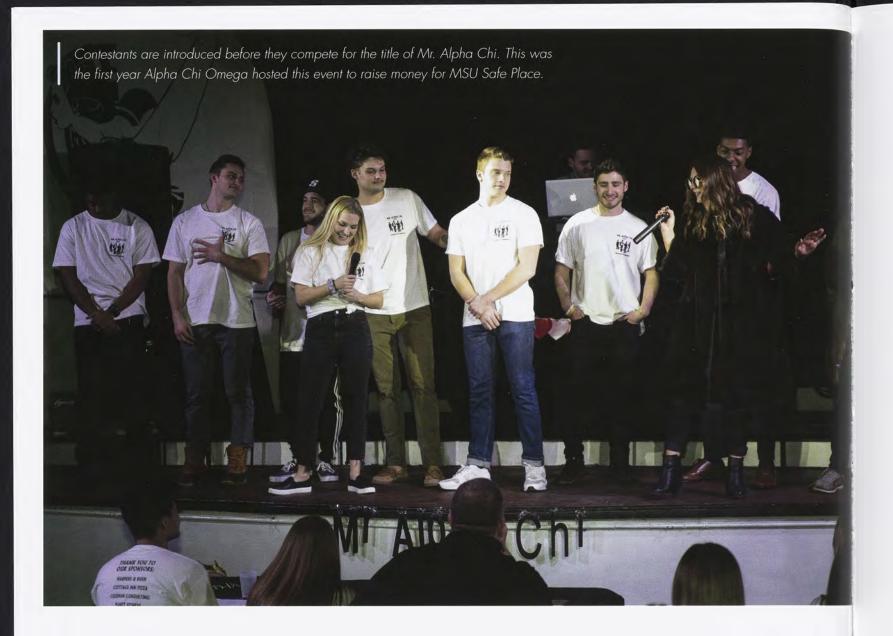
WE'LL HAVE TO INTEGRATE MANY FRESHMEN ON THE TEAM AND TEACH THEM THE WAY OF THE WATER.

"There's a different type of energy in swimming and diving as opposed to other sports," Seelye said. "I appreciate the fast-paced nature of swimming. As a spectator watching swimming it's nice because the way it's set up. The way the events take place, it's pretty different from the last event and the type of strokes are very diverse."

As a portion of the Spartan swim team made an exodus upon graduation day, freshmen had to step up into their new roles on the team, and their new roles as campus icons. This process was safely in the hands of experienced coaches and the young athletes were already well on their way to becoming Spartan leaders. Freshmen, long-time members and coaches worked tirelessly to ensure that the following season would yield the strongest team in the Big Ten. In many ways, these individual improvements are what kept Spartan fans cheering in the bleachers.







Who Will Take the Crown?

Mr. Alpha Chi competition raises money for MSU Safe Place

The crowd went silent as Lydia Lanzinger, sophomore hospitality business major, stepped onto the stage. She looked out into the darkened room and saw hundreds of people staring back at her. Looking down at the paper she held in her hands, she began reading. "You stole a life. She's still alive, but she's not the same. She shivers at the memory of you taking away her control, her power, her womanhood." After finishing her reading of the anonymous poem, Lanzinger looked up to see the words' deep emotion reflected back at her in the eyes of the audience.

Every sorority in the Greek community adopts a

national philanthropy. Alpha Chi Omega's philanthropy was domestic violence awareness. Maddy Coleman, vice president of philanthropy for MSU's Alpha Chi Omega, presented the first ever Mr. Alpha Chi in February. The event raised \$2,850 for MSU Safe Place, an organization that has been on campus for more than 20 years. Its goal: to offer support and raise awareness for victims of relationship violence.

"I wanted to come to the event tonight mainly because I wanted to support the girls and I think it is a fun way to raise money," said Ashley Brzozowski, a sophomore



animal science major. "I also think safe relationships and making sure that violence isn't occurring is very important, so I think it's really great that [proceeds are] going toward that."

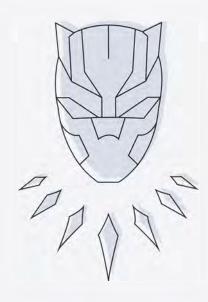
At the beginning of the night, the poem Lanzinger read brought light to what it was like to be a survivor of relationship violence. The event raised awareness for MSU Safe Place, highlighting how the organization helps survivors and how others can join in the fight against domestic violence. After Lanzinger exited the stage, a DJ played music and the crowd began dancing in their seats and clapping along—the part everyone had been waiting for was about to begin. Eight men competed for the title of Mr. Alpha Chi in three categories: talent, lip sync and Q&A.

"I'm definitely looking forward to watching the guys; they are going to be really funny," Coleman said. "You can really see their personalities shine through when they go up there."

Julian Thompson, a junior packaging major, was one of the men competing for the title of Mr. Alpha Chi. Thompson was happy to see that the event would be raising money for domestic violence and that his participation would help make a difference. While the competition was friendly, it did bring out his competitive side. He had his talent and lip sync of "A Thousand Miles" by Vanessa Carlton ready for the stage.

"I want to win," Thompson said. "Winning would be nice, but I also hope that they raise a good amount of money and that there is a good turnout—but I'm also trying to win."

The room was dark, contrasted by the bright, white lights of the stage and the blue, red and yellow lights adorning the tables. Thompson stepped onto the stage and the crowd went wild as the music started. He held up two thin rainbow ribbons that cascaded to the floor and twirled around them as he leapt and spun in circles. The crowd erupted in applause and laughter as the song ended. While sophomore media and information major Eli Weil stole the crown, it was Thompson who had an impact on the crowd. He was prized with a "People's Choice" sash and was ecstatic to have contributed to such a great cause—all while putting on a great show.



Wakanda Forever

Marvel's Black Panther makes a huge impact on students

Marvel has countless characters, all showcased in a plethora of movies and comic books. "Black Panther" made a name for itself, not only as a movie, but as a representation of black culture that was not typically presented in films. The movie grossed over \$1 billion at the global box office and inspired massive amounts of cosplay, with people coming to theaters dressed in African attire to support the Black Panther movement and Black History Month.

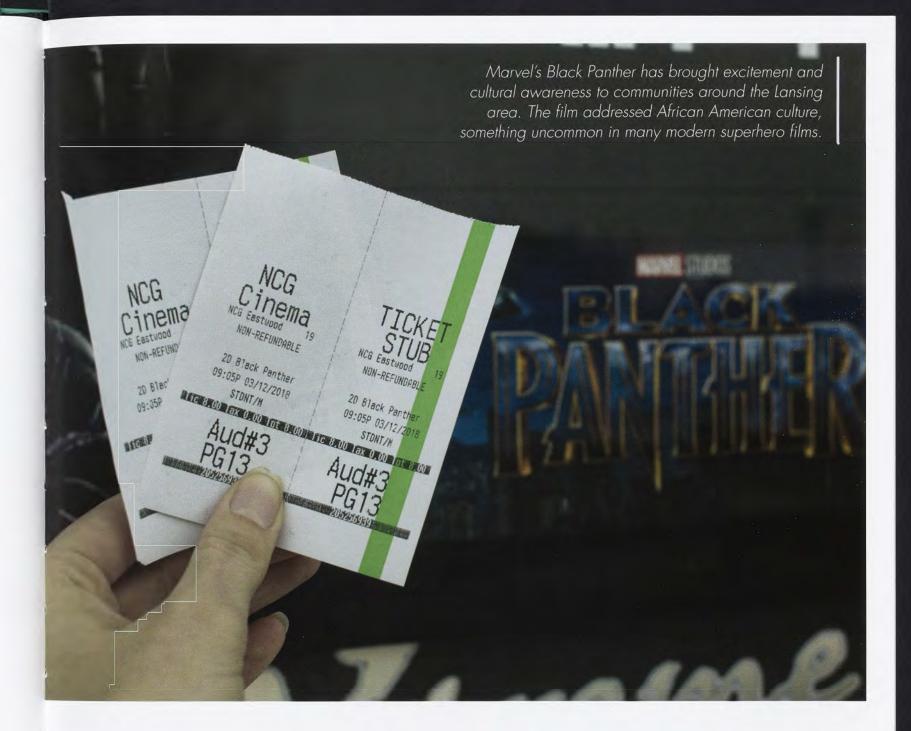
"I can't even explain how overwhelmingly overjoyed I was and continue to be by this cast," said Shanika Kidd, president of Black Student Alliance. "I'm 21 years old, and I cannot remember the last time I've witnessed such an anticipated black-cast film. Black people...living in a secretive East African country that has never been colonized, but is more well-off than some super power countries? This is amazing!"

The black MSU community had been a part of this

experience and was excited for all the popularity "Black Panther" had obtained. With all the cinematic buzz, they were hoping for movies like this to become more common in the Hollywood arena.

"I would definitely give 'Black Panther' a 10 [out of] 10," said Kidd. "I went to see the movie three times, and each time I noticed something that I hadn't before. I anticipated the release of 'Black Panther' since mid-2017. When information began to be released little by little, I knew this movie would change the world, and it couldn't have come at a better time."

Celebrity movie premieres typically have the dress code of formal evening wear, but viewers of "Black Panther" made sure to take an original approach to this original movie experience. Outfits were inspired by Africa, the 1988 film "Coming to America" and black history as a whole. There were dashikis and head wraps worn to represent African culture, black apparel to symbolize Black History Month and



a variety of African wax prints that are a common material used for clothing in West Africa.

"I wore an Afrika [baseball] jersey to the movie to represent," said Joseph Onah, a junior neuroscience student. "It felt empowering to see so many black actors and actresses in the movie."

The main plot of the film takes place in a fictional country known as Wakanda. "Wakanda Forever" became a trending slogan used by fans globally, the hashtag #WakandaForever was used to fuel this fantasy on Twitter and Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport created a fake departing flight to engage its customers. But little did the airport know how many people were actually trying to pack their bags and visit Wakanda.

"[Wakanda] is the one place that I'd feel safe because I know that the people there would be like me and understand me," said Kailinn Hairston, a junior neuroscience student. "It's the only place where there's no outside influence on what my true culture is and how it should have been when I was growing up."

SO MANY BLACK ACTORS AND ACTRESSES IN THE MOVIE."

Though fans cannot actually travel to Wakanda, the history that has been made with the development of this film and its success touched many viewers. "Black Panther" has grown at a rapid pace and is continuing to influence society. The film's impact was felt communally, politically and globally. Wakanda—the imaginary country that now resided in the minds of the film's many viewers—would not soon be forgotten.



The Flicker of a Spartan Startup

A novelty business for two novel Spartans

They were used in dimly lit bathrooms during a relaxing soak in bubbles, or as the centerpiece at Christmas dinner. Each one had its own unique smell, with the essence to place you back at grandma's dinner table or sitting fireside at a summer bonfire with friends. No matter your age, the novelty and nostalgia candles bring have remained, and it was in candles that two MSU students found their calling. Guy Procopio, sophomore psychology major, and Travis Hamers, senior packaging major, started their own business: Red Cedar Candle Company.

"There was definitely a learning curve when we first started making candles and our friends thought we were crazy," Procopio said. "The more we made, we realized that our candles smelled great and burned really well. We then decided to take it a step further and create Red Cedar Candle Company."

Most candles on the market are made from a soy and paraffin wax mix, but Red Cedar Candle Company's were 100 percent soy wax. The use of pure soy wax resulted in a longer burn-time and caused less smoke and soot than the typical blend. Hamers, being a packaging major, could put his education to use in altering the production of their candles.

"The first candles we made were in Mason jars. We made three at a time and could make up to 12 per session," Hamers said. "Since then, we have switched our jar and added two new sizes to complement our original size. The labels used to be hand written, and now they are printed on a customized label. We can also make up to 150 in one session. We have definitely evolved from when we started, and it all seems to be in a positive direction."

Hamers was right, and as a result Red Cedar Candle Company was growing. Several local stores sold the candles, and the duo often travelled to craft shows selling their products. They also partnered with groups on campus, including Sigma Alpha and Zeta Theta Omega, to sell candles as a part of philanthropic fundraisers.

"In the fall, we usually do a Yankee Candle fundraiser, but since Yankee Candle prices their candles so high it was hard to get any sales," Sigma Alpha member Mean McFarlane said.

"When we found out about Red Cedar Candle Company, we were very excited to work with them because their candles smell amazing when they burn, they're far more affordable and if we had any questions or order changes they were available on campus to help us out. We also really liked the idea of MSU organizations supporting each other."

From their start in 2016, Procopio and Hamers watched their business grow and gain traction in the market. Red Cedar Candle Company's success was unexpected to the candle-making pair, making it even more special.

"When we first started, we bought a 10-pound bag of wax. Now we buy 300-400 pounds of wax every purchase," Procopio said. "We never would've thought that making candles was going to be such a successful business, but we love making candles and creating new relationships every day."

What started as a fun venture for the two students turned into an unexpected business model. Procopio and Hamers weren't the only ones shocked by Red Cedar Candle Company's success—consumers were pleasantly surprised as well. They didn't expect their favorite candles to be made by two young Spartans, but there was something authentic in these local, apartment-made candles. This Spartan startup began as a flicker, but it did not fade—it continued to grow into a steady roar.

The Red Cedar Candle Co. is a small business started by Travis Hamers and Guy Procopio. The two students made over eighty different scents to satisfy every candle lover. RED CEDAR CANDLE CO. Mediterranean Fig

John Engler: Temporary President, Permanent Change

In the wake of the Larry Nassar scandal, a former governor was chosen to help pick up the pieces

One perpetrator, many questions. After the Larry Nassar scandal, one thing was certain: MSU's trust in its leaders had been eradicated. Student rallies were underway, teaching strikes were carried out and students worked to become the voice of the university. That voice grew louder and louder as students and faculty stood with survivors. They were demanding change. The MSU Board of Trustees, despite student resistance, leaned on one man: John Engler.

Engler—an MSU graduate, father of three Spartan alumnae and former politician—was not the answer MSU community members asked for. His university affiliation gave the public reason to assume he was another corrupt leader. Given no input in the decision of electing an interim president, Spartan voices had not been heard—but they weren't the only ones who initially questioned this decision. Engler himself said he wasn't sure he was the man for the job. He knew upon acceptance he would become the face of a struggling university in its most calamitous time in history.

"The reality of the conversation was...'Look, if they really need somebody to do this, it's awfully important. The university is in a crisis,'" said Engler. "We had just gotten started with the building of a new house down in San Antonio, Texas, where [Engler's wife] is from. So, we knew it was going to result in some sacrifice on our part to do this. But, I cared enough about the institution to at least come out and talk to the board."

Ultimately, that discussion led to a final decision. Just a week after he had spoken to the board, he was in East Lansing and on the job. One of the daunting issues Engler faced was student unrest. One student stated that no longer would his degree say "Michigan State University," but instead, it would read "Larry Nassar University." Engler shook his head. To let one man's malicious malpractice and multiple errs in leadership define a university and its students was the wrong way to approach these circumstances according to Engler.

"I think what [students] need to think about is Nassar himself has been put into jail for 175 years. He committed the crimes," said Engler. "To the student who lived in Hubbard Hall or in an off-campus apartment or up over in Landon Hall—they weren't part of that abuse. They don't support it, and they should never accept the idea that somebody could try to paint them with that brush."

Engler saw this tragedy as an opportunity for healing. Rather than taking a salary for his work, he dedicated that money to groups on campus that worked to bring healing to survivors and an end to sexual assault. He decided where the money would go—not the board—and it went to sexual violence prevention groups that had long been present at the university, like MSU Safe Place. He was also implementing structural change with his new Civil Rights and Title IX Education and Compliance Office. This would alter the way university investigations of complaints were handled, while working alongside sexual assault groups to aid in MSU's prevention and response to any sexual crimes on or near MSU's campus.

TEM GOING TO MAKE THE DECISIONS AND DID THINGS THAT ARE, WHAT I BELIEVE, (INLTHE LONG TERM BEST INTEREST OF THE UNIVERSITY, AND BY NO MEANS DOES IT STUP HERE.

Additionally, he created a Relationship Violence and Sexual Misconduct Expert Advisory Workgroup that consisted of leaders in the community from groups including the MSU Sexual Assault Program and the MSU Police Special Victims Unit. Engler recognized the vast resources already present and available right on campus, and felt that bringing them together would lead to better patient care and safety, stronger prevention methods, and more immediate responses—his three main focuses. His position may have been temporary, but he intended to make lasting changes.

"Interim only merely describes my tenure," said Engler.
"I'm the president of this university, so I'm going to make the decisions and do things that are, what I believe, [in] the long-term best interest of the university. And by no means does it stop here."

As investigations ensued, negative media attention



persisted and lawsuits came filing in. Engler recognized that the university had been dealing with a skilled criminal, expert at concealing his heinous actions. While Spartans could not forget the degrading legacy left by Nassar, Engler believed they could emerge stronger. While controversy still surrounded Engler and the board, even his greatest critics didn't want to see him fail. Each member of the MSU community had one common goal: exit the Nassar storm better equipped to handle the issue of sexual assault.

"That would be a great legacy for Michigan State, coming out of all of this and being able to say 'Hey, we recovered, and in so doing, led the way—or are

leading the way," said Engler.

Engler's personal legacy? To leave the university in intelligent, capable hands. He believed that the right candidates would recognize the same thing Engler did: MSU is a strong university. It is filled with powerful individuals aspiring to bring change. While the path to healing had only just begun, the university had the power to unite and face its issues head-on, stirring conversation and collaboration. While Engler could do a number of things in a short time, he said that the president to follow would "determine whether or not I helped create conditions for success." And he was intent on finding the person to do just that.

College of Osteopathic Medicine

Spartan researchers overpower cancer with preventative drugs

It often takes more than 10 years for a drug to be approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Professors and Ph.D. students in the College of Osteopathic Medicine were boosting that process, working to get remedial drugs on the market as quickly as possible. They were testing a drug on individuals with a high risk of developing cancer. Jamie Bernard and Karen Liby, assistant and associate professors in the pharmacology and toxicology department respectively, worked with the I-BET drug—an anti-cancer and immunosuppressive drug—a possible preventative agent for cancer.

"We are examining early reversible stages of tumorigenesis," Bernard said. "Our work with Karen demonstrated treating with a drug at subtherapeutic doses may prevent or reverse early-stage carcinogenesis."

While Bernard's role was to perform research and examine how environmental compounds can influence the onset of cancer, Liby's goal was to develop drugs with anti-inflammatory effects that could be given to patients early on. She started testing the drugs in cells, then moved on to studying breast, lung and pancreatic cancer on animal models who had those diseases.

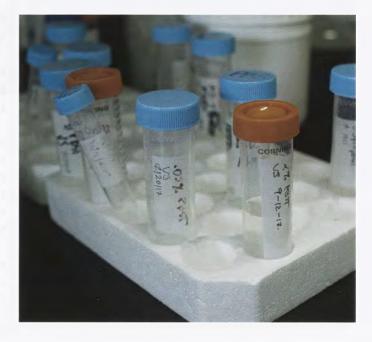
"I'm interested in developing drugs that can be given early on in the process, so preventing and early prevention in cancer, because by the time you get to the late-stage disease, there's numerous mutations and it's really hard to treat. So we want to intervene earlier in the process," Liby said. "One of the ways we are doing that is by targeting inflammation and the immune system."

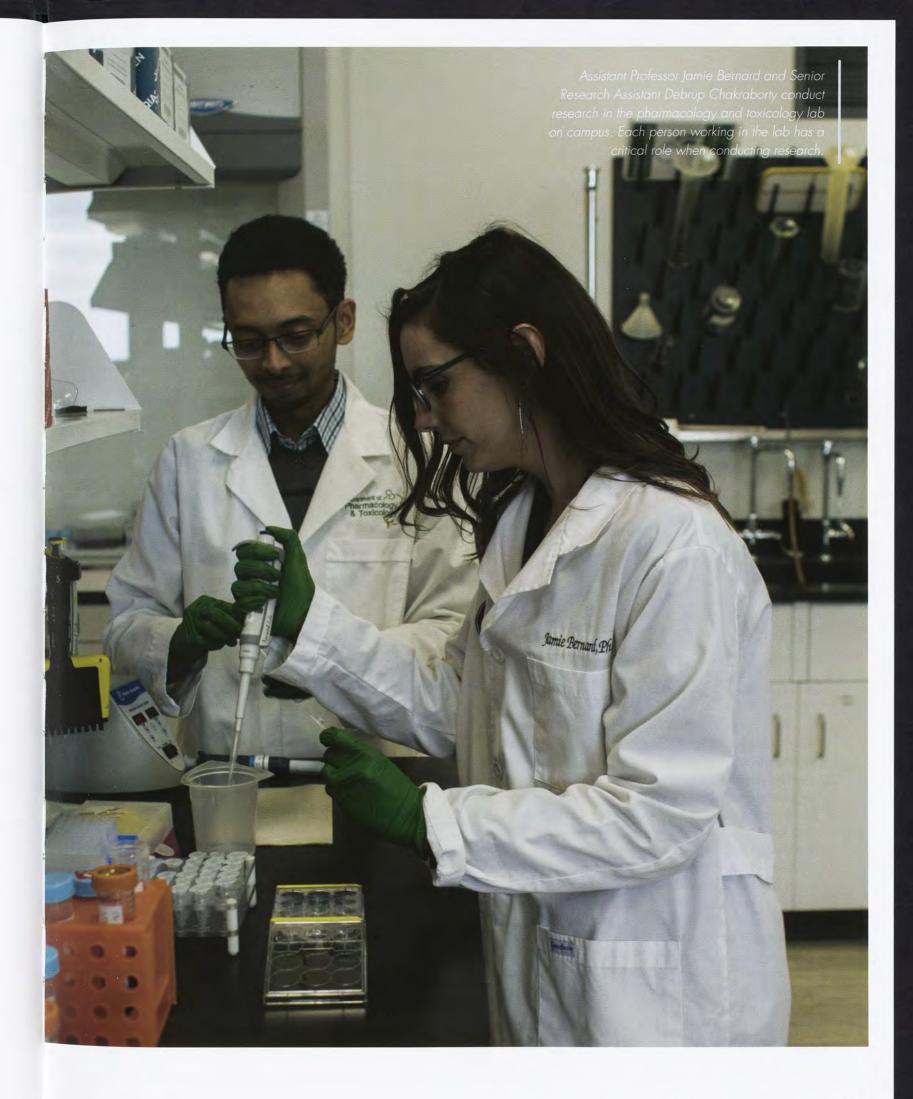
The research done on the pancreatic cancer drug also laid a foundation for Spartans, like Di Zhang, a third-year Ph.D. student, to lead the way with their own studies. Zhang's project stemmed from the research and testing Liby and Bernard did with preventative drugs. Alongside other students in the college, they investigated the drug's ability to treat tumor development in early stages.

"Cancer prevention is really important," Zhang said. "A lot of cancer is preventable, and if we can develop a safe and effective drug to prevent cancer development, that will be really beneficial for high-risk patients."

While it may take years for the I-BET drug to be approved, professors and students in the College of Osteopathic Medicine made significant advances toward helping highrisk cancer patients and preventing the development of the disease. Their research paved the way for the future of treating cancer. Their ultimate goal? To save lives. With each new discovery, Spartans in the College of Osteopathic Medicine believed they were approaching this reality.

PREVENEABLE AND IF WE CAN DEVELOP A SAFE AND EFFECTIVE DRUG TO PREVENT CANCER DEVELOPMENT. THAT WILL BE REALLY BENEFICIAL FOR HIGH-RISK PATIENTS







When It Ends

Basketball stars never truly separate

Brothers in basketball. That's what they were. Teammates who went to tremendous lengths to achieve nothing short of excellence on the court. Players who could be seen walking together in the fog of the morning—three hours before the first 8 a.m. class. As the school year ended, these dedicated stars looked back on their accomplishments and anticipated the future.

Lourawls 'Tum Tum' Nairn Jr., senior guard for the MSU basketball team, entered his third season as a Spartan captain in 2018. The incredible leadership qualities he possessed gave him the reputation of one of the best leaders in MSU history. Known for hyping up the students in the Izzone and racing from one end of the court to the other, he was a selfless teammate who put others first. He led by example as well—he was lightning quick with the ball, arguably one of the fastest in the nation.

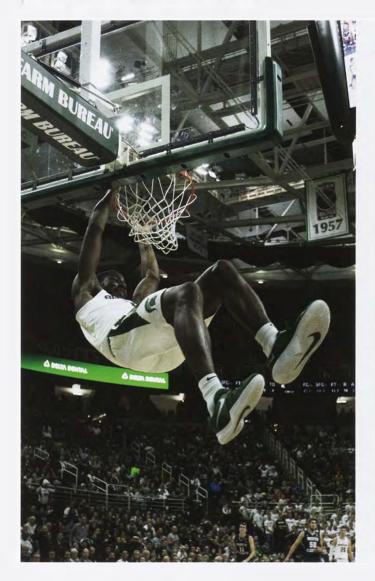
"Working with the team and coaches has allowed me to tap into a higher level of leadership, one that I did not know I had in me," said Nairn. "Leaving MSU is going to be very hard, but it is something that I have to do. I am excited for this next chapter in my life. God has truly blessed me, and MSU will always hold a special place in my heart."

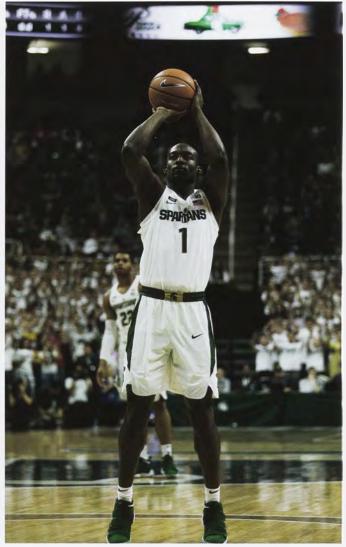
"WORKING WITH THE TEAM.
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Graduate student Ben Carter, a forward on the team, spent two years at the University of Oregon and two years at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas before finally finishing

Freshman forward Jaren Jackson Jr. is finishing up his uncontested dunk from a fastbreak. He had a double double against Northern Florida with 13 rebounds and 13 points.

Sophomore guard Joshua Langford is at the line shooting two free throws after being fouled on his drive to the basket.





his degree at MSU. After the 2017-2018 season ended, he moved to Israel to start his professional career, but that would not be the last time he would see his teammates.

"When I saw everyone yesterday [on May 4]...it was great," said Carter. "It's like I'm back with my family; I'm back with my brothers. You go through all the hardships you do during the course of a season and the adversity you face, and you spend a lot of time with them, so it's weird to not be with them every day. It's a good feeling to be back and those are relationships I will cherish."

Gavin Schilling, graduate forward, was able to turn his time at MSU into an experience of immense personal growth. The basketball team allowed him to make incredibly close connections with his fellow teammates, creating memories and bonds that would extend far past the borders of campus. Schilling wholeheartedly expressed that the most rewarding part of playing basketball at MSU was being able to learn from one of the best coaches in the league.

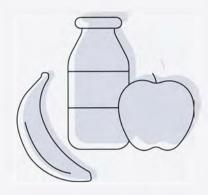
"Playing under Coach Izzo's unique, hard-working, blue-collar coaching style has shaped me into the man and player I am today," said Schilling. "He makes you want to play your hardest and gets everyone else to do the same because you learn and understand how much he cares for his players and the team's success—as much as individual success."

Each position in basketball requires a finely-tuned perception of the game—where one needs to stand, when one needs to block, when one needs to pass and when one needs to shoot. With each position comes the necessary element of being acutely aware of its relationship to the other positions. This year's group of graduating seniors demonstrated a teamwork and willpower that proved they were more than just players—they were brothers, and though brothers may pursue different paths, they really never leave each other.

SEASON RECORD: W: 30 L: 5







Time for a Real Meal

MSU Food Bank helps the community eat well

It was a joke to most students, the ramen diet. But shortage isn't a joke; it's a harsh reality faced by many students. Some had come to accept not being able to eat three full meals a day, since they just could not afford it, but what if there were an organization to help? At MSU, there is: the MSU Food Bank. Through the food bank, students receive supplemental food at no extra cost.

"We serve any and every MSU student, including visiting scholars," said Onur Agirseven, a member of client services for the food bank. "Our clientele is very diverse. We serve a high number of students with families, graduate students, international students and domestic students."

Distribution nights often looked like chaos. A handful of student employees mingled with 20 or more student volunteers within a stock room, deftly filling bags with produce and canned goods for awaiting clients. From the kitchen, one could see the expanding crowd before supplies were handed out. Recipients took numbers and waited to be called in the chatty crowd.

"It's unique in that it serves students who maybe can't completely fill their next meal and are looking for supplemental food," said Sara Diesel, a recent MSU graduate and food bank employee. "Everyone's here because they're trying to help people or they need help."

The MSU Food Bank celebrated 25 years of service in 2018. At first, the nonprofit started as seasonal help around the holidays, providing gift baskets. In 2017, the food bank served its clients bimonthly. Initially, 90 percent of the food bank's clientele consisted of graduate students and international students. Now, all members of the MSU community used the service almost equally, and to feed this ever-growing community, the food bank allocated food from a variety of resources. On average, the MSU Food Bank reached 6,000 students a year and only hoped to grow.

"Although we are the MSU Student Food Bank, we are

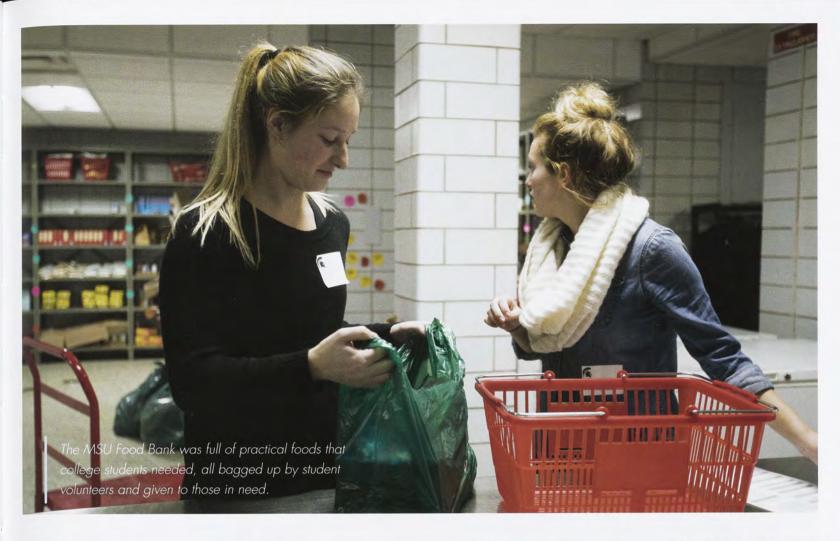
our own separate nonprofit," said Nicole Edmonds, MSU Food Bank director. "That allows us to be an agency of the regional food bank. Because of that, we can purchase in bulk from them, and we have our own donor base separate from the university."

The MSU Food Bank is an agent to the Capital Area Food Bank, which is a member of Feeding America. Through this connection, MSU was able to receive a portion of its supplies via the stock room of the Capital Area Food Bank. Those contributions included fresh produce, canned goods and various other products with long shelf lives. The rest of the food came from an expansive donation base.

OF STRUE A HIGH NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH FAMILIES GRADUATE STUDENTS INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND DOMESTIC STUDENTS

A similar partnership with the MSU Student Organic Farm was another way the food bank provided fresh produce. Local companies, as well as national ones like Starbucks and Kroger, also donated items that they could no longer sell. Students even held food drives at athletic events to give back to the food bank.

Being hungry does not need to be the norm in college. It can often seem like it takes too much "green" to bring home fresh greens needed for the table every night, especially when facing other expenses. Eating healthy and following a diet recommended by health professionals can be expensive, but it doesn't have to be out of reach. With a little help, some donated supplies could turn a table with not enough to go around into a table with a filling meal.







College of Veterinary Medicine

The next generation of veterinarians are taught at Vet-a-Visit

Children, at one point, believe that they can become anything: a doctor, a nurse, a firefighter or a veterinarian are only a few of the endless options. As children age, this dream job can get stifled by the intimidating education that comes with the field. MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine tried to keep dreams alive in young animal lovers with its annual Vet-A-Visit event.

"The annual event showcases the college and provides information about the veterinary profession and careers in veterinary medicine," said Ashley Braman, operations manager for the college. "The entire event is run by both our doctor of veterinary medicine and veterinary technology students so that they may share information about the profession to the community."

Vet-A-Visit wasn't just a learning experience, it was also hands-on and fun. Throughout the event, interactive stations were set up and run by students for the visitors. A hallway at the anatomy station was transformed into a giant blood vessel so viewers could understand how heartworms travel. Cow stomachs were inspected as a unit of recycling, and students got to view and smell what cows eat. Participants also had the opportunity to "gown up" and become surgeons, completing physical exams on teddy bears to make them "feel better."

"I enjoy watching all of the kids and their parents have fun learning and doing all of the activities," said secondyear veterinary medicine student Lauren Fenton. "Seeing their smiles and hearing about how much they appreciate us doing this and that they had a great time makes it all worth it. Being able to educate the public on some aspects of veterinary medicine is a plus too."

The joy of the event didn't stop at those who provided the event, or at the children; it also extended to the parents.

"We have been to the event in the past—my girls love it," parent Joseph Shetenhelm said. "We follow the Facebook event to get the tickets for it. It gives them a great experience in learning how and why animals do what they do. We love animals at our house of all kinds, so learning more about them is always something we try to do."

"IT GIVES THEM A GREAT EXPERIENCE IN LEARNING HOW AND WHY ANIMALS DO WHAT THEY DO."

Fenton acknowledged that veterinary studies was not an easy field, but that hopeful students should not give up. Events like Vet-A-Visit had the power to make an impact on a child holding onto their dream. The immersive experience enlightened animal lovers of all ages and encouraged children who attended to learn more about something they could one day shape their lives around.

Vet students talk to the audience about the bone structure of a horse. The horse is painted to demonstrate.







Trainer Skates

How the love for the puck began for MSU hockey players

One special part about any sport—especially hockey—is that behind the helmet, the skates and the padding, is a journey. Whether being part of a group of dedicated athletes striving for a championship title, hearing the roar of fans or creating memories that could be remembered outside of the rink—that journey was different for everyone.

From the age of 2, junior finance major Brennan Sanford had been immersed in the game of hockey. He remembered days of gliding across the ice rink, breaking in new gear and sharing in the brotherhood of the team—Sanford had been experiencing it all ever since he could walk.

"My dad got my older brothers and I into hockey as he used to play himself," said Sanford. "I would always try to

keep up with them, and they definitely pushed me to become the player I am today."

For many players, their love of hockey begins with the fresh sound of crisp ice. Left and right, they get a feel for the ice and the movements required to make great athletes. And that realization of passion—for both hockey and MSU—was no different for sophomore and finance major Sam Saliba.

"MSU has always been a dream school of mine to play college hockey at," said Saliba. "Our team is extremely close, and we continue to grow our bond as a group. The atmosphere can be loose and fun when it needs to be, but at the same time can be serious when it's time for business."

Moving forward for MSU's hockey team, one of the most



important aspects for the players was to not only leave a legacy, but inspire future generations that would one day take on the same rink and wear the same green and white jerseys that they once had. For sophomore finance major Taro Hirose—who started skating at the age of 3 and began competing in organized youth hockey leagues by the age of 7—the wish of putting hope into every young fans' eyes and making them believe that they, too, could be in that rink was more than important to him.

"It starts with you and what you have to give and work for," said Hirose.

Looking to the future, the only hope—besides improving with every skate, step and shot—is to not only make it further

into playoffs, but to leave a lasting legacy that future players would be able to witness, admire and aspire to.

"We hope to win the Big Ten Championship and compete for a national title in the NCAA tournament," said Sanford. "As for legacy, I want to leave with future teams at MSU is just my hard work and passion for this program. I want to be remembered as a great teammate who gave everything I had to this program."

Being able to shine, in and out of the rink, was an integral part to the teams' journey. It allowed players like Brennan Sanford, Sam Saliba and Taro Hirose—along with the rest of MSU's hockey team—to stay where it all started and keep doing what they loved.



MSUSPARTA



The men's hockey team huddles together for a team chant before going on to play Penn State. The team does this traditionally before every game.



Getting a Handle on Houseplants

Houseplant and Succulent Sale attracts Spartans with a green thumb

The doors opened promptly at 9 a.m. and the line started moving forward. Volunteers stood waiting and ready as the people kept coming. Before the anxious crowd sat tables upon tables of plants and succulents, all grown in the MSU Trial Garden. First-year veterinary medicine student Jordan Pieczynski waited in the extensive line that stretched from the door of the Plant and Soil Sciences Building to the parking lot in front of the MSU Horticulture Gardens in order to find the perfect plant.

"This was only their second year having the sale and my first time experiencing it," Pieczynski said. "I'm in love with houseplants and succulents, so it was only natural for me to be interested in attending the event and leaving with a few new plants to add to my collection."

Buying houseplants has been a growing trend, especially with the younger generations. As a result, hundreds of people showed up to the second Houseplant and Succulent Sale to find the perfect plant to take home. Some, like Pieczynski, already knew what they were coming for, while others just went to look around.

The organizers were more prepared in 2017 than in 2016, when the sale ended early because every plant was sold out. There was over seven times the plant material for the 2017 sale, but by the end of day two, only 30 plants out of 5,600 were left.

Perennial Garden Manager Bethany Troy and Annual

Garden Manager Daedre McGrath were responsible for putting the sale together. Troy and McGrath have seen the event grow from the first year in terms of the amount of people who showed up and the diversity of plants for sale. Both said they like to have unique and rare plants that are not easy to find at Lowe's or Home Depot.

THUMB, BUT IT'S ALL ADOUT PAYING ATTENTION TO YOUR PLANTS NEEDS

"I think that our plant list and everything that we have are really diverse. I think that everyone is going to find something they like this year," Troy said, crediting McGrath.

Over 1,000 people responded to the sale on Facebook saying they were going to be attending the event. Author Lisa Steinkopf, also known as the houseplant guru, saw the event online and asked if she could set up a table. Steinkopf wrote a book on how to care for houseplants and gave advice on the best plants to buy.

"Everybody can have a green thumb, but it's all about paying attention to your plants' needs," Steinkopf said. "Everybody should have a little green in their lives. It cleans your air, it makes you happy, it makes your stress levels go



down, it gives you something to care for."

Succulents and houseplants were easy to care for. Students who were busy all day could still have a plant or two on their windowsill without having to worry about it dying. Pieczynski waters her plants every few weeks, but waters the bigger houseplants every couple of days.

"Houseplants create an earthy, welcoming environment I look forward to coming home to every day," Pieczynski said. "I think students like decorating with the varying shapes

and colors of plants and having something they're low-key responsible for."

The sale was borne from the cultural phenomenon of buying houseplants. Spartans walked up and down the aisles with their carts, plucking plants off the table while others browsed the cacti and colorful Echeveria. Whether you were like Pieczynski, looking to add a plant to her collection, or a student in the dorms looking for a Sansevieria, there was a houseplant for everyone at the gardens that brisk fall morning.

College of Natural Science

Spartans reach the tip of the iceberg in subatomic research

For hundreds of years, scientists have known that high energy subatomic particles interact with the Earth constantly, they just did not know exactly what they were. Only within the last 10 years have scientists been able to develop programs that attempt to truly understand what these particles—neutrinos—are. A neutrino is a subatomic particle with almost no mass that rarely reacts with normal matter. The leading study into this material was the IceCube Collaboration, a neutrino observatory in Antarctica, at a scientific station in the South Pole. Students and faculty in MSU's College of Natural Science were part of the team partaking in this study.

"I am fascinated by these elusive particles that are very abundant in our universe, and yet we know very little about their physics," said physics graduate student Jessie Micallef. "IceCube gives me the opportunity to explore these particles further, and to be involved with international researchers who are using the same detector to explore many different, prominent topics in physics."

IceCube also gave College of Natural Science students the opportunity of field experience in Antarctica. The landmass can only be reached about four months out of the year, in which nearly 200 individuals share the space, partaking in research on numerous projects. The rest of the year, only a small handful endure the dangerous conditions. No one new can enter, because plane hydraulics will freeze before reaching the ice. Even in the summer months (which are the

winter months in the northern hemisphere), individuals residing on the continent face harsh weather conditions.

"I went to Antarctica in January and February, which is nearing the end of the summer season," said physics graduate student Devyn Cantu. "McMurdo [station] temperatures were pretty mild, but the weather was almost always bad. It was windy and foggy most of the time."

Despite the distinct challenges that Antarctica brings to researchers, it was chosen for very specific reasons to conduct IceCube's study. The neutrinos rarely interact with normal matter, and therefore are hard to detect. In order to successfully create data about the particles, the area of the observatory needed to be considerably large and relatively clear. Antarctica had the space, and its ice provided a quality that was ideal to capture neutrinos.

"The antarctic ice is ridiculously pure because it's evaporated sea water and it was basically distilled on a continental scale distillery," said physics and astronomy professor Tyce DeYoung. "It falls as snow, and there's a tiny little bit of dust and snow involved, but it is almost pure water."

Slowly, IceCube uncovered more information about how these particles interact with other matter, but it was only the tip of the iceberg. It took nearly a decade to build the observatory, and researchers would be at South Pole station for many years to come, gaining further astronomical and physical understanding of the mysterious nature of neutrinos.

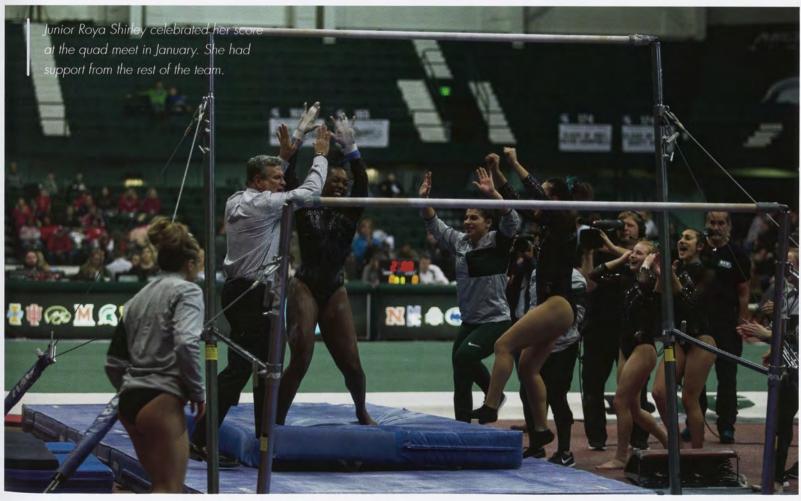


level, the station's operators can only work outside for short amounts of time to avoid fatigue or extreme cold. PHOTO COURTESY OF DEVYN RYSEWYK.









Project Print House

3D Printing at MSU Libraries

The metallic humming washed back and forth in the room. Every mechanized stroke was an excited phrase and every slow graze was a thoughtful pause. It almost sounded as if they were speaking with one another. The MakerBots grooved to their own synchronized rhythms as they added each intricate plastic layer to their works of art. Sensors danced to the syncopated conversation as a tour group stopped to gather in awe of the concert.

The year 2012 was the peak of 3D printing, and that's when MSU Libraries knew it had to get in on it. In September 2014, four 3D printers were added to the library and in 2015, the MakerSpace, the library's area for ideas and innovation, was made.

"It's a really cool job," said Josh Hutchison, a sophomore at MSU who just started working in the MakerSpace. "The exposure is interesting. People think you need to know a lot about tech and the funny this is you don't. It's a lot simpler than it looks!"

Hutchison processed both vinyl and laser-cutting prints. People could come in to get help with any object they wanted to make or they could do it all themselves online. The library had tutorials for those who needed to make an object for a class, a project or even a board game. Others just needed another Monopoly figurine.

The library made 3D printers accessible for everyone in the community, not just students. Anyone could go to the library's website and upload an existing image or create their own. With 3D objects ranging from 20 cents per gram to 25 cents per milliliter, those who wanted to could create using the Fortus 250mc, Form 2 or MakerBot Replicator printers.

"Our major concern is giving people access to resources they can't get at home," said Erika Ervin, the MakerSpace coordinator. "Over 1,400 objects were printed in 2016, so innovation is definitely picking up again. The best part? You can learn to use 3D printing for any type of environment."

Whether it was someone from the local community, Design for America (an idea incubator) or Lyman Briggs, people who knew about the printers definitely took advantage of the opportunity. One student in particular was often printing things out of the library. Juo Guo, an MSU mechanical engineering doctoral student, found that 3D printing could really help with her studies.

The /

avail

"I heard about 3D printing at the MSU Main Library from one of my classmates in May," Guo said. "I usually print cylindrical shells for my research. I make the STL file for printing myself. What I like best is the staff there, who are more than helpful and friendly."

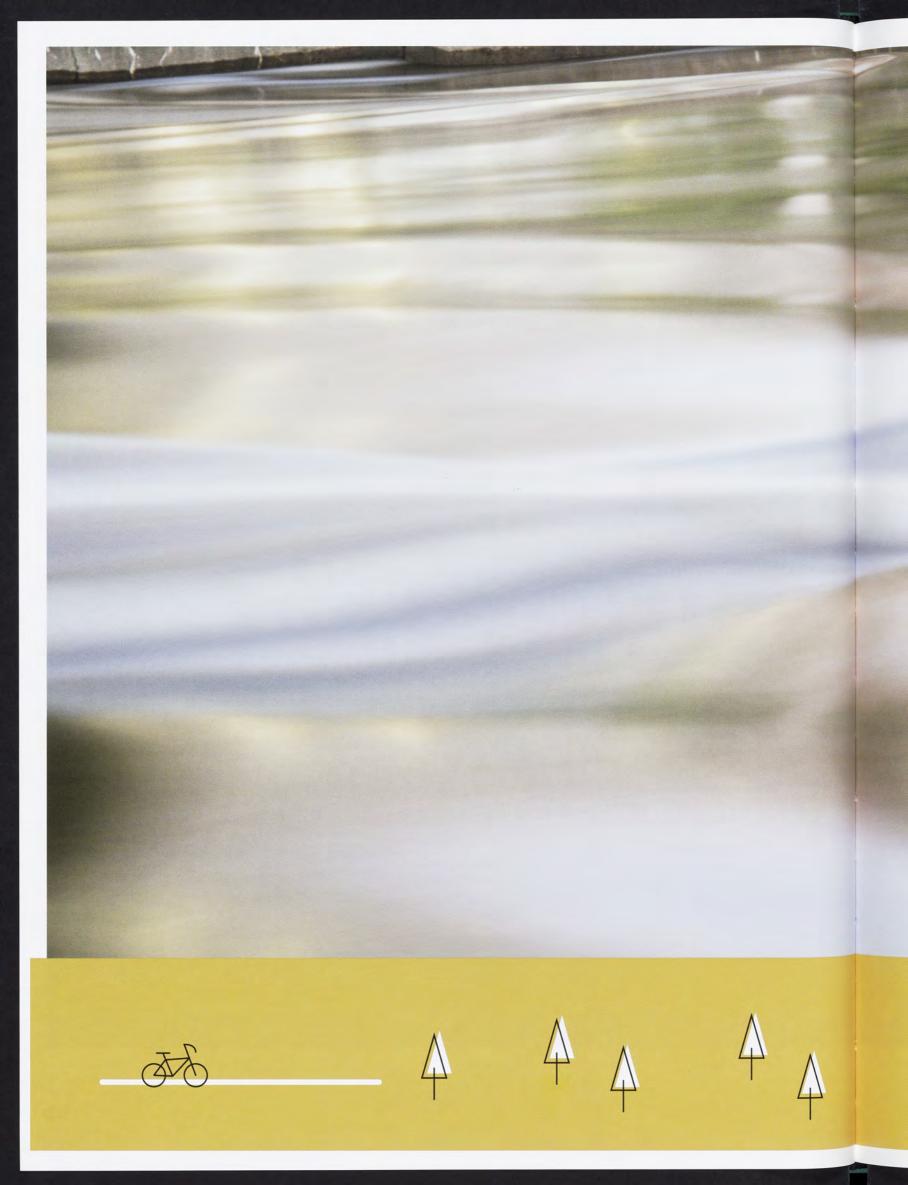
A \$10 sales receipt was left on the table. Fantastic figurines from previous artists sat next to the 3D printers, beckoning to be admired. A bright orange pumpkin, a lego Deadpool and an excited Squirtle were just a few of the treasures on display. The gray mammoth, the Fortus 250mc, rumbled in a bass octave as midnight black MakerBots constructed staccato symphonies, inviting the audience into a world of possibility.

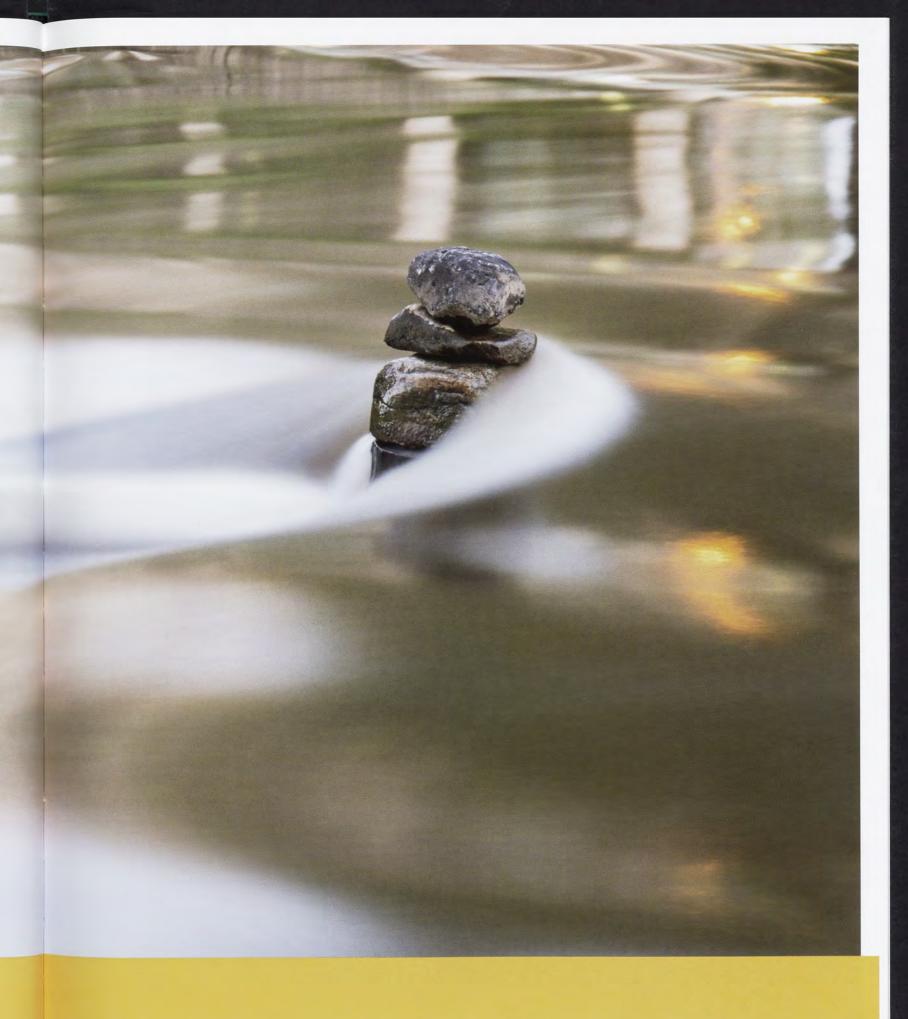




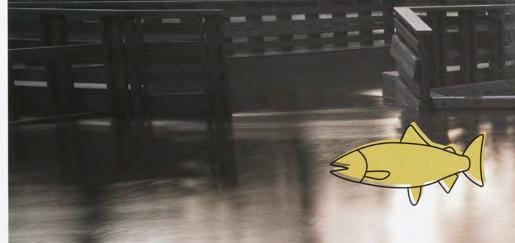








SPRING



Red Cedar Rising

Campus experiences the most severe flooding in over 40 years

The rain pelted the sidewalks and students' umbrellas for three days straight. The small piles of snow left on the soggy ground melted into puddles for hundreds of boots to trudge through on their way to class and cars to drive over, sending a wave of water toward the curb. The banks of the Red Cedar River disappeared as the water slowly crept up and up, engulfing the roads, sidewalks and grassy areas that lie beside it.

Roads became completely undrivable, pathways unwalkable, and baseball fields and soccer fields unplayable as MSU experienced the most significant flooding event in 43 years. In an email to students, Interim President John Engler said that near the Farm Lane bridge the Red Cedar River has a normal depth of 4 to 5 feet, however, during the flood, it reached a peak of 10.3 feet.

"The MSU team is currently building a temporary wall to protect some of the buildings most affected by the flood," Engler said in his email. "Please use caution and avoid the areas along the river as much as possible."

The Hannah Administration Building, IM Sports-Circle, Kresge Art Center, Jenison Field House and MSU Computer Center were also affected by the flood. While Engler's email stressed to students to steer clear of the river and the areas affected by the rising water, Spartans, like junior journalism major Nicholas Stahl, had their own agenda. Stahl and his friend Evan Toth stepped into their kayaks and rode the current from Shaw Hall to the rapids near Wells Hall.

"We actually went off of the river near The Rock because the water was so high," Stahl said. "We kayaked around a lamp post; it was at least 4 feet deep."

A group of athletes also took to the flooded pathways

outside the baseball stadium. The rowing team raced on inflatable rafts and gave gold medals to the winners. Later, junior kinesiology major Ellie Taylor and her friends borrowed the rafts from the rowers. They floated on the rafts across the IM West parking lot, over the road to IM Sports-Circle and then to Jenison Fieldhouse and the baseball field.

"When we were over by the baseball field, they had to open the batting cages because the water pressure was going to break down the doors," Taylor said. "The water was up to the doorknobs, so it was pretty crazy."

Not only was MSU's campus affected by the flood, but major roads and city streets also prevented people from reaching their destinations. The main entrance to Meijer on Grand River Avenue was blocked by water lapping up over the curb, too deep for cars to drive through safely. The water took senior kinesiology major Melanie Sprinkle on an excruciatingly long detour while driving to her job at Playmakers in Okemos.

"Normally it takes me about seven minutes to get to work, but during the flood I had to take a detour," Sprinkle said. "It took me down past Holt and it took me almost a half hour to get to work. It was very inconvenient."

As Stahl and Toth continued kayaking down the river, they approached the rapids near Wells Hall. A current caught the tail end of Toth's kayak and he submerged. Stahl paddled back upstream to help Toth and they quickly moved to the bank of the river, right before the fast-approaching rapids. While the rising water may have overtaken a significant portion of campus and flooded a few kayaks, Spartans persevered and turned one of the biggest floods in MSU's history into a thrilling, if slightly inconvenient, experience.













Big Ten Match Play

Exceptional golf captains leave a lasting legacy

The Big Ten Match Play Championship was one of four televised college events in the spring. Starting with three round-robin matches followed by a championship match, six team members from 14 teams played 18 holes of golf. Each hole was its own competition. Each player was in their own world, with an unshakeable focus. Every golf enthusiast's eyes were on these aspiring players as they vied for the championship spot.

Casey Lubahn received a call years ago from athletic director Mark Hollis, asking him to take on the role of head coach for the men's golf team. Seven years later, he found himself leading a highly successful team led by two captains, Michael Sharp and Charlie Green, who went shot for shot with Purdue in the Big Ten Match Play.

"Michael Sharp and Charlie Green are all that is great about college athletics," said Lubahn. "Michael improved as much as any student athlete we've had over his four years and finished as an elite player in the Big Ten and nationally. Charlie was a dual sport athlete in high school and really focused on golf when he got here. He was among the best leaders I've ever had as a coach and became a reliable and full starter in his senior year."

Michael Sharp, senior actuarial science major, won two out of his three round-robin matches and went on to win his championship match with precision and competence. Growing up on a golf course, he and his sister would play golf with their parents until the sun disappeared over the horizon. Sharp took that same love for the sport he had as a child to every match he played for MSU—a place he would never forget.

"There are a lot of things that I'll miss about my time here," said Sharp. "The biggest thing that I will miss is the comradery amongst the team. Between morning workouts and long road trips, it's been an absolute privilege to be able to play here at Michigan State alongside some of my best friends."

Charlie Green, senior construction management major, was one of those best friends and played for the golf team for five years. The Big Ten Match Play was his favorite event of the year. However, 2018 was special for him because it was the first time all of the Big Ten teams competed. Green brought spirit to every match with his can-do attitude, consistently exuding optimism.

"I've learned so much from being a member of the team," said Green. "Not only in golf, but in other aspects of life. I've learned to try and make golf a simple game even though it's the most complicated game in the world. I've also learned to have more fun on the golf course—to try and mix in a smile out there because it won't last forever."

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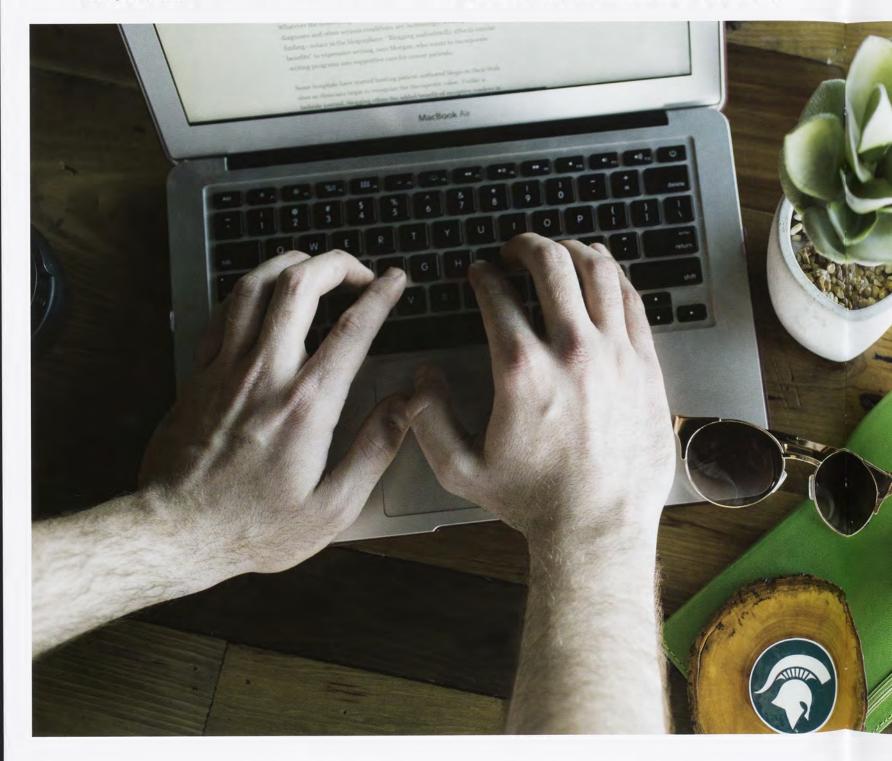
The Big Ten Match Play Championship required far more than accuracy and technique. It required patience and heart. It was a competition that showed the true merit of a golfer. Michael Sharp and Charlie Green cultivated humility and discipline to the sport they had played practically their entire lives. Through their strategic and sincere efforts, they were able to set a bar for integrity and professional performance at MSU for years to come.

One Idea After Another

Members of the MSU community collaborate through Spartan Ideas

Spartans log into their many screens everyday, clicking key after key until essays are written, websites are browsed and texts are answered. But behind the mass of mindless social media and celebrity gossip, an online community of MSU faculty and researchers was hard at work. That community was Spartan Ideas.

Spartan Ideas was a blog site compiled of independently written posts, each crafted with the knowledge and opinion of its specific author. With more than 100 contributors covering a myriad of topics—ranging from criminal justice to zoology to human medicine and beyond. Site curators explored the written work of MSU professionals across the web, merging



each topic and post with the goal of uniting past and present Spartans together.

Judy Matthews had been the science curator for Spartan Ideas since it launched in September 2013. What brought her the most excitement was hearing each author's enthusiasm present in their written content. With the multitude

of miscellaneous content covered by the bloggers, she was always in for an interesting read.

"That's really both the purpose of Spartan Ideas and what it represents—providing an insight of diverse interests of MSU faculty, staff and students," said Matthews.

Matthews specifically enjoyed reading blog posts written by MSU graduate students currently doing international fieldwork. She said they often wrote amusing pieces about their experiences adjusting to foreign foods and customs. It was intriguing to learn of the journeys themselves, as the bloggers discussed their encounters in new environments.

From international fieldwork to specific global issues—like the use of Twitter in foreign countries—Spartan Ideas was a platform that contributed to the growth of careers, opinions and dreams. For Spencer Greenhalgh, a graduate student in education technology, this site gave him the ideal space to cover issues and relay his findings to Spartans everywhere.

"I did a series a couple years back researching the use of Twitter by French teachers," said Greenhalgh. "It was right after the Paris attacks in November of 2015, and being a former French teacher, I was really able to connect with the topic and with my research. Spartan Ideas really allowed for my work to have a voice and contribution."

Ranti Junus, social science curator for Spartan Ideas, found many of his own passions in posts throughout the site. From evolutionary theories about music to classical composers, Spartan Ideas is for Junus—and for everyone.

"It's like a one-stop shop for various cool topics," said Junus.

A community filled with people from all over the globe found one commonality within the sea of differences that tend to separate us: We are Spartans, and we all have a voice that deserves to be heard. Spartan Ideas was the place to use that voice. Whether it was connections between current students and passionate alumni, or giving a platform for the transfer of knowledge, this online community created a campus that Spartans never had to leave.

Spartan Ideas is an online blog site made up of posts written individually by different writers. Over one hundred contributors blog about a wide variety of topics on a regular day basis.

Recycle, Reuse and Resell

MSU Surplus Store resells used items from the Spartan community





A green and gray aluminum-sided building sat on the outskirts of campus. Outside, a scrap-metal Sparty stood on a chariot, welcoming customers to peek inside. Beyond the front doors were aisles of desks, couches, chairs and paintings. One wall was filled with racks of clothes, some with their original tags still attached. Rugs that Spartans bought for their freshman dorm rooms were rolled up in the corner, patiently waiting for someone else to pick them up and use them to cover their new, bare apartment floor.

Whether a student was looking to furnish their apartment or needed supplies for class, the MSU Surplus Store provided. With its opening more than 15 years ago, the store had already expanded to nearly twice its size around the year 2010. One of the store's primary goals was to keep everything from ending up in landfills. Its recycling center filtered through every donated article to reduce waste. If an item was broken, the store often made the necessary repairs, but anything surpassing a "simple fix" would be placed on the sales floor in the hopes that a customer would take it upon themself, as a project of sorts, to restore the item.

Livi Pritchett, senior nursing student and store employee for two years, worked in the processing area and was the first to see what was brought in.

to leave the planet greener and to reduce that carbon footprint," Pritchett said. "I'm also kind of amazed at the stuff that people leave behind. We will get brand new clothes or brand new furniture with the original price tag and it's in perfect condition, but no one wanted it."

Steven Smith, junior mechanical engineering student, usually visited the store once or twice a year. He looked for furniture such as couches or chairs and picked up supplies for class such as binders and folders. Like other customers, Smith appreciated that the store picked up items that could still be used by someone else instead of letting it go into a landfill.

"My favorite part about the surplus store is that they have a wide variety of items," Smith said. "If I needed a bike, computer, coin tray or anything in between, I can always look at the surplus store and most likely save some money."

While the MSU Surplus Store did see countless students walking through its doors, there was a surprising amount of people visiting from outside of campus. Regular shoppers came in to buy lab equipment, industrial equipment and even broken items to repair themselves. Pritchett believed few students shopped there simply because they didn't know the store existed. Pritchett's co-worker, Lori Fortino-Franklin, also wanted to educate students and parents about the store.

"My daughter is a freshman here, and I bought all of her stuff for her dorm room here," Fortino-Franklin said. "Parents could save a ton of money by coming here and getting stuff for the dorms."

"I THINK [THE SURPLUS STORE] JUST ATTRACTS THE KIND OF PEOPLE THAT WANT TO LEAVE THAT LESSER IMPACT,"

During move-out week, students toss old furniture and items they can't take home into the trash. Old couches with a tear in the cushion and dining room chairs with legs missing are tossed onto the curb. The worn furniture was eventually picked up and taken to the surplus store, where it was priced and set on the sales floor. The MSU Surplus Store collected used items and resold them, even if they needed a little bit of love. Instead of watching as dumpsters and landfills filled and multiplied, the store reduced waste and helped keep campus—and the planet—greener.

Lyman Briggs College

Spartans at the forefront of scientific discovery

Carl Sagan, a pioneering astrophysicist who helped make science a household conversation, once said, "Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known." Students at the Lyman Briggs College embodied this statement in their groundbreaking work in the sciences. Work conducted by Lyman Briggs students and faculty ranged from chemistry and physics to plant-based biology. Normally restricted to the basement of Holmes Hall, the college put their many achievements on full display at the MSU Science Festival.

How do you grow food without sunlight or soil? This riddle seemed unanswerable, but scientists at the annual festival provided an alluring response. Lyman Briggs researchers, working in conjunction with the Department of Horticulture, made several breakthroughs in laboratory plant production. Using hydroponics and an intricate LED lighting system, MSU scientists were artificially growing food. At the exhibition, the audience stood in awe as the horticulture students explained the intricacies of growing food through hydroponics.

Yujin Park, a graduate student who was leading the presentation on floriculture, spoke about the importance of producing crops using hydroponics. She believed this technology was the way of the future, allowing for uninterrupted growth 365 days a year, making it a worthwhile alternative to traditional farming methods.

"Hydroponics ensure that high-quality crops will be produced year-round whilst using less water, less fertilizer and fewer pesticides," said Park. "Crops sit in water mixed with fertilizers and are under continuous LED light to simulate sunlight."

Erik Runkle, a professor in the Department of Horticulture, oversaw the lighting experiment and provided a detailed

overview of the project. He went in depth about how different lighting changed aspects of the plant itself.

"Our group looks at how various colors of light influence the plants," said Runkle. "The different colors of LED lights can change plant growth, plant nutrition and even taste."

As for the nutritional value of the artificially grown food, Chloe Fife, a Lyman Briggs sophomore, spoke about the health effects of these plants. She believed this growing method was vital and had a bright future in the world of farming.

"FOOD GROWN USING LED LIGHTING HAS A FUTURE IN THE UNITED STATES AND, WITH THE WAY THE WORLD IS GROWING, WILL BE INSTRUMENTAL IN KEEPING PEOPLE FED."

"While a lot of people complain about artificially grown foods, they are important in our nation's food supply," Fife said. "I think that the food grown using LED lighting has a future in the United States and, with the way the world is growing, will be instrumental in keeping people fed."

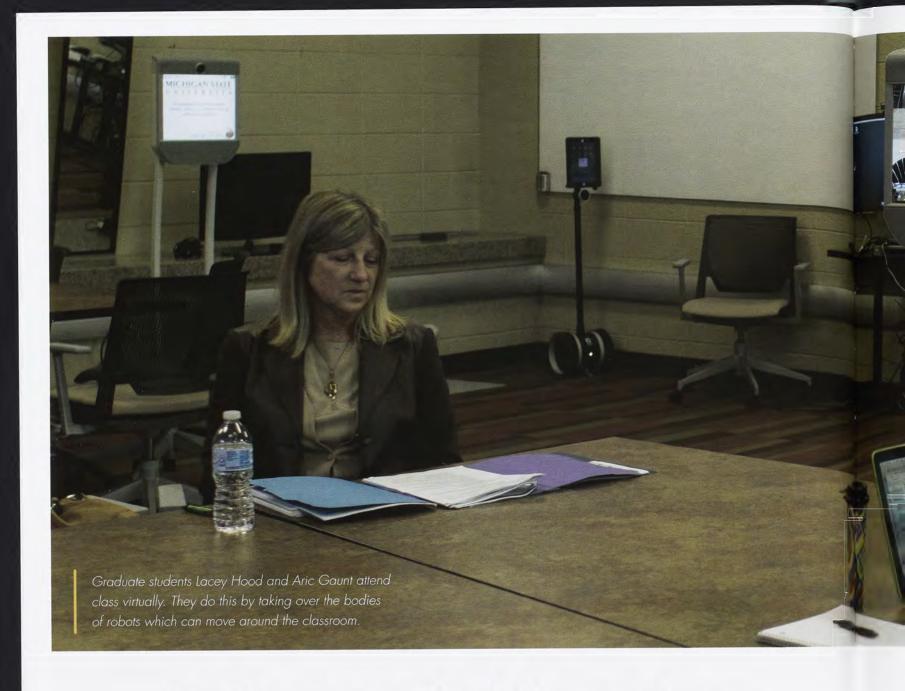
As the presenter pulled up a piece of cabbage produced through hydroponics, the audience gazed in disbelief at the soilless plant. Each audience member got a chance to taste the plant—to taste the future of industrial farming. As this technology continues to expand globally, many Spartan scientists believe it will help feed the world.



Students grow plants indoors with LED lights.
They researched and examined how the different light colors effect the way the plants grow.







College of Education

The College of Education uses robots to revolutionize teaching

When people ponder the future of education, they often imagine intelligent robots lecturing on complex arithmetic or the intricacies of human history. While this seems like a mere pipe dream of the future, the College of Education has made great strides in this very technology. In a few MSU classrooms, robots roved about the room with video screens displaying student faces. They were engaged in class from their own bedroom. A roaming Skype. According to professors, this allowed both online and in-person students to communicate as if they were all there in the flesh.

Christine Greenhow, associate professor of educational psychology and educational technology, spoke about the

basics of the use of robotic telepresence technology in the classroom. She believed that the introduction of this technology was changing the way students interacted.

"We have found that this can help students feel more connected to their on-campus peers and the course instructor," Greenhow said. "Robots can also assist in team or group meetings where some people are physically present and some are coming online."

Holly Marich, a graduate student that was active in a class taught by professor Greenhow, was generous in her praise of the technology. It gave her the freedom to connect with those present in the classroom, even when she couldn't



be there herself. She was no less of a student, even though she had switched out her feet for robot wheels.

"Using the robotic telepresence to attend classes and other campus events has been a very positive experience," Marich said. "With the robotic telepresence technology, I have access to mobility to position myself among the on-campus students as well as the other robotically attending students to create a [less]-restrictive virtual experience. It's an empowering experience."

John Bell, an academic adviser for the College of Education, could see the bright future that awaited MSU. Robotic telepresence technologies could be implemented in numerous realms, allowing for increased communication and collaboration.

"We don't expect robotic telepresence to be the right solution for every situation," Bell said. "When they are a good solution, however, we expect that they will be used more and more. We are also excited about bringing robots into interesting places, like the MSU Museum. We also

expect that they will be used beyond the classroom, since we already have them for a variety of other academic interactions, including dissertation defenses."

"WE ARE ALSO EXCITED ABOUT BRINGING ROBOTS INTO INTERESTING PLACES, LIKE THE MSU MUSEUM."

By incorporating these technologies into the classroom, the College of Education was leading the way in robotic instruction. This revolution in teaching had many applications, from the world of education to the world of work. Spartans and professors alike relished in this innovative teaching method and looked forward to the future of telepresence technology. Robots weren't taking over the world just yet, but they were taking over the classroom.



Like a Boss

A head coach's dream

He stood on third base with a hose in hand, watering the field. Across the ball field, a lengthy line of stocky bodies in green shirts and white pants rolled out a massive tarp to position on the field. Each of the players took a handle and stretched it across the diamond as they shouted orders that echoed out of McLane Stadium. After placing the weights down, they circled around him, waiting to hear his his classic bit of inspiring wisdom.

Jake Boss Jr. picked up his 300th win as the head coach of the MSU baseball team with the Spartans' 6-0 victory over Rutgers, a year after earning his 300th career win last season. For Boss, being a part of the MSU athletic program was always the goal. He was a Lansing local—had season tickets to football games and was a lifetime Spartans fan. To put the green and white on everyday and represent MSU was a thrill.

"You put in the time," said Boss. "I tell guys all the time that want to get into the business, they ask me advice—what do they need to do—and really the advice is: keep your nose down, work hard and opportunities will present themselves. If you come in with a bad attitude, complain or you want it too fast, you're going to be out of the game. So, you just gotta make sure that you take your time, do your job to the best of your ability and trust that the rest is going to work itself out."

Zack McGuire, senior first-base, selected MSU over several other schools with well-known baseball programs. He met coach Boss in the fall of his junior year of high school during a chilly Boise State football game. Immediately, he was so impressed with Boss' character that he knew he wanted to be one of his players. On top of his connection with the coach as a player, he also saw him at church events and was able to spend time with him outside of athletics.

"Getting to know him as a person has been great," said

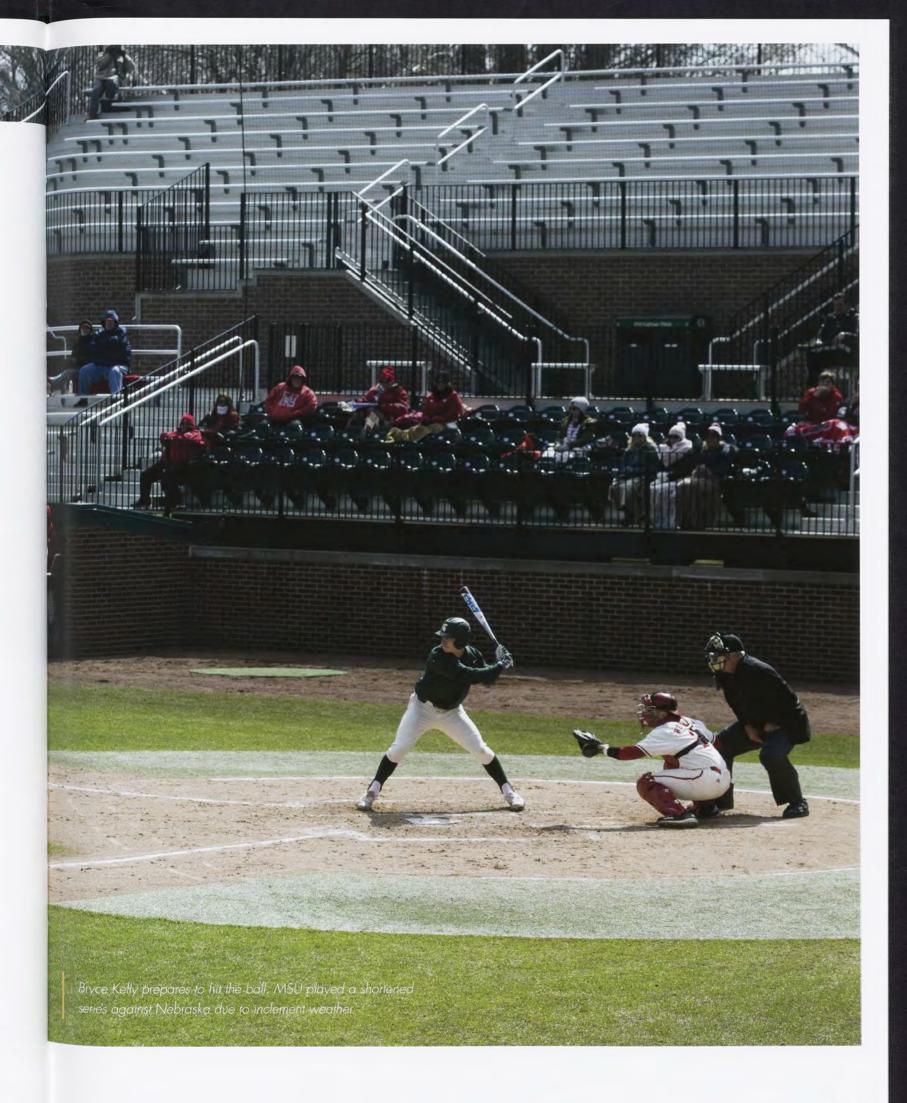
McGuire. "He's actually a really cool guy. He does a lot of things. Every day we have a quote of the day. It's just one of the little things we do and it's building on little things everyday that he teaches us. There're guys that can say they lead by example, but you still have to be a vocal leader. You can really see how it filters down into the rest of the team."

Jordan Keur, a Spartan alumnus, played with the MSU baseball team in 2010 under the beloved Boss. After college, he decided to stay with the team and work as a volunteer assistant coach. During his three years on staff, he had the opportunity to witness the man both on and off the field.

"KEEP YOUR NOSE DOWN, WORK HARD AND OPPORTUNITIES WILL PRESENT THEMSELVES."

"He's a great guy to work for," said Keur. "He knows a lot about baseball. I've got to see that as a coach with how he manages the team and puts practices together. What struck me, as a coach, was the relationship he has with everyone in the athletic department. I didn't realize as a player how many people helped and benefited the program behind the scenes."

As the sun was setting, the players went to the locker room and the other coaches retired to Jenison Field House. Boss, with a contented smile, closed the gate to the baseball field. As he walked out of the side gate to the stadium and into the student walking path, it was a cinematic experience: the hero humbly walking back to his office after a good day's practice. His graceful walk had the composure of a champion—of a boss.





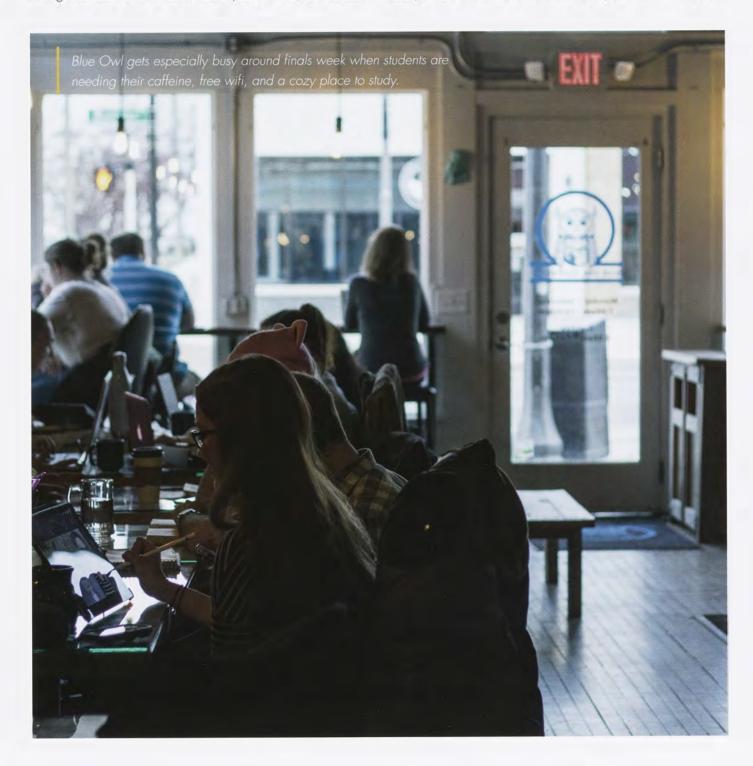


Honey On the Side

Lansing's Blue Owl Coffee Co. is the getaway students need

On the corner of South Washington Avenue, with blue trim and an owl painted bright enough to be seen down the block, sat Lansing's Blue Owl Coffee Co. This off-campus coffee hot-spot welcomed students, local families and live entertainment. Oh, and of course, coffee lovers.

Surrounded by a brick exterior, customers stepped through the blue door to a world of plush chairs, a wooden coffee bar and countless students and professionals typing away on their laptops. Days were made with conversation, and drama was spilled over tables made from worn materials of window frames and doors-creating an atmosphere that spilled onto the street outside, not to be ignored. With a maximum capacity of 49 people, Blue Owl acted as a quaint escape from the chaotic nature of campus life. With endless





menu options, ranging from a cortado to a simple vanilla latte, the espresso-fed thoughts inspired one question: How has this place not seen your face sooner?

Senior professional writing major Hannah Bullion said that Blue Owl is her coffee shop of choice, describing the espresso venue as cozy, fun and filled with creative people. Bullion, a coffee fanatic who has proudly been to every coffee place in Lansing, said that Blue Owl had—in her opinion—the best coffee around.

"In terms of coffee taste and ambiance, it's my favorite," said Bullion. "And, in terms of atmosphere, it's the go-to. I take my parents whenever they're in town."

The decor and atmosphere of Blue Owl presented a rustic, up-north vibe. Menus hung behind the cash register, filled with endless, tasty drink options. From "Classics" to "Cocktails" (alcohol not included) to "Nitro and More," customers could not go wrong as the baristas welcomed them in, whipping up each caffeinated concoction with ease.

Taylor Gantz was an MSU alumna and barista at Blue Owl who—being well acquainted with the city of East Lansing and its neighboring communities—viewed Lansing as an up-and-coming city with an atmosphere perfect for a coffee shop like Blue Owl.

"I think we've tried to not just be a coffee shop," said Gantz. "We've tried to kind of foster ideas and make people feel like this is a safe place as well, where they can escape from things going on on campus."

Elizabeth Snyder, a graduate student studying psychology, found herself making frequent car rides to the multiple coffee shops Lansing had to offer. And yes, you guessed it: Blue Owl was on the list.

"It's such a good place to get away for a minute, from stress and everything," said Snyder. "More people need to know about it."

"WE'VE TRIED TO KIND OF FOSTER IDEAS AND MAKE PEOPLE FEEL LIKE THIS IS A SAFE PLACE AS WELL, WHERE THEY CAN ESCAPE FROM THINGS GOING ON ON CAMPUS."

Starting from a coffee-cart on the cobbled sidewalks of Lansing in 2016 to moving into the store's current location, one thing that has always been important to Blue Owl was community. Whether inviting students and locals in for \$1 coffee specials or sponsoring events and fundraisers held by MSU-affiliated groups, incorporating community with coffee had always been Blue Owl's mission. The shop even offered Spartan creatives the chance to showcase their work with events, such as live poetry readings and open-mic nights.

Blending the feeling of home with the vibe of a Northern Michigan getaway cabin, Blue Owl was a way for students to escape academic stress, sticky, gossip-filled situations and work tension. No matter the circumstance, a warm chocolate chip cookie, a seat under the shop's gold, shining chandelier and a 12 oz. cappuccino with honey on the side might just do the trick.





Journey to MSU

Masau Kanai's long expedition

MSU was one of the most ethnically diverse colleges in America, attracting students from more than 138 different countries. Each world-traveler had a unique story that distinguished them from the status-quo and extended the meaning of the word "Spartan." No matter the differences—or distance—that separated them, they all bled green. Masau Kanai was just one of these international students, and his road to MSU was far from simple.

Kanai, senior sociology student, was born in Tokyo, Japan, 6,352 miles from East Lansing, Michigan. He first came to the United States in 2011 to attend Sandy Spring Friends, a co-educational college preparatory Quaker school, in Ashton-Sandy Spring, Maryland. This was a diverse environment like he'd never experienced, and it was here that he learned to speak English. In America, he didn't have to wear a uniform. The freedom Kanai felt in shedding the rigid ensemble was symbolic of the freedom he encountered in this vibrant, new country.

"I came here for education, just like a lot of other international students," said Kanai. "My parents wanted me to go to school in America, at some point, but maybe not so early... At that time, I was listening to a lot of American music and I wasn't happy with my environment. I just wanted to change it. I was like, 'I have to move on... I have to move forward.'"

After finishing high school in Maryland, Kanai first considered attending a small liberal arts school to play soccer. Yet, he couldn't reconcile giving up the chance to meet the myriad of diverse individuals that awaited him at a larger, more notable university—even if it meant he couldn't pursue his passion for soccer. Realizing a large university was his strongest opportunity for growth, he began sending out applications to all of the Big Ten schools. Shortly after, he received a letter from MSU—he'd been accepted.

"I was an international student and out-of-state," said Kanai. "I'm so grateful to have gotten in. I made some of my best friends playing pick-up games of soccer [and] going to co-op parties. I was like, 'This is so me.' I thought it was awesome how interested they were in my culture. I kind of learned what person I should be at MSU. What MSU gave to me was more [independence]. Through my MSU studies I became mentally strong and now I feel like I can handle myself in difficult situations."

After hastily declaring a major in human resources in the fall of 2014, Kanai met a fellow soccer-lover studying kinesiology. Without hesitation, it was a quick major switch to kinesiology for Kanai—if one thing was for certain, it was that he didn't fear change. Soon after, he met his best friend who, after a few nights spent contemplating existential questions, told him sociology was perfect for him. Next thing he knew, he was enrolled into a summer course at a community college in Pennsylvania, where his brother lived, and he took the full dive to commit to sociology in the fall of 2015. Kanai chuckled in remembrance of this chaotic first year, but he reveled in the idea of exploring something new. While it may not have been the fastest route, it led him to his passion.

"I always question myself," said Kanai. "Like, 'Why do I exist?' along with other philosophical questions. I thought sociology could maybe solve some of my struggles, like my issues with this capitalist society. I like thinking about social issues. I like reading articles and talking about it. I see sociology as a medicine for society. I don't think you can change society 100 percent, because everyone has different thoughts, but you can let people know what you're thinking, like 'Hey! There are other ideas here.'"

As he sat across the table, his smile reflected the same hopeful optimism that his faithful words carried. Kanai liked to call himself a gypsy-guy, a freebird. He wasn't satisfied with mulling inside the box. He wanted to think outside of it. To always be learning and always be growing. He came to America without anything but a dream to be here. He wasn't just an international student, he was a Spartan.

Law enforcement lined the street in riot gear to combat violence between the protesters and alt-right neo-nazis. Over 20 arrests were made at the protest.



Protest at the Pavilion

Students stand up to Richard Spencer

Rows of expressionless men garbed in thick bullet-proof vests held wooden police batons. Their faces were frozen as they lined both sides of the road leading to the MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education. Their composed exteriors did not wither as protesters approached them, wearing indignant expressions and spewing condemning remarks. The backdrop of the gray sky added the final touch to the dismal scene.

On March 5, 2018, hundreds arrived at Commuter Lot 89 to protest a speech given by Richard Spencer, president of white supremacist think tank National Policy Institute, who was known for provoking violent, hate-fueled protests across the country. Though Spencer was scheduled to speak at 4:30 p.m., protesters from across Michigan were there long before he arrived. Waiting for him was an ocean of bodies hoisting banners and posters, yelling, "Nazis go home!"

"I think he's a neo-Nazi, plain and simple," said Kathryn Flucht, junior in engineering at Grand Valley State University. "There's no such thing as a 'peaceful ethnic cleansing' as he suggests. He's too cowardly to come out and actually say

that he hates diversity and races other than his own, and so he hides behind carefully worded speeches. He incites his followers to violence and does so in a way that manages not to implicate himself."

Flucht had a boyfriend and some friends who went to MSU. When she heard Richard Spencer was coming, she asked them to let her know about any protests that would be happening. After attending the protest, she thought MSU could have put up a much stronger fight and was disappointed in their small confrontation. However, many students did not come to protest Spencer because they felt that denying him and his followers attention was a stronger message.

"MSU is a proudly diverse community of accomplished scholars that honors free speech, while holding individuals responsible for what they say and do," said MSU Interim President John Engler in an email after spring break. "I'm especially proud of MSU students and others who shunned the racist gathering and chose to attend other events offered that day, and possibly helped end this traveling road show of hate."



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As a public institution, MSU was legally required to rent space for Spencer, but the legal team negotiated a location off the main campus and during spring break to minimize danger and disruption. There were 25 arrests, but only one was an MSU student. Most notably, after the failed indoctrination attempt at MSU, Spencer said that he would be indefinitely terminating his visits to college campuses.

"Richard Spencer canceled his speaking tour on campuses because of the lack of people that came to his rally here," said Brittany Wise, an MSU senior majoring in arts and humanities. "He saw that his hate-filled belief system is not something that Spartans or others in the community are willing to tolerate. By blocking people from getting in, we told them we didn't want their hate here. I wasn't personally involved with any of the violence, but seeing it first-hand made this issue even more real to me."

The dismayed activists that huddled close together on that chilly Monday afternoon embodied the attitude of the "Stop Spencer at Michigan State University" Facebook page, with 970 followers, which acted as a super-conductor—electrifying the community. MSU was not the first school to stand up against hate speech, but the rally in front of the Pavilion showed that Spartans had the means and determination to act as leaders in the fight against discrimination.













College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

MSU students and faculty change lives one wire sculpture at a time

Eight panels of whiteboards enclosed a small section of Room D101 in Wells Hall, known as the HUB. It was home to sculptures comprised of metal wires, a dedicated professor and a united band of students with a common goal. They were not only saving African wildlife, but generating change in the lives of countless individuals across the world. Turning weapons into art and hazard into tranquility—this was Snares to Wares.

Robert Montgomery, assistant fisheries and wildlife professor, was the director of the RECaP Laboratory at MSU. He started RECaP to conduct research on the ecology of carnivores and their prey. The lab grew as a diverse set of students assembled themselves, willing to confront the reality of animals being battered and killed from wire traps across the African landscape.

"The reason why Snares to Wares works is because people were already manipulating wire," said Montgomery. "Originally they were developing little cars that kids could push around villages, and our only innovation was to work with these communities to ask if they could create representations of wildlife vulnerable to poaching."

The hope of Snares to Wares was to draw attention to the issues of poaching and poverty in East Africa and to maximize its influence in using the free wire for good. All the while, they were giving children and communities the

opportunity to gain skills to avoid involvement in poaching.

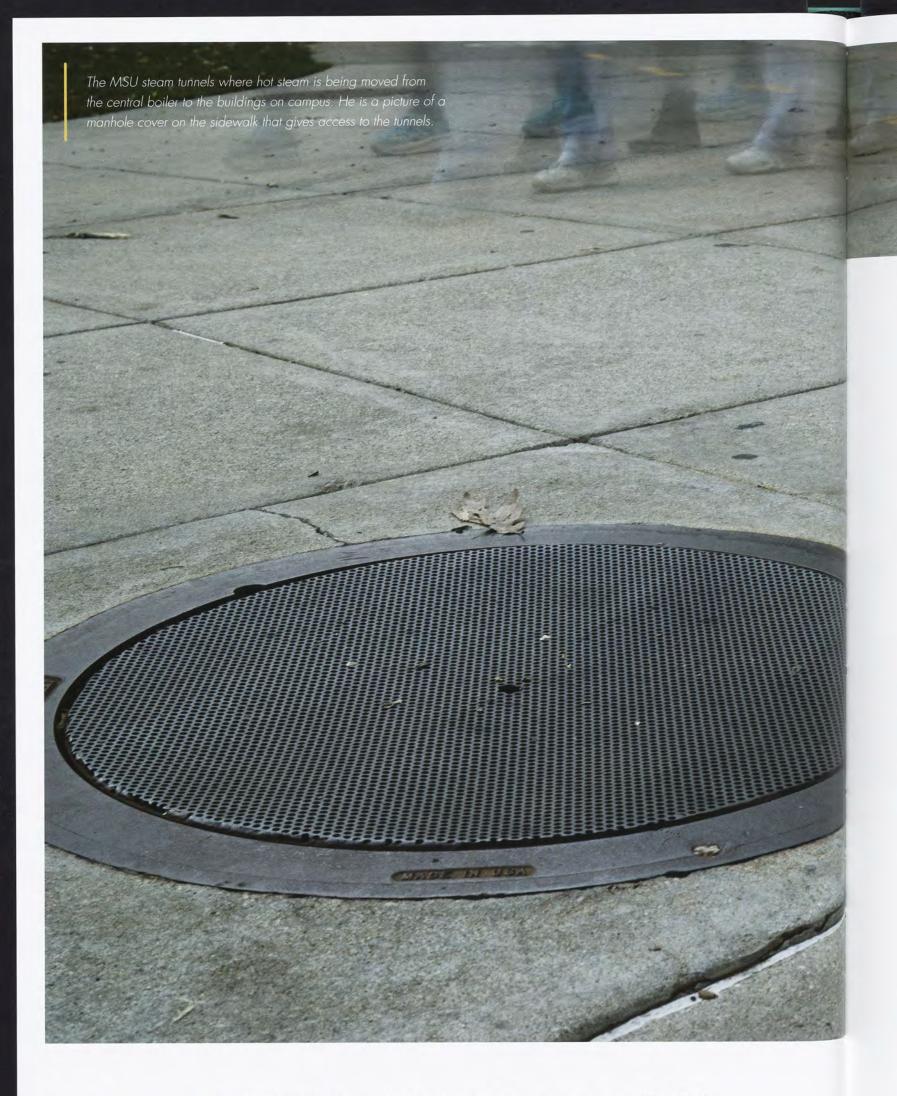
Shelby Robinson, senior packaging major at MSU in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, was an integral member of the Snares to Wares project. She helped keep an atmosphere that was not only welcoming, but interactive and unique from any other course on campus.

"There is no major that would not be interested in this," said Robinson. "Ideas come from everywhere, and you never know what a different way of thinking can do for a project."

The possibility for problem-solving and connecting with people across the globe made Snares to Wares a place designed to teach and inspire cooperation, evolving from its humble beginnings. It's one reason sophomore Grace Veltowski got involved.

"I really love that I get to use my major in a hands-on, real-world context type-of-way," said Veltowski. "It's cool that the things we're doing are having a direct impact on other people."

Using the very material of death to inspire hope and support for animals, bringing a light to the darkness in communities almost 7,000 miles away was always the mission. Every individual involved in Snares to Wares knew that not only were the crafting artistic sculptures—they were changing the world one wire at a time.





Something Steamy

An exploration of the steam tunnels that live under MSU

MSU's campus is frequently recognized for its 5,200 acres of land that are consumed by historic buildings and a vast amount of trees. Students come from far and wide just to step foot on this campus. Thousands of students walk these streets every day for numerous reasons, but many of them do not recognize the heat that is hidden underground.

Below MSU's campus are steam tunnels or "dungeons" that provide heat to the many buildings on MSU's campus. In the 1960s, it was common for students to go into the tunnels for "tunneling" excursions simply because it was a way to pass the time and have fun. In the past, students used to venture into the tunnels so much that they eventually ran the risk of expulsion if they were caught underground. But now, there are many students who aren't even aware that the tunnels exist.

"I don't know what you're talking about," said sophomore Franchezca Peralta. "Does it have something to do with cleaning the city?"

Some students who are aware of the tunnels' existence just want to be intrusive and see what lives underground. Others don't really care about the functions of the tunnel; they just want to know what all the hype is about.

"People are interested because it looks cool," said junior neuroscience major Gabriel Miller. "I would go if my friends would go."

When walking to class, students may find themselves stepping on the coverings of the tunnels that will warm up any cold ankle. Though the heat from the tunnels may seem warm and comforting above ground, the workers underground face a different reality.

"The steam tunnels are 160 degrees, so I don't think it would be a very popular place for people to see," said Stan Fortino, a supervisor at MSU Infrastructure Planning and Facilities who works closely with the steam tunnels. "If you make your living down there, there's nothing special about it."

Fortino was adamant about addressing the concerns he has regarding the safety of students and the dangers of the steam tunnels. After working with the steam tunnels for a few years, he recognized why anyone would be fascinated by the tunnels, but knows that it is best that students stick to the sidewalks and pathways.

"PEOPLE WANT TO GET INTO THE TUNNELS, BUT IT IS NOT A SAFE PLACE TO BE. THE POLICE ARE INVOLVED AND MANY PRECAUTIONS ARE TAKEN TO KEEP STUDENTS OUT"

"Hundreds of thousands of dollars are used to secure the steam tunnels," said Fortino. "People want to get into the tunnels, but it is not a safe place to be. The police are involved and many precautions are taken to keep students out."

Fortino has reason to be concerned for students' safety based on previous events. In 1979, James Dallas Egbert III, a student at MSU, ventured into the steam tunnels in a failed suicide attempt. His story caused a national media storm, and ever since then, the steam tunnels have been secured to keep Spartans safe.

The steam tunnels played an important role during the cold fall and winter months of providing heat to a large amount of MSU's buildings. As useful as the steam tunnels may have been and as nosey as MSU students were, the tunnels were simply not meant for late-night adventures. As Fortino put it, they are nothing more than a "dark, dingy place."



Spartans at SXSW

MSU's appearances at the annual festival and conference conglomerate

Imagine thousands of people from across the world exploring Austin, Texas, seeking out venues with free food, free drinks and good music. Envision more than 2,000 musical acts performing in clubs, theaters, hotels and parking lots for an entire week. A city filled with international visitors, punks from multiple generations, singer-songwriters and SoundCloud rappers—all flocking to the city in hopes to further their careers. Now add filmmakers, entrepreneurs and gamers to the mix. Welcome to South by Southwest.

South by Southwest, commonly referred to as SXSW, is an annual conglomeration of film, interactive media and music festivals that take place in mid-March in Austin, Texas. The year 2018 marked the festival's 32nd anniversary, and, per tradition, Spartans working on startups with The Hatch, a space designed to help MSU student entrepreneurs grow their ideas, took a bus all the way from East Lansing to Austin for one of the biggest tech conferences in the world.

"It was an unbelievable experience," said Bailey Paxton, a junior double majoring in finance and psychology. "[SXSW] is like the tech epicenter of the world, so all the new tech advancements come to Austin. In Student Startup Madness, we actually ended up coming in third place, which is incredible. I still can't believe it. We ended up competing against a lot of really great teams with a lot of users [and] a lot of revenue, and we ended up coming out on top. So, it

was just a tremendous experience."

Paxton founded Smart Staffing in the fall of 2017, a company with a mission to match caregivers in adult in-home healthcare companies with ideal clients conveniently and systematically. At SXSW, he pitched the company idea in Student Startup Madness—a collegiate-based competition—and took third. This gave him the validation he needed to continue his efforts. For Paxton, pitching at SXSW was a way to gauge how interested people would be in his product.

"The SXSW Gaming Pitch Competition was really intense," said Brian Winn, associate professor and lab director at MSU's Games for Entertainment and Learning Lab. "While we spent a great deal of time preparing our perfect pitch, it was exciting to present our game and represent MSU to the panel of judges and the SXSW attendees. Just walking around SXSW was also an experience. From music, to film, to games, so many creative people and industries are representing, and it is a mixture of business and play. It felt like spring break for creatives."

Winn and his team originally took Plunder Panic, the game they created at MSU, to IndieCade in Los Angeles. Their showing went so well that it ended up winning the "Audience Choice" award. With a little fire going, they decided to enter their game into the SXSW competition. While they did not win the single-winner tournament, they still



found the experience more than worth their efforts.

In the SXSW Film Festival, yet another Spartan was stirring up a buzz with his independent film, "Relaxer."

"IT FELT LIKE SPRING BREAK FOR CREATIVES."

"This is my fourth feature film, and I've always submitted my work to SXSVV in hopes of them hosting the world premiere," said Joel Potrykus, an independent filmmaker and assistant instructor in MSU's Department of Media and Information. "Luckily, this is my third consecutive

film to premiere at the festival. That festival and their audiences understand what we're up to here in Michigan and appreciate our off-center sensibilities."

SXSW was the opportunity of a lifetime. It was the chance to turn ideas into creations and creations into dreams. The abounding possibilities spread through the streets of Austin, pumping heavy doses of euphoria and adrenaline into the hearts and chests of everyone there. When so many visionaries gather together in the name of curiosity, miracles were bound to occur. It wasn't what these innovative Spartans brought to SXSW that mattered most, though—it was everything that they took back with them.



One For the Books

Spartan senior reaches impressive career milestone

It was a sunny April day, and the MSU softball season was dwindling to a close. During the bottom half of the third inning, the opposing batter went down swinging on a 2 strikes, 1 ball count. The vicious curveball came as a surprise to the batter as she swung wildly at the expertly thrown pitch. While this strikeout was routine for the Spartan ace on mound, it had special significance. It was the 600th career strikeout for Spartan senior Kristina Zalewski. This produced an eruption from the crowd and a spirited celebration from the Spartan dugout. This strikeout milestone was indicative of the Spartan softball team's thrilling 2017-2018 season.

The ace pitcher, Zalewski, a fifth-year psychology student,

accomplished this milestone during the landslide victory against Central Michigan University on April 25. As the ball hit dead center of the strike zone, she had unknowingly thrown her way into the distinguished history of Spartan athletics. A wave of striking elation washed over her upon hearing that she was now a record-holding Spartan athlete.

"It feels pretty awesome," Zalewski said. "It's nice to have achieved something I worked so hard for. My teammates have been supportive throughout this entire process and I look forward to finishing out this season strong."

Zalewski's teammates recognized not only her colossal triumphs on the mound, but her achievements as a team





player. Jordan Watson, a sophomore pitcher, noted that Zalewski's composed demeanor made her a fantastic athlete, teammate and friend—one that will be sorely missed in the 2018-2019 season.

"SHE GOT THE 600TH STRIKEOUT AND HASN'T BECOME COCKY, OR ANYTHING OTHER THAN A GREAT TEAM PLAYER."

"I think it's really cool that she's been humble throughout the whole season," said Watson. "She got the 600th strikeout and hasn't become cocky, or anything other than a great team player."

While the 600th strikeout for Zalewski was monumental, one other Spartan had achieved this in the Spring of 2005. Jessica Beech, an assistant coach and former player, was a

legend among Spartan softball players and fans for her past achievements on the mound. Beech proudly recounted what it took to achieve the strikeout record and why competitors like Zalewski are vital to the success of Spartan softball.

"I threw a lot of innings and made major contributions to the Spartan pitching lineup," said Beech. "I had a great presence on the mound and that's also clearly what [Zalewski] has. It took a lot of work for her to get where she is and I hope she remembers this for years to come."

As the pitch made impact with the catcher's mitt, Zalewski accomplished something truly remarkable. The dugout cleared and Spartans flooded the field, collectively congratulating the team leader on her colossal feat. In the bleachers, fans and families watched as the talented pitcher humbly accepted the glowing praise. Through an exciting 2017-2018 season, Spartan softball held tight to their goals and players honed in on career-defining achievements. Zalewski, a fan favorite, generated admiration from her fellow players and alumni alike as she pitched her way into the Spartan athletic record books.



Down But Not Out

MSU wrestling team rebuilds after a season plagued by injuries

When Spartan wrestlers stepped onto the mat at each meet of the 2017-2018 season, for some it was the start of their collegiate career and for others it was coming to an end. At the beginning of the season, each athlete had lofty goals, but with each step toward their successes came personal setbacks. The team lost five of its top athletes to injury throughout the season. With each loss, their initial goal of sending several wrestlers to the NCAA tournament and being a top 25 program grew more and more unrealistic.

"It affected [the team mentality] I think in a very negative way," freshman Rayvon Foley said. "A lot of us mentally felt like—'cause with the injuries we lost a lot of good wrestlers—you could definitely see it in a lot of the guys' faces they didn't really want to be out here. They didn't want to wrestle. But it definitely has taught the program and allowed it to grow and [given] the younger guys a different mentality."

In his second year as head coach for MSU wrestling, coach Roger Chandler knew that this season was a transition year. He was optimistic about the 2018-2019 season, pointing to the youthfulness of the team and the fact that many Spartans had more matches to go. Foley, in addition to nationally qualifying wrestlers who were out due to injury, would be returning.

"As far as keeping them motivated, we will point to some off-season events, something these guys have to train and compete for," Chandler said. "It's a way to keep our guys engaged from a training standpoint and a competition so that they can see how they are evolving as a wrestler."

Senior Javier Gasca had obstacles during the season. He was ranked high in the conference for the 2017-2018 season and was a contender for a national title. Being in the toughest

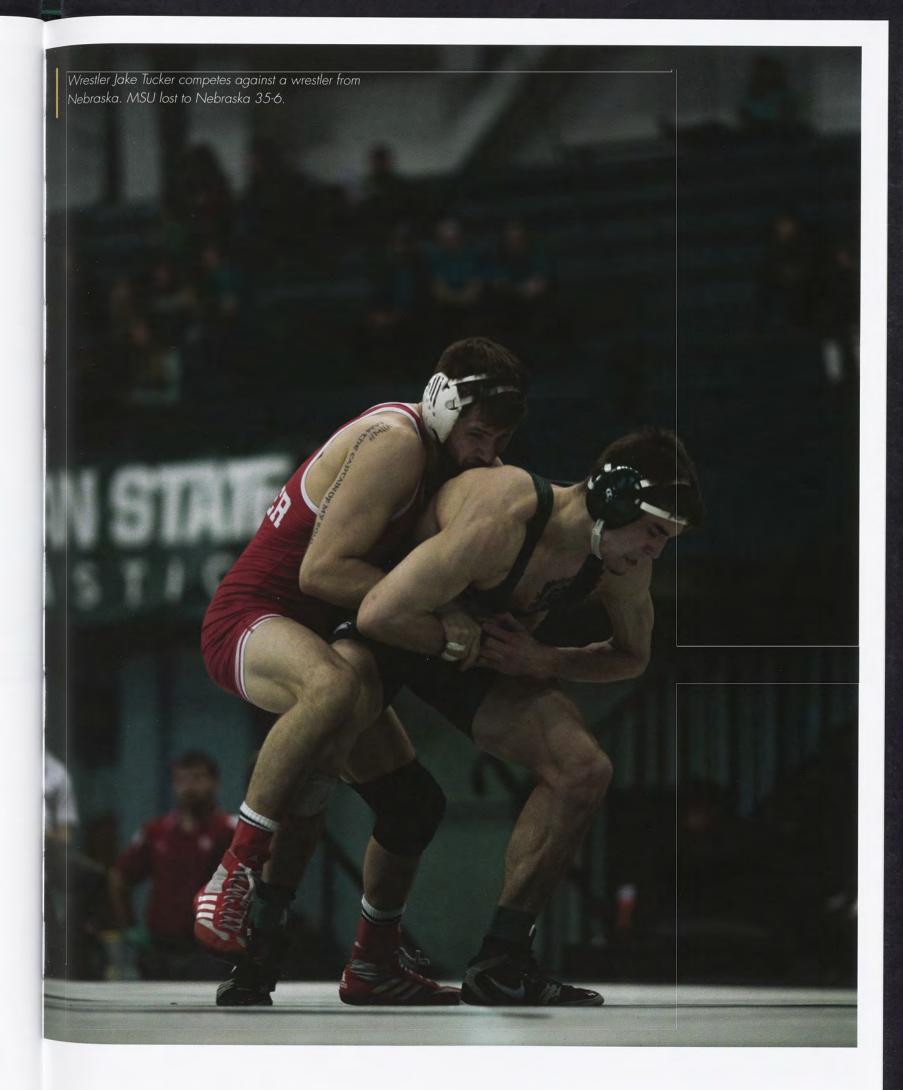
conference in the country, he faced many seemingly insurmountable challenges. While he did not accomplish many of the goals he had set for himself, he was grateful for the opportunities he was given as a Spartan wrestler and had high hopes for the athletes who still had years left to compete.

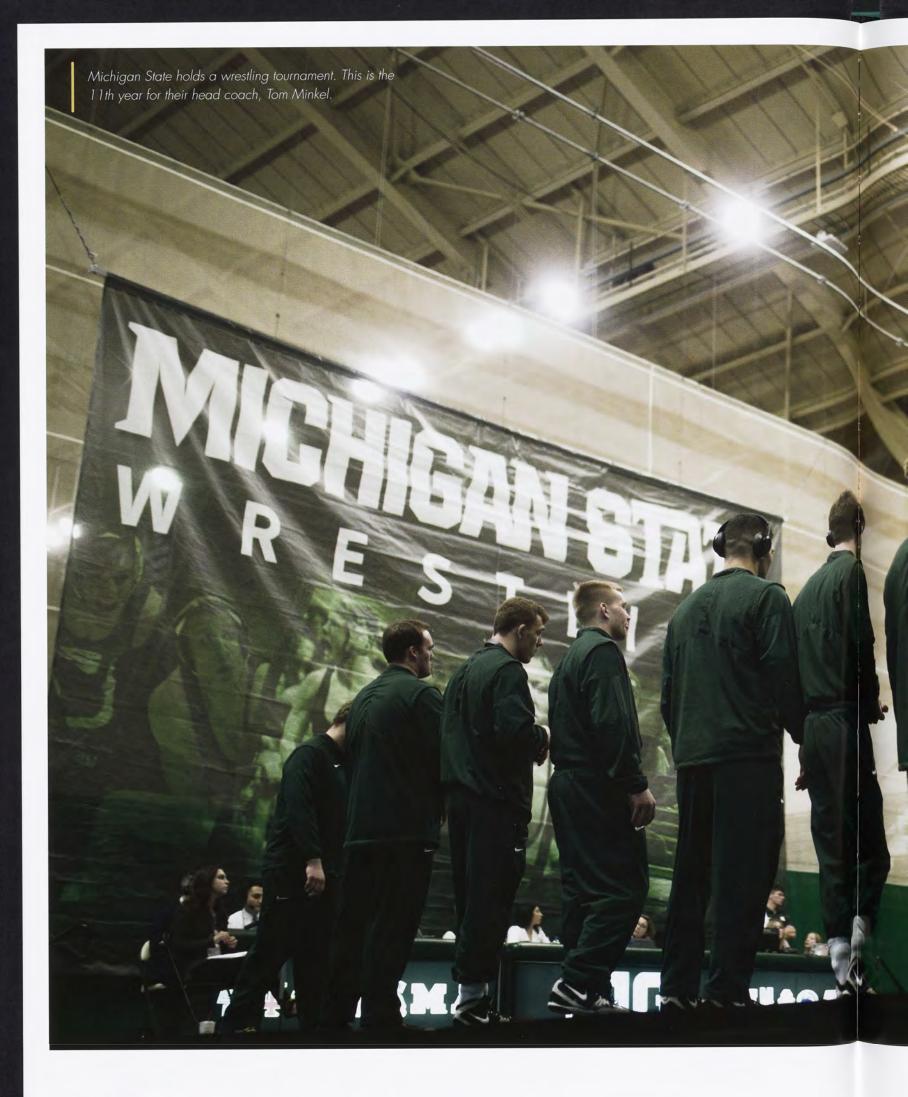
"We knew that these past couple years are building years with the new coach and a transition year to try and build a team we could send out there and actually compete," Gasca said. "I think this coming year will be the team that will actually go out there and make some noise and do big things."

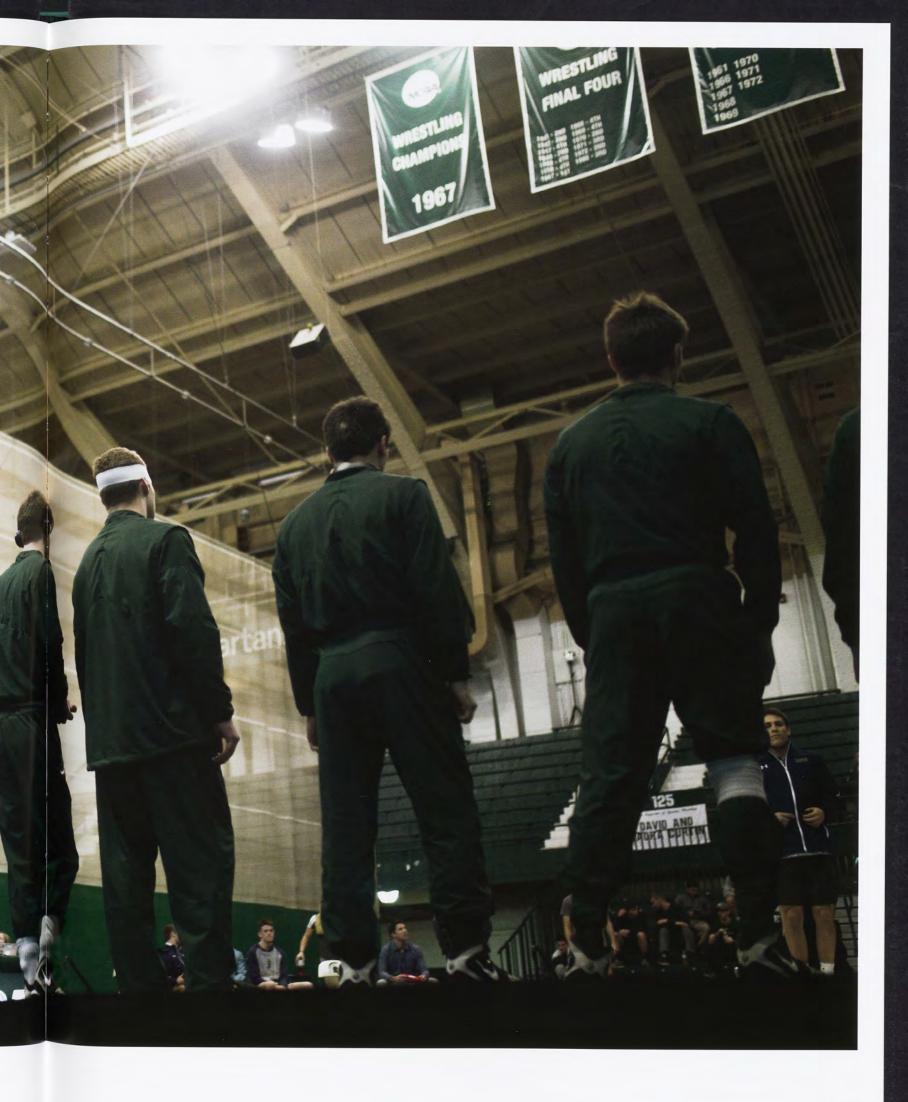
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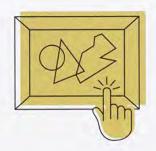
With a younger team, Chandler focused on training year-round and honing in on each athlete's individual strengths. Wrestlers like Foley wanted to work on fundamentals and setting a stronger agenda for achieving goals next year. But whether it was their first season or their last, Spartan wrestlers' focus was not on short-term goals. Instead, they focused on the long-term, looking past their last matches to a future of Spartan excellence.

SEASON RECORD: W: 6 L: 11









Go Ahead, Touch It

Closed eyes—art to be felt

Fingers entered the bullet holes of a paper-māché American flag, reached out to grab the hand of the 3D fingers stretching through a tear in the canvas and traced braille transcriptions of poetic excerpts. Running hands along the walls at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum on Nov. 10 was not prohibited this time. It was encouraged. Catered to those who could not see, the other four senses were used to uncover a story.

The Accessible Art Exhibit allowed those with and without vision to enter a world of tactile ambiance. With braille translations of written works composed by professor Natalie Phillips's English students and tangible artistic creations crafted by Alisa Henriquez's art majors, the art—literary and physical—enticed human contact. These MSU art and English classes teamed up to create an exhibit unlike any other, allowing the blind to experience art as they never had before.

"In high school, I worked closely with students with special



needs, so I was instantly excited about being involved in an event specifically designed for people with disabilities," said Claire Matthews, a sophomore education major in Phillips's honors English course. "When I found out my poem had been selected, I was ecstatic! The opportunity to have my own piece transformed into a work of art was amazing."

One of the most enlightening elements of the event was the discussion with Georgina Kleege, an English professor at the University of California, Berkeley. Legally blind since the age of 11, Kleege gave a presentation displaying artistic works created by and/or for the blind. She described each slide solely from memory—her only knowledge of each piece was based on interpretations from her informants, yet she could relay the story each piece conveyed. Touching on artistic details that even those with 20/20 vision would skip over, it was clear that her lack of vision did not cripple her view of the arts. If anything, her appreciation for the field flourished.

vision

written

SU art

other,

pecial

"The ultimate goal of this exhibit, and of these artists, is to bring new exhibit technologies and techniques into museums," said Kleege. "To move these practices forward, we need more exhibits that are wonderfully accessible, interesting and engaging to everybody, not just blind people. Everyone

should get something out of it."

Kleege was invited by Phillips, who was an integral part in getting the event off paper and into the physical, palpable realm. Her English classes wrote poems or chose professional excerpts that inspired the art students to create unique, 3D works.

"I think we all tend to approach reading and art as a traditionally visual experience," said Phillips. "As soon as we bring students into the creative process, allowing these mediums to be seen from a different perspective, I think it is then that you get the inspiration to translate these visual works into something that not only is accommodating to members across the disability spectrum, but also in reminding us of how deeply multi-sensory with art can be."

"THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF THIS EXHIBIT, AND OF THESE ARTISTS, IS TO BRING NEW EXHIBIT TECHNOLOGIES AND TECHNIQUES INTO MUSEUMS."

The exhibition brought in students, Lansing locals and even the president of MSU herself—Lou Anna K. Simon. East Lansing residents were there to support the initiative of the Broad Art Museum and the students whose collaborative work created an event for all, from young children to public figures like Kleege. Poets and artists watched as visually disabled community members ran their hands over the braille, across the sculptures and the canvases, seeing a story in the only way they could—through touch.



Students experience art hands-on at a special exhibition event hosted by Exceptions Journal, an MSU-based literary and art journal that showcases the perspectives of visually impaired and blind individuals.



From Books to Birdies

Women's golf team excels in the classroom and on the course

Spartan senior Sarah Burnham stepped onto the green. She lightly tapped the ball, and it made a soft clink as it fell into the hole. She had already been at the MSU's Lasch Family Golf Center for three hours practicing for the Big Ten championship and other post-season tournaments. As soon as she finished practice, she packed up her clubs and began working on homework for the rest of the week. Throughout Burnham's time on the MSU women's golf team, she was able to find success in the classroom while also immersing herself in the hours of practice five to six days a week.

"It's just time management and making sure you get all of your homework assignments in on time, and that you're studying for your exams," Burnham said. "Sometimes it's hard to do that on the road because you just want to focus on golf, but sometimes you just have to force yourself even if you're tired. It's hard work, but you have to get it done."

For the seventh consecutive year, the women's golf team won the MSU Athletic Director's Award for the highest team GPA. Coach Stacy Slobodnik-Stoll owed the success to what was ingrained in the program and the players. She recruited the person, not just the golfer, and looked at character, grades and talent—in that order. She didn't just place importance on how well someone could play on the course; she took into account their ability to succeed in the classroom.

"Seven years is getting to be a long time; that's almost two generations of kids coming through," Slobodnik-Stoll

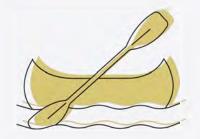
said. "Their motivation is just as high to win [the highest team GPA] trophy as it is to win a Big Ten championship trophy."

On top of excelling in academics year after year, the team has succeeded on the golf course tournament after tournament. The goals are the same: to win a Big Ten championship, win the highest team GPA award and advance to match play at the national championship. Sophomore Allyson Geer kept her eye on those goals, with a special focus on individually winning a tournament.

"To be able to win my first individual tournament would be really cool," Geer said. "Personally, I want to improve and be a team leader on our team, be a good teammate and get better academically ever year. The coaches do a really good job of having us write down our goals every year and keeping track of them."

As the 2017-2018 regular season came to an end, the women's golf team performed exceptionally at the post-season tournaments. After hundreds of hours put in on the course, the team snagged their second consecutive Big Ten championship title and automatically advanced to the national championship. By finding a healthy balance between academics and golf, the women's golf team was able to excel in the classroom and on the course. With the mentality of success instilled by the program and the coaches, these Spartans were able to achieve all-around success.





Paddling Palooza

Campus to Coast offers Spartans a new challenge in the outdoors

Junior neuroscience student Tommy Brettschneider and senior physiology student Ryan Hunt stood on the banks of the Red Cedar River with their paddles in hand, looking over their boat. They had their camping gear, jackets and food packed and ready to go. The morning was bitter cold, but as they pushed their boat into the water and began to paddle, the sun rose over the horizon, warming their cheeks and reflecting off the river below. Along with more than 100 other Spartans and avid paddlers in the community, the duo paddled over 150 miles from the Potter Park Zoo to the coast of Lake Michigan.

The Campus to Coast event started eight years ago when an MSU student in the Outdoors Club, the sponsor of the race, made a bet with his roommate that he could not paddle to Lake Michigan in a weekend. Since then, the race has grown exponentially to include not only a collegiate division, but an open division with individuals from the paddling community. Joe Dewan, junior environmental studies and sustainability student and a member of the MSU Outdoors Club, organized the event.

"I make sure everyone gets registered [and] everyone gets their rental boats," Dewan said. "I organize stops along the way, organize campsites, get insurance for the event and during the race I'm the person people call when something goes wrong. All of the money from registration goes to putting on the race itself. It helps us pay for the insurance [and] T-shirts, and we have a pasta dinner on Thursday, the night before the race."

Participants have up to 57 hours to complete the race with either two-, three- or four-person teams. Experienced paddlers have finished in 24 hours while collegiate teams often arrive at the coast between 45 and 55 hours. Junior plant biology student Sara Campbell, who handled public relations for the Outdoors Club for two years, competed for the first time in 2018. While Campbell was responsible for getting event sponsors like Dick's Sporting Goods and Moosejaw, her and her partner's main focus was not only finishing the race, but finishing it faster than the 2018-2019 Outdoors Club president Dan Durbin and his team.

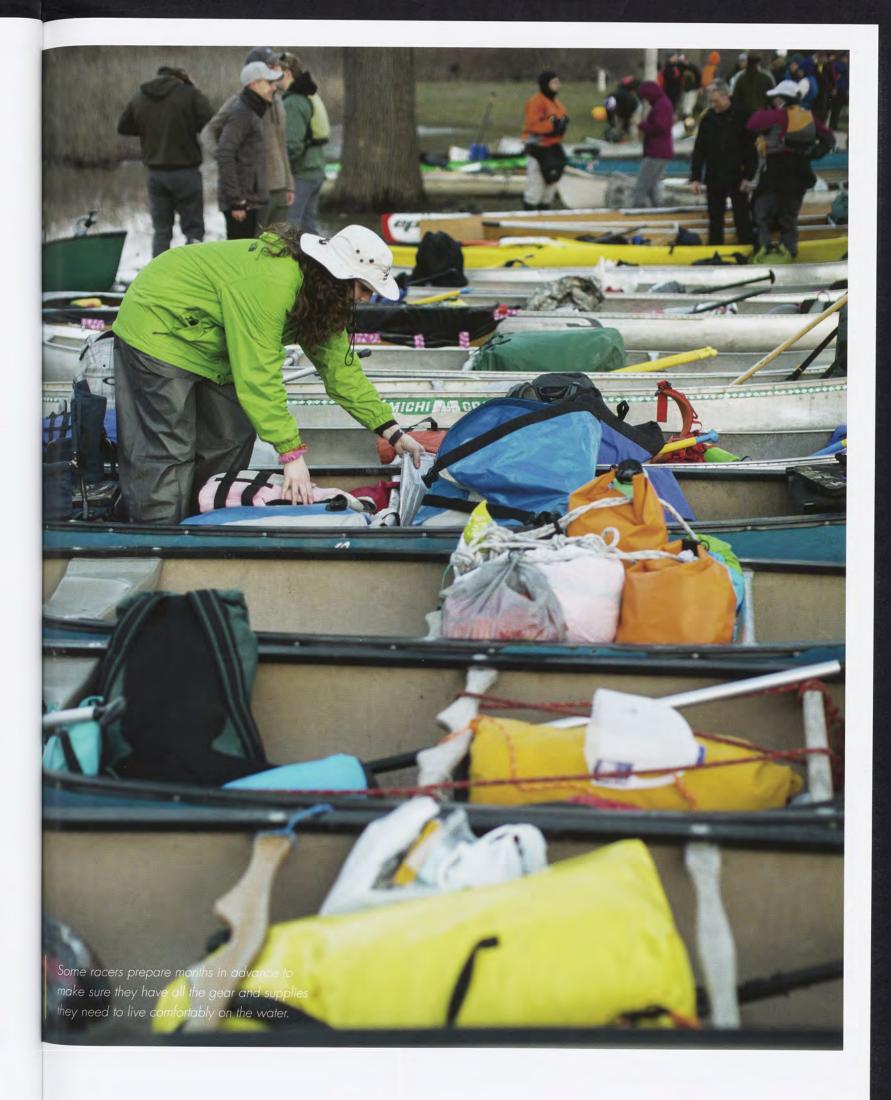
"I'm most excited to finish because it's not a race to be taken lightly. It's almost 160 miles and through the night sometimes," Campbell said. "[If] my partner and I decide to keep paddling for more than 24 hours without sleep, I'm a little nervous for our mental conditions and how much we will be hallucinating by the second night."

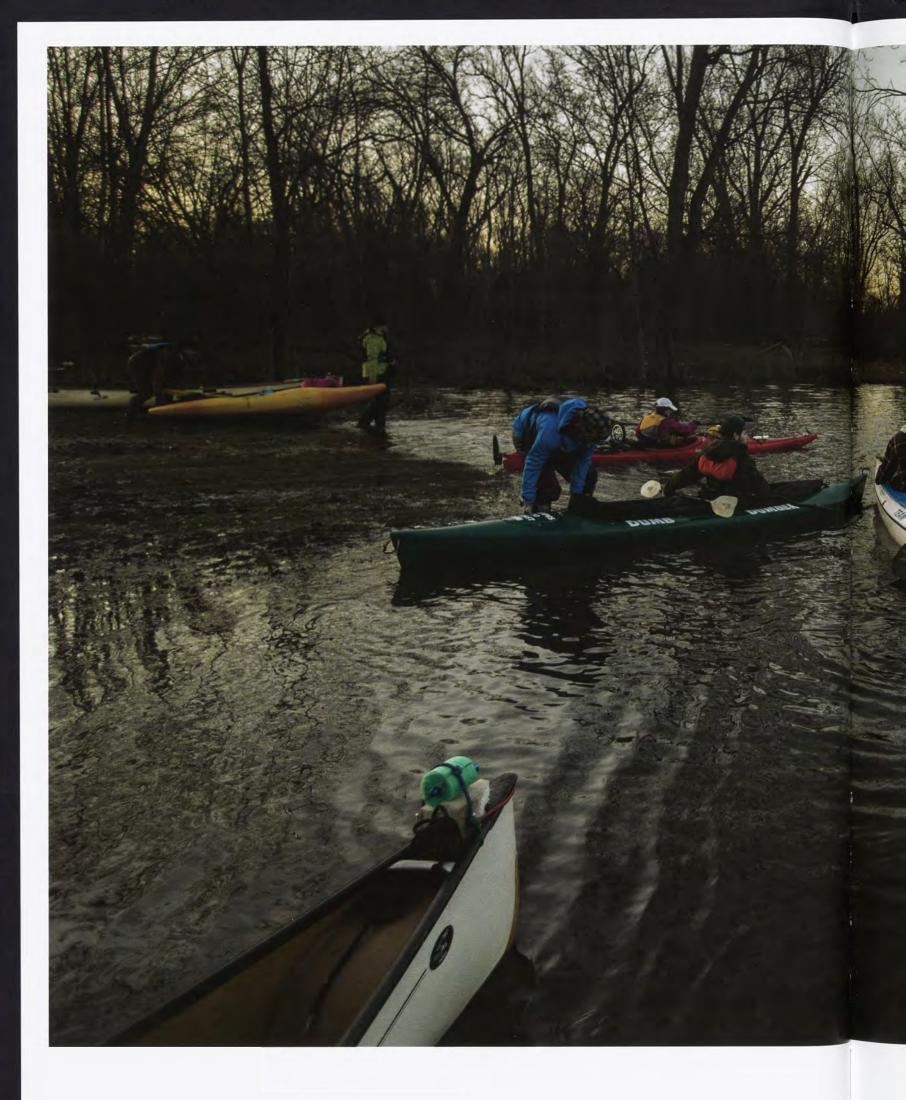
Brettschneider and Hunt had the same thoughts as Campbell after they paddled for 24 hours straight during the 2017 race. The pair stopped at a checkpoint and rolled up in a tarp, the only thing they brought for sleeping, to get about an hour and a half of sleep before getting back on the river. Forty-eight hours after they left on Friday, the sun started to peak out over the night's fog as their boat finally graced the shore of Lake Michigan.

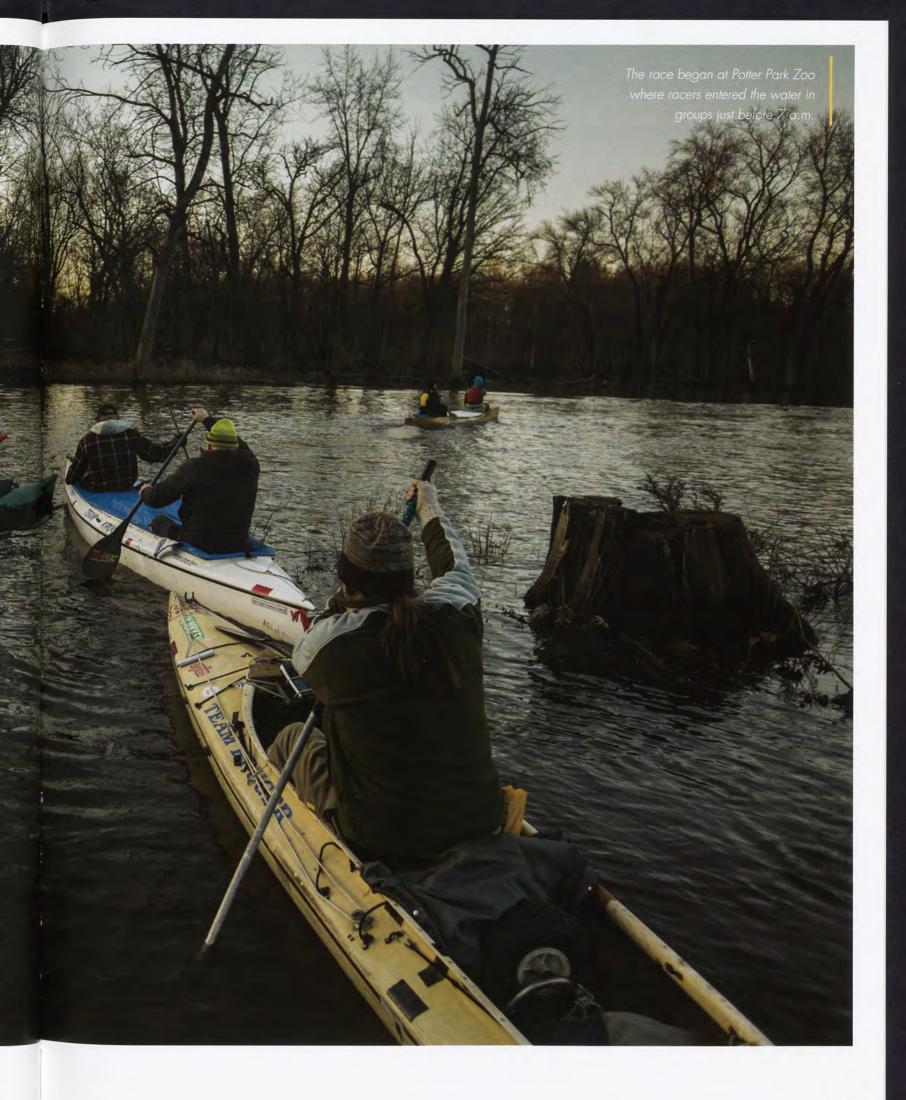
"I'M MOST EXCITED TO FINISH BECAUSE IT'S NOT A RACE TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY. IT'S ALMOST 160 MILES AND THROUGH THE NIGHT SOMETIMES."

"The moment where you realize that you are going to do it—because not a lot of people knew if we were going to be able to complete the race...is when you come into Grand Rapids and you see some of the tall buildings and you're like, 'Holy crap, I started in East Lansing and now I'm in Grand Rapids and I did that on a boat,'" Brettschneider said. "From then on out, you just keep envisioning that endpoint."

While the journey was physically and mentally draining, Brettschneider and Hunt were ready to push themselves. The duo completed the 2018 Campus to Coast race in 38 hours—10 hours faster than their previous competition year. Brettschneider often shared this adventure, showing everyone where his journey started and where it ended on a map. He always got the same reaction: "I think you made a mistake, you paddled where?"









Furry Therapy

Therapy dogs create stress-free environment for Spartans

Sniffing. Sniffing. This is new. My head darts back and forth. I trot around the corner. So many people. Wow, I love this. Ahh, people scratching my head, patting my back. Oops, my tail knocked over the water bowl. I'm just so excited! I roll over on the ground. So many hands rubbing my belly, my favorite spot. More people are coming this way. I stand up and trot toward them. Oops, I'm being pulled back by the leash. Oh well, at least I get more head rubs. This is the life.

Three dogs came trotting into the MSU Main Library on a Thursday afternoon in late March. It was a beautiful day, the first warm day in weeks. The dogs, Cam, Nellie and Gus, were part of Therapy Dogs International, a group that puts dogs through extensive training and takes them to hospitals, hospices and schools. Holly Flynn, coordinator of outreach and engagement for the library, organized events like Therapy Dog Thursday, an ongoing event since 2013.

"We started bringing [therapy dogs] to the library during finals week to give students a study break and a way to calm down from exam stress, so we just expanded it to every Thursday," Flynn said. "We have some students who come every week, kind of like groupies, and they want to have something to cuddle with; it just cheers people up."

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Cheering people up was part of why owner Elaine Drake and her sheepdog, Gus, and owner Carol Ohlrogge and her golden retriever, Nellie, wanted to go through therapy dog training. Ohlrogge often took Nellie to visit a woman in the hospital and another in a nursing home. When the woman in the nursing home wouldn't talk to anyone except for Nellie, Ohlrogge knew she wanted to share Nellie's love with others.

"If I can, I want to bring a little bit of comfort or joy and share my dog," Ohlrogge said. "Obviously she has love to give away. If she can make a few people better, I want to do that and obviously she is happy to do it."

Nicole Schilling, senior political theory and constitutional

democracy student, was stressed out about graduating in a few weeks. She was walking into the library when she saw a sign in the lobby for Therapy Dog Thursday and decided to take a break from her job hunt. The presence of the dogs brought a tranquil, carefree atmosphere to the library's typically serious environment.

"I feel really calm," Schilling said as Nellie gently nuzzled her head into her hand. "It's nice to be around all of these people and have such a fluffy, excited dog come around. It definitely takes you outside of yourself and outside of all the stuff that you are working on and lets you focus on something that just wants to love you."

Nellie the golden retriever turned and walked up to Schilling with her tongue hanging out of her mouth and tail wagging wildly behind her. Sitting on the ground, Schilling reached up and scratched Nellie's head, laughing at how happy the dog was to be receiving all of this attention. While the school year was nearing an end and students were burdened by upcoming exams and piles of homework, therapy dogs gave Spartans like Schilling an opportunity to take a minute out of their day to relax before finishing the year off strong.





A Luminous Expedition

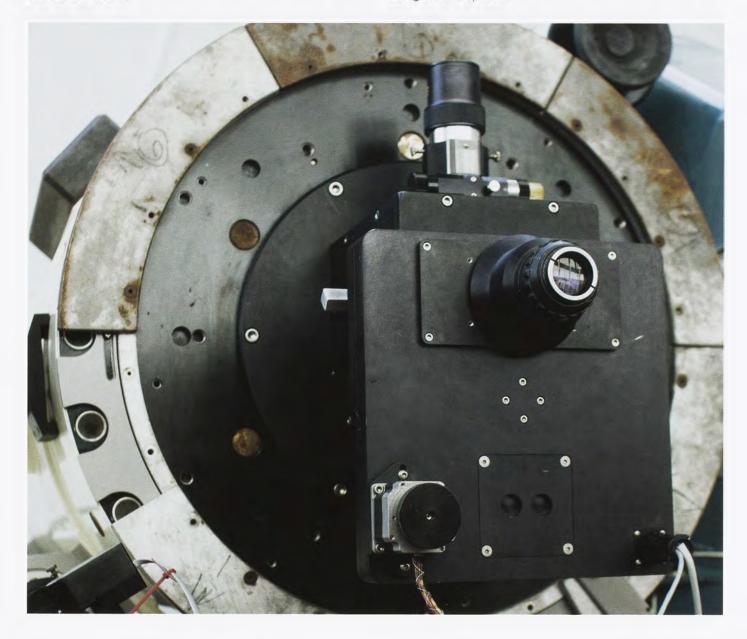
The cosmos through an MSU lens

A little bit off the beaten path, down Farm Lane and behind the pavilion, an open field was inhabited by one small, rounded building. Inside was something unknown to most students: a 24-inch reflecting telescope, towering in stature. The spherical roof slid open and gave students and locals alike a view of the constellations, mimicking classic astronomic films like "Apollo 13."

Since 1969, the telescope stood tall inside the observatory, handled by professors, astronomy majors and the interested public. Undergraduates that worked as part of the MSU Observatory Research Program at the observatory—given a stipend for their work—ran the telescope most clear nights. They worked as data collectors, photographing stars and constellations.

Laura Chomiuk, a professor in the astronomy department, gained the position of observatory director in 2012 after long-time director and professor Horace Smith retired. Chomiuk shared that the telescope required a great deal of upkeep to remain in good shape for public nights and undergraduate use. Chomiuk mentioned that they have about 15 undergraduates working with the MSU Observatory Research Program, studying particular stars through the MSU telescope.

"Our undergraduates are studying how a star's brightness varies with time," said Chomiuk. "At least two of them sign up and come out one night of the week, and they stay out here and observe until dawn. This experience not only gives them research experience, but allows them to further their studies doing what they love."



Dylan Mankel, an undergraduate astrophysics and biochemistry and molecular biology double-major and member of the MSU Observatory Research Program, had been working with the MSU Observatory ever since some of his comrades in the Astronomy Club recommended he get involved. Here, during the observatory's public nights, he found a love for teaching captivated children about what they were seeing as they gazed through the telescope's lens. He also discovered a fervor for researching and dissecting the wonders of the galaxy.

"What I enjoy most about the actual research aspect is the international effort that goes into astronomy research," said Mankel. "We submit our data, along with thousands of other observatories across the globe, to huge databases for the public to use, so it's pretty cool to be able to claim a small chunk of data as your own among the millions of other data points. Several of us actually got published over the summer because someone had used our data in their paper."

"THIS EXPERIENCE NOT ONLY GIVES THEM RESEARCH EXPERIENCE, BUT ALLOWS THEM TO FURTHER THEIR STUDIES DOING WHAT THEY LOVE."

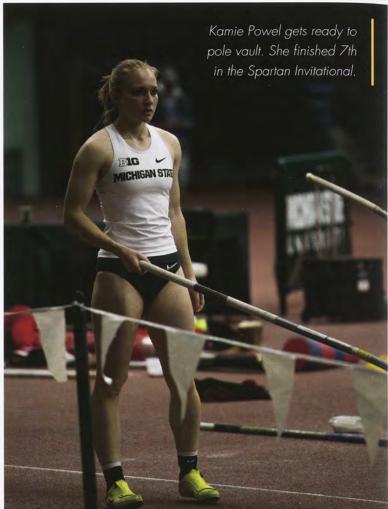
The observatory's social media director, Huei Sears, graduated last year with degrees in advanced mathematics and astrophysics. She began working in the summer of 2015, when she manned the telescope one night a week, observing the universe. She then decided the social media pages—Twitter and Facebook—needed some revamping. Instead of using social media solely for announcing public nights, Sears began utilizing it to educate the public in astronomy and the ins and outs of the telescope.

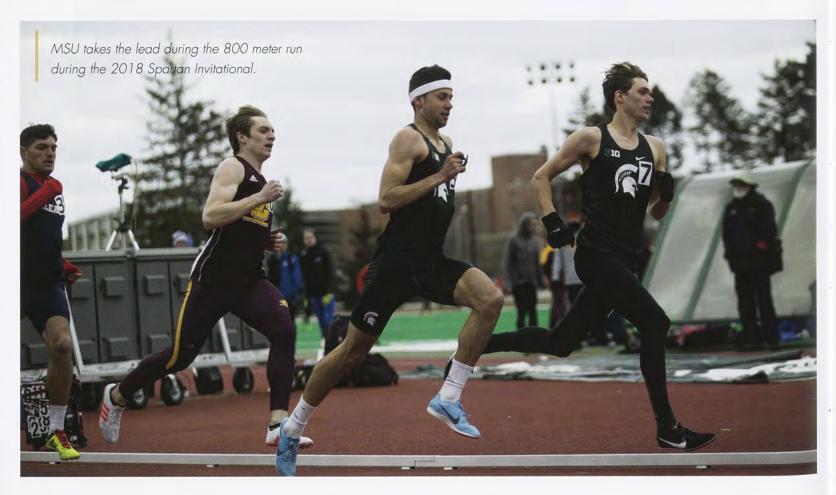
"The most important thing, to me, about being the social media director is that it gives me the opportunity to bring astrophysics to those who might not otherwise be able to access it," said Sears. "I have the unique responsibility of explaining just what it is we do at the observatory to the public in ways that they'll understand. I enjoy that responsibility, because I think anytime I can fight the stigma that math-heavy science is 'too hard' or 'too boring,' I should."

The telescope was a hidden treasure right outside the chaos of MSU. While a trip to the stars might not be in an undergraduate's budget, with a simple drive south down Farm Lane, they could take their very own journey into another world through the telescope's lens.

The MSU Observatory, located at the corner of Mount Hope Road and Farm Lane, has been the home of a 24-inch reflecting telescope since 1969.







Individual Performance, Team Effort

Track and field upperclassmen focus on teamwork during their final year

Senior Katelyn Daniels stepped into the ring, discus in hand, at the Hillsdale College GINA Relays—the last meet of the 2018 regular track season. She took a deep breath in and let it out slowly, focusing on a spot out in the field—the mark she knew she had to hit. Getting into position, she spun around and launched the discus over 50 meters. Daniels watched as it hit the grass a few meters shy of her goal. Because it was one of her final performances as a Spartan athlete, it hurt to watch one of the last discs she would ever throw fall short of her personal best. But even in the anguish of a missed opportunity, she turned around to see the smiling faces of her teammates.

"Regardless of my performance this season, or in any other, I understand what an incredible blessing it is to be able to compete at this level, with these people," Daniels said. "There is always room for improvement and I am never satisfied to be where I am, but I am grateful for the journey and understand that every experience is necessary in getting me where I want to be—even the difficult ones."

While Daniels would sometimes solely focus on the outcome of a meet, one of the things she remembered most about being an MSU athlete was all of the incredible and talented people she met. She could always count on her coaches and teammates for advice, tough love and laughs when she needed them. These personal connections translated to public meets on the track. While individual performance was important, coach Walt Drenth saw how well the team collaborated and valued the strength of teamwork.

"For me, we want to sustain what we've done. I think we can build on a few things. With some of us, we practiced a few things in competition this week instead of just trying to go out and really let it out. It'll be good to see everybody back together. That cohesiveness is important. We're on target for Big Ten [championship]," Drenth said in a recap of the Ashland Alumni Open.

Senior Clark Ruiz, who competed in the 5,000 meter

and 10,000 meter, finished his last season at MSU. Ruiz focused on his individual goals as an athlete just as Daniels did, but he also worked each day to guide his teammates through the season and improve their overall record.

"I really try helping my teammates; it's not just my season, it's the whole team's," Ruiz said. "If I can help a teammate in any way, I will. I just try to do what I've always been doing: encourage young athletes, offer advice when asked and be an example during practice. A majority of the people on the team want to be there and want to be good, so it's not difficult to be a leader around them; they already do such a great job already."

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Daniels stepped into the ring for the final time and Ruiz crossed over the faded white finish line on his last lap around. At this moment, both athletes knew the hard work was over. While they may not have achieved all they set out to do individually, they were able to look back on their time and be content with the knowledge that they had been a part of something more than a race or a toss of the discus. The team continued to encourage each other through high and low points and acted as a beacon in MSU athletics.



We Got the Goods

Land Grant Goods is the first MSU-affiliated. student-run business on campus

It is required that all MSU students have a meal plan when they first come to campus as freshmen. Brody Square, for example, is one of the largest and most popular dining halls on campus because of its wide selection of food. Yet, even with a meal plan, combos and free pizza throughout the year, sometimes students crave something different to indulge in. Land Grant Goods, the first student-run business affiliated with MSU on campus, satiated those cravings by producing honey and teas that are not only delicious, but environmentally friendly.

"I absolutely love all the products we create, but my favorite product has to be our Exhale Tea," said Nana Krah, a freshman production intern for the business. "Exhale is a relaxing blend of organic peppermint, organic lavender and organic chamomile. Even further, they are all grown on our

green campus by student farmers."

Available online and in its store located in Bailey Hall, Land Grant Goods made it easier than ever to obtain its products for a decent price. Though the business's products may have been easy to come by, they were not as easy to produce. This was by design, though, as product development interns spent their time working with all-natural ingredients and developed innovative techniques to create products that were not harmful to the earth.

"I feel that I have a very unique opportunity to be able to intern for Land Grant Goods," said Rachel Sanders, a sophomore sales intern. "There are only a handful of MSU students that get these kinds of experiences, so I feel very fortunate to be a part of it. I have been able to take part in everything, from caring for the plants and bees all the way up to delivering the final product to our customers. I've greatly enjoyed working on website development and also setting up sampling stands around campus."

Land Grant Goods paved the way for up-and-coming entrepreneurs on MSU's campus. Its founders, seniors Bethany Kogut, Alex Marx and Abdullah Mohammed, inspired interns to follow their passions and even to become

entrepreneurs themselves.

"My most memorable experience thus far, besides all the fun and laughs I've had, has been with my boss, Abdullah," said Sanders. "He asked me to write descriptions for our products on our website. It doesn't seem like a big deal, but it exemplifies the trust that the interns are given, and that what we do is actually meaningful and that we can impact the company. I felt like I actually had a role to play in Land Grant Goods and that my creativity was valued."

"THERE ARE ONLY A HANDFUL TO BE A PART OF IT."

Many students look for internships to gain experience in a desired field but are not always lucky enough to obtain an internship that allows them to execute hands-on activities. Interns at Land Grant Goods valued the skills they acquired from the tasks they were given at their internship.

"I've learned so much from interning at Land Grant Goods in so little time. I've learned how to blend and process herbal tea, how to sift herb leaves, and I've learned how to harvest and jar raw honey," said Krah. "On a non-production level, I'm learning so much about sustainable agriculture and entrepreneurship. Being a part of Land Grant Goods is the main reason I want to pursue a minor and education in entrepreneurship and innovation."

A successful business cannot stay afloat without the support of its team members. Land Grant Goods made a strong foundation of employees and interns who grew closer each day. With a passion for entrepreneurship, sustainability and quality, they continued producing some of the best teas,

jams and honey in East Lansing.





StateWalk: The Safe Walk

Students helping students

The fear that came with emails and text messages warning students of criminality on campus caused uncertainty even in a walk home from the Main Library on a weeknight. Each alert lighting up the screen gave students reason to

worry upon the arrival of the moon.

Alpha Phi Omega, a co-ed fraternity on MSU's campus, worked in hopes to diminish these fears and decrease the number of campus-wide alerts through their StateWalk initiative. StateWalk—one of the numerous safe transportation systems on campus—was a free way for students, and even faculty, to get from the Main Library back to their respective residences safely. Volunteers of Alpha Phi Omega worked late into the night Sunday through Wednesday to ensure student security, safety and peace of mind.

"We walk any member of the MSU community: undergrad, graduate, faculty. We have even walked librarians to their cars," said Leo Norling, a senior psychology student and the president of Alpha Phi Omega. "This initiative has been established and active for more than 20 years and gives an option to members of the MSU community to feel safe when

walking back to where they have to go."

At the library, the volunteer walkers of Alpha Phi Omega had a table near Sparty's during their hours of operation where Spartans could sign themselves up for a safe walk home. No matter how far the walk, the Alpha Phi Omega volunteers were there to make sure students and faculty got home safely.

"I once walked a student from the library to West Akers at 12:29 a.m. even though StateWalk normally ends at 12:30 a.m.," said Lucas Werner, Alpha Phi Omega director of finance. "I still walked the student with another member, and we had a really interesting conversation that spanned the length of our walk. For me, meeting new people is one of the more interesting parts of StateWalk. You kind of have to

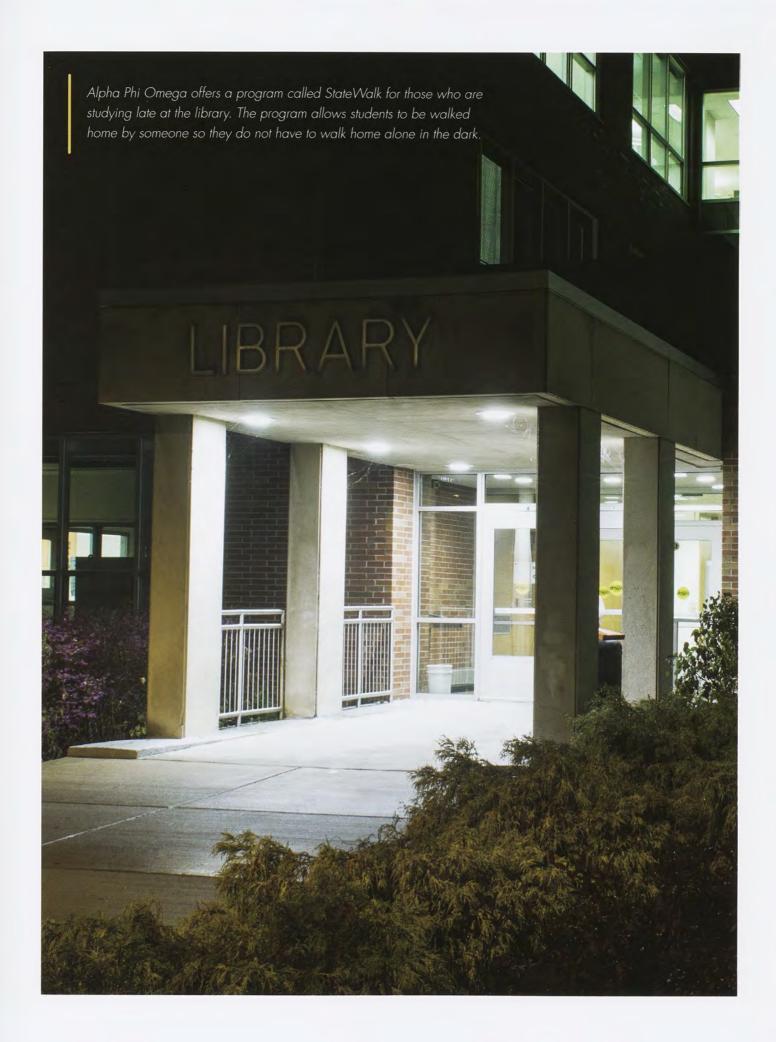
talk when you're walking across campus, so you hear some interesting stories."

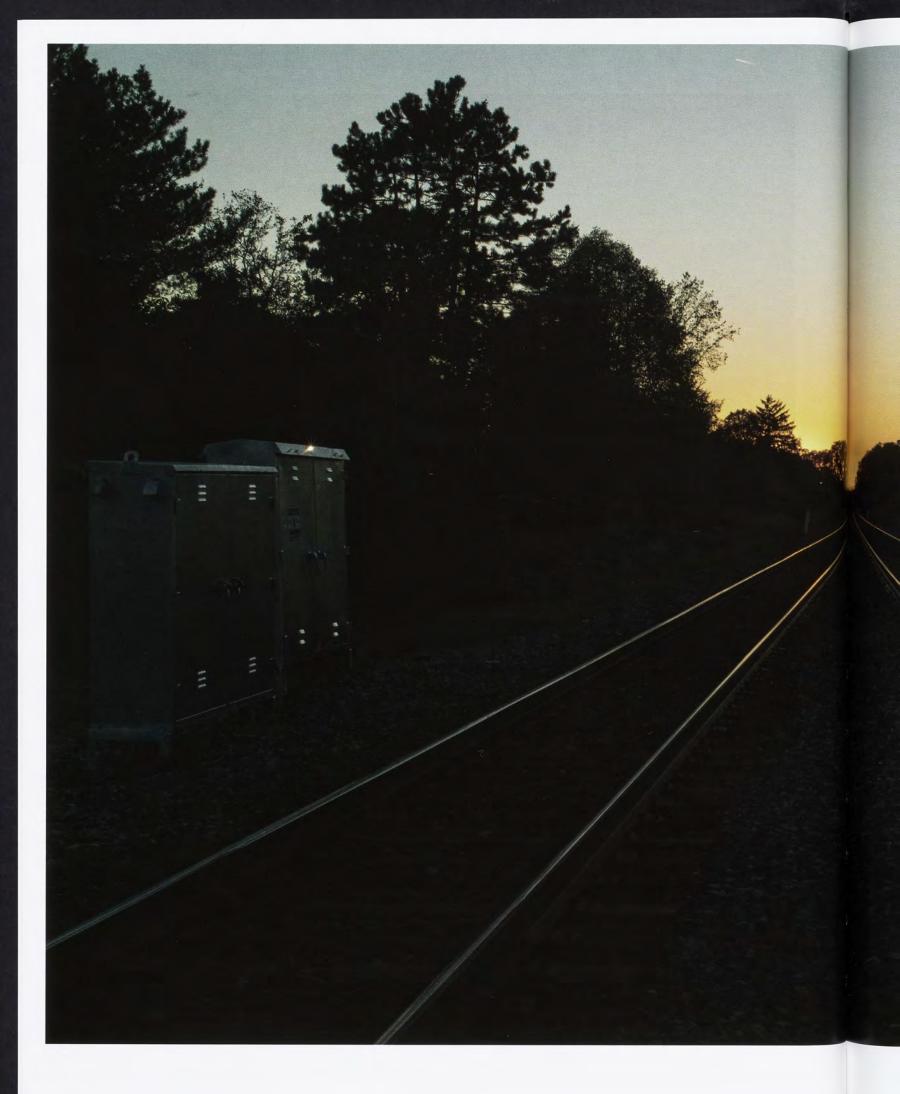
Maintaining an agreement with the library, the Alpha Phi Omega volunteers underwent safety training allowing them to be a student or faculty member's guardian on the walk home. The daunting hours of operation late into the night might have seemed taxing to the average student, but the members of the fraternity found it invaluable.

"I STILL WALKED THE STUDENT WITH ANOTHER MEMBER AND WE HAD A REALLY INTERESTING CONVERSATION THAT SPANNED THE LENGTH OF OUR WALK."

"I am a proud member of Alpha Phi Omega's initiative because we have a positive impact on someone's life," said Greg Nelson, a senior kinesiology student and vice president of internal services who coordinates StateWalk times and placements. "Our motto is leadership, friendship and service, and that's what StateWalk stands for: being leaders on this campus, being a friend to our fellow Spartans and serving our campus and community."

StateWalk brought comfort to those in need and reduced the fear that came with a late-night walk across campus. In a society flooded with college-campus threats, this initiative demonstrated the alleviation an influential Spartan can bring to an anxious mind and the connections waiting to be made on a simple trek home. Alpha Phi Omega volunteers headed home from the library fatigued after a late night of work—but for them, it was well worth it.







AK UP



#GOTEAL

SPEAK UP



OIN OUR MOVEMENT #GOTEAL TO SUPPORT SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS, PREVENTION AND RESPONSE



#GOTEAL

SPEAK UP



JOIN OUR MOVEMENT #GOTEAL TO SUPPORT SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS. PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

#GOTEAL SPEAK

















The Call

#MeToo founder speaks at the Wharton Center

Me too. These words allow two people—who are baring their souls to each other—to understand that they are not alone. They create a moment that sheds the alienating efforts of an unperceptive world. This simple phrase immediately conveyed the feeling "I understand." Even if they were just a start to a universal conversation that was missing for thousands of years, those two words were enough.

Hopeful members of the MSU community gathered at the Wharton Center on April 19 to hear #MeToo founder Tarana Burke speak openly about the movement she created as a part of the Transformative Justice Speaker Series. She discussed how she became aware of the need to post the original #MeToo message to Twitter that created a global community of sexual assault survivors posting their stories on social media.

"When I think of Heaven, the little girl who planted the seed of 'me too' in me—because I couldn't say 'me too' to her—Heaven was courageous," said Burke. "At 13 years old, she stood in my face and said, 'Hear me. I need you to see me.' She knew that she needed to be seen and heard and believed at 13 and she had a thing that I didn't have. She had a courage that I didn't have, but her courage made me dutiful."

Xhercis Méndez, assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy and the African American and African Studies Program, looked at the origins of the #MeToo movement. Méndez created the Transformative Justice Speaker Series in 2016 to explore how universities could build safer and more supportive environments for marginalized students, faculty and staff.

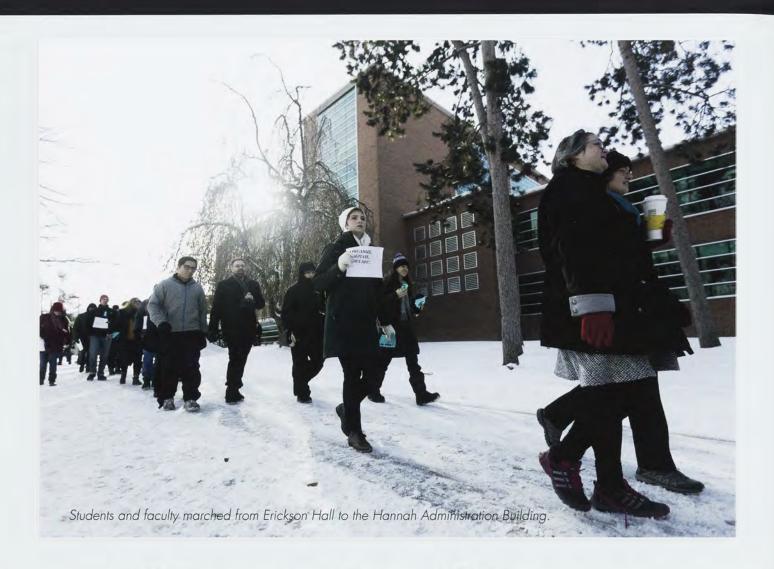
Ayanna Spencer, fourth-year doctoral philosophy student, met Tarana Burke during her Engaged Philosophy Summer Internship Program with Girls for Gender Equity in 2017. She embarked on a mission to help the organization's "Theory of Change," which involved nuanced and thoughtful discussions around the perception of race, gender and ethnicity. She also learned what "me too" meant before the hashtag.

"It means I am not alone," said Spencer. "It means there are other people who can empathize with my experiences and others I can empathize with to continue to push for a safer world for all people. When I first talked to Tarana about 'me too,' before the viral hashtag, I remember thinking, 'I wish I'd been in her program for Black girl teens.' Seeing the 'me too' movement go viral felt like a reawakening to recommit to my responsibility to care for myself as a survivor and care for other survivors."

TO THE STREET OF THE STREET

Toni Cade Bambara, African-American author and social activist, said: "Revolution begins with the self, in the self." #MeToo helped people think about their connections with others. It was like a beautiful siren calling to individuals to lift their heads above the water and see all the other people fighting against the systems that made sexual violence possible. It was a call to work toward a brighter future where all people thrive together.





March for Change

MSU College of Education students and faculty demand change at the highest levels

Students and faculty poured out from the doors of Erickson Hall on a sunny, Tuesday afternoon. Garnished in teal ribbons and holding signs reading "No Trustees Without Trust" and "MSU Staff Stand With Our Students," they marched in unity until they reached the snowy front steps of the Hannah Administration Building. One by one, students, professors and supporters told their stories of why they were marching as everyone standing in a semicircle around the steps clapped and yelled their support.

In the wake of Larry Nassar's Ingham County sentencing, hundreds of sexual assault cases involving the ex-MSU doctor were uncovered as students and staff stepped forward to tell their stories. However, the problem extended beyond Nassar. Students and faculty were marching to take a stand, to take action and to make a statement. They felt utterly misled by university administration, and wanted to see a change in the policies on how sexual assault was dealt with on campus. As a result, on Feb. 6, faculty and staff in the College of

Education delivered a letter to the Hannah Administration Building demanding the resignation of the MSU Board of Trustees and Interim President John Engler.

"I really think a lot of things on this campus in terms of rape culture and sexual assault need to be dealt with differently than how they've been dealt with in the past," senior journalism major Hannah Holliday said. "So, I'm hoping to spark some kind of change along with the other students and faculty that gathered here."

Holliday attended the march not only because she didn't agree with the Board of Trustees' decision to make Engler the interim president, but because she was conflicted about her feelings toward MSU. Holliday loved the university she attended, but with the sexual assault cases going on, it was hard for her to support and stand 100 percent behind it. Other faculty and staff that attended the march that Tuesday morning had similar feelings toward the administration.

"I feel duped because we have had all of this training; we



are all mandatory reporters," said Sue Stoltzfus, an adviser at MSU. "Then, somewhere up the chain, everything fell apart and then there were people who didn't have to play by the same rules, so I feel duped."

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Kyle Greenwalt, an associate professor in the College of Education, wanted to see more participation from all levels in the university—from students to alumni. Greenwalt believed a big concern was that people were not being listened to. He wanted the board members to take an honest look at whether or not they could successfully do their job going forward.

"I march to remember the pain of the survivors and

the people who are victims of sexual assault," Greenwalt said. "But I also want each board member to examine their conscience and ask themselves if they have represented the university in the best light."

As students and staff shared their final words on the steps of the Hannah Administration Building, the march came to a close. Terah Chambers, a faculty member from the College of Education, along with other staff members took the letter up to the office for the Board of Trustees. Supporters wrote what they marched for on teal squares of paper and stuck them to the windows of the building. While their reasons may have been different, Spartans and supporters alike had one common goal: to march in unity for the survivors of sexual assault and to demand changes be made in the university they called home.

Upon arrival at the administration building, students and staff chanted and taped teal slips of paper on the outside of the windows to ensure there grievances did not go unnoticed.





Moving Forward

Jordyn Wieber at the Wharton Center

Two empty wooden chairs sat at intersecting angles, with house lights bathing them in a soft glow. The microphones placed on the chairs carried a certain emptiness, as if they were pleading to be picked up. Behind the interview set was a podium that too seemed to emanate a calling for someone. Standing directly behind the billowy, navy curtain of the Wharton Center's Pasant Theatre was the person who would answer: Jordyn Wieber, national star and athlete, the woman every Spartan wanted to hear.

Wieber was an American gymnast and Olympic gold medalist. She was a member of the Fierce Five, the U.S. women's gymnastics team in 2012. But, perhaps more importantly, she was a survivor of sexual assault. Like many

others, she was violated under the care of Larry Nassar, her trusted doctor. In light of the recent Nassar trial, she was invited to speak on campus by the Residence Hall Association on what it meant to move forward.

"Everyone has their own timeline of healing," said Wieber. "For me, it was a long road to get from denial to acceptance. Any mention of Larry Nassar caused me so much stress that I avoided it at all costs. I soon realized this processing was too difficult to do. So, I slowly started opening up to people I trusted about my experience. We all need people in our lives that we can externally process things with."

Matt Clabeaux, senior in neuroscience, was the Residence Hall Association director of health and safety at



MSU. As director of health and safety, he represented 15,000 students who lived on campus. On top of being on the Sexual Violence Advisory Committee, he was a part of the planning for the It's On Us: Week of Action—a campaign aimed at students, asking that they make an effort to prevent sexual violence. Clabeaux worked with the director of special events for Residence Hall Association to invite Wieber to speak.

"We noticed that the attention was being shifted away from survivors, so we wanted to support survivors on campus whatever way we could," said Clabeaux. "We were looking for a speaker who could speak on the topic, share their story, and someone who could offer some kind of help to those who may be struggling with what has happened on campus or struggling with former abuse."

Emily Robin, freshman in neuroscience, heard about the event through her sorority during MSU's Mental Health Awareness Week. What she and the girls from her sorority, Beta Xi, admired was that Wieber wasn't afraid to bravely call out the twisted way that society was functioning. Every time Wieber shared an experience about her abuse, it gave Robin that much more hope for the future.

"I find it very motivating being surrounded by so many incredible women who stand up for the things they believe in, like Jordyn Wieber, who I'm only a little younger than," said Robin. "She is taking such important steps to create change in society. It's very empowering to have people who support you and to look up to, advocating for such necessary change in the world."

For the students sitting in the theater seats that night, Wieber's words had a visibly profound impact. Awed faces, eyes fixated toward the center of the stage, some even glossy with tears. She had the gift of healing. Upon exiting the theater, women were being asked for interviews left and right, and no one appeared to be short of things to say after witnessing Wieber's courage. For everyone, this was a time to move forward.



President of MSU's Sexual Assault Intervention Team, Anna Cumming, interviews Jordyn Wieber. Jordyn Wieber is an Olympic gold medalist and sexual assault survivor of Larry Nassar.



Silent for Too Long

Faculty vote of no confidence

Room 115 in the International Center was at max occupancy—at least that's what police told the many teachers and students standing outside the doorway furious, unable to gain entry. The lucky few students who made it in were scattered around the room, standing up and holding signs displaying their cause. Among the most popular were signs that represented the #ReclaimMSU movement.

Many students at the event said they heard about it from their professors. Inside classrooms, many faculty members expressed their sympathy to the students for feeling equally shut out of what was happening in the aftermath of ex-MSU doctor Larry Nassar's trial. This meeting would determine the status of confidence in the Board of Trustees by the Faculty Senate in front of the Steering Committee.

"I don't even know how the Faculty Senate works," said Monica Williamson, senior anthropology major. "It's revealing to me how little I know about the inner workings of this university. I am on one of the undergraduate academic hearing boards and I'm considered an involved student in that respect and I'm clueless about what's going on right now. I think this is just showing how [disjunct] this university works in regards to communication."

At 3:18 p.m. the meeting opened with an amendment

to the agenda for the vote of no confidence. Originally the meeting for a vote of no confidence in the Board of Trustees had been declared for electing former Michigan governor John Engler too quickly and without notifying the faculty. Other faculty members believed that the vote was primarily due to the board's inability to contain the rampant sexual misconduct that had occured on campus because of Nassar. In the end, the reason for the motion was declared arbitrary. The vote was the only thing that mattered.

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"I never thought I'd have to say to a room of educators that sexual assault isn't something that's acceptable," said Samuel Richard Klahn, a junior comparative cultures and politics major who came between class and work to speak on behalf of his fellow students. "I've heard people say that they believe that the student body is split on this and I haven't heard anything of the sort from my residents and my friends. The only thing that I have heard is that John Engler, [regardless]

of his politics, his history and his platform, is not an educator and he is not qualified on that alone to lead this institution."

During the meeting, several faculty members addressed the topic of educational governance, advocating that the faculty knew how academia worked and that the board did not. Students protested that their voices were not being heard. They were working to combat the idea that the student body was split on the issue of confidence.

"I first want to commend the faculty for doing this," said Lorenzo Santavicca, student body president. "I also want to correct the fact that ASMSU was, in fact, the first governing organization to make a political statement on this issue. Our undergraduate student body has pushed, and about a

month ago we urged at that last University Council meeting, for faculty to take that stand with us. We have been at the forefront of this."

Sixty-five faculty members raised their iClickers toward the front of the room. People seated on the outskirts and corners murmured among themselves things they heard during the discussion. "We need a board that is actually going to check the president." "The board is morally compromised." "We need to take this university back." When the votes appeared on the screen with a 94 percent vote of no confidence, the room let out a heavy sigh of relief followed by rejoicing cheers and gratuitous clapping. The faculty was one step closer to reclaiming MSU.



Rashida Harrison, an assistant professor in Jame Madison, addresses the students and staff in the closing session of the teach-in.



Educate and Cooperate

MSU faculty and students join together for day-long teach-in

A room overflowing with people, dimmed just enough to set the mood and create an easy escape for thoughts, opinions and expression. People of different races, ages and professions sat in rows, united together with one common goal: to educate and cooperate for justice.

On Feb. 27, MSU students and teachers from three colleges—James Madison College, Lyman Briggs College and the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities—held a teach-in at the MSU Union. Classes for these colleges were canceled for the day, and all Spartans were encouraged to come join in the initiative to create a better atmosphere for Spartans on campus.

The only question Alexa Magsoudi, junior human biology major, had during the first half of the session was simple:

"Why am I here?"

Magsoudi said that she was tired of being passive and introverted when it came to the glaring issues on MSU's campus in light of the Larry Nassar scandal. She listened to the perspectives of students and faculty, and the conversations that arose in the room were honest, presented without fear of judgement. The opportunity to learn about diversity, intersectionality and hear from those affected by sexual assault was what really attracted Magsoudi to the teach-in event.

"It's hard to take that first step, but I'm here—and I'm so glad I did," said Magsoudi.

She said that watching the number inside the second-floor ballroom of the Union climb from 30 to more than 100 people in just a few hours visualized the idea that countless individuals on campus were in harmony. They were all at the teach-in for the same reason: change. Magsoudi said the voices of speakers and peers mirrored and verbalized her own thoughts, bonding the small room with big visions.

Sydney Kruse, also a junior human biology major, participated in the teach-in because she desired to see change within the university. She said that MSU needed healing, and each student deserved the assurance in knowing that their professors cared about the students. This wasn't just a student-driven attempt to transform the university. The desire was

evident in faculty members and people in power at MSU, and Kruse wanted students like herself to know that.

"I love MSU, and I want it to care about me the way I care about it," said Kruse.

Samuel Richard Klahn, a comparative cultures and politics junior, said the teach-in was an important moment for MSU to capitalize on what had been happening on campus. Dedicated students spoke freely while professors and faculty listened attentively. Courage could be felt in the room from every attendee.

TREE STEP BUT IN THE TOTAL THAT

Klahn was one of the student coordinators for Reclaim MSU—an alliance between students, faculty and staff members with a mission that strove for institutional, social and cultural change. He said the goal of the teach-in was more than to just respond to sexual violence. It was to identify what allowed this to happen, and what type of transparency and accountability was needed to give more credence and agency to the community of MSU faculty and students.

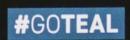
"Either we can be the most recent university that has experienced this and then just kind of endure it until it becomes old news, or we can fulfill everything that we aspire to be and say about Spartan's Will, committing ourselves to the solution in being the last university that something like this happens to," said Klahn.

Witnessing the support and devotion at the teach-in made one thing evident: Students were not alone. Whether personally affected by the issues discussed or not, students and faculty of MSU were immersed in conversation with open hearts, welcoming anyone to speak up. They would not allow themselves to be defined by the negativity. They chose, instead, to join together and shift the light from the university's brokenness to the individuals working to make it whole again.

Creative advertising students make a campaign for the Larry Nassar survivors. They make posters to raise awareness and show support.

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#GOTEAL

MSU advertising students bring awareness to sexual assault

Throughout MSU's campus, backpacks were adorned with bright, teal ribbons. The trees that lined Farm Lane had the same color ribbon wrapped around their trunks. The rock was still painted white, with names of the survivors of ex-MSU doctor Larry Nassar inscribed in teal.

Outside of a main floor classroom of the Communication Arts and Sciences Building, students walked past black and white photos of male and female models wearing neon teal lipstick with the words "Speak Up" written across the top.

"I think our original thinking with this movement was the concern that MSU students have right now," senior advertising student Amanda McCafferty said. "They are almost ashamed to wear green and white. Not because they aren't proud to go to MSU, but because people are looking down on MSU right now. But as a student, you want to speak up. If we can create a culture and a community where the student body is so set that this is never going to happen again, then the administration is going to have to follow us and they are going to have to listen to our voices."

THE SAFEST PLACE PRODUCT

The #GOTEAL movement was started by three international students, Yi Rong, Larraine Fu and Tianyi Xie, with help from McCafferty and senior advertising student Carlie Wirebaugh. Rong, Fu and Xie attended an ideathon—a strategic thinking class—with MSU advertising and public relations professor Ross Chowles. The task was to create a campaign surrounding sexual assault awareness and prevention at MSU.

"We started with these posters and we really just wanted to get the aspect of all different genders," McCafferty said. "It's not just women who are assaulted—it's men and women as we know—so we got all different genders and races."

Names were printed on a black poster and a small, teal ribbon was placed over the top of each one. The middle of the board read "Out of the Darkness. Take a Ribbon to Acknowledge Their Strength." As a student stepped up to the board, took a ribbon and revealed a name, it represented the survivors coming forward out of the darkness to finally get justice.

"We have videos, posters and social media in this campaign," said Rong, who graduated in 2017 but was still involved with projects at MSU and wanted to create something with the names of the survivors of Nassar's case. "I think the most powerful one is the ribbon poster. At the moment I saw all the ribbons [were] gone, I knew that students were affected by our messages."

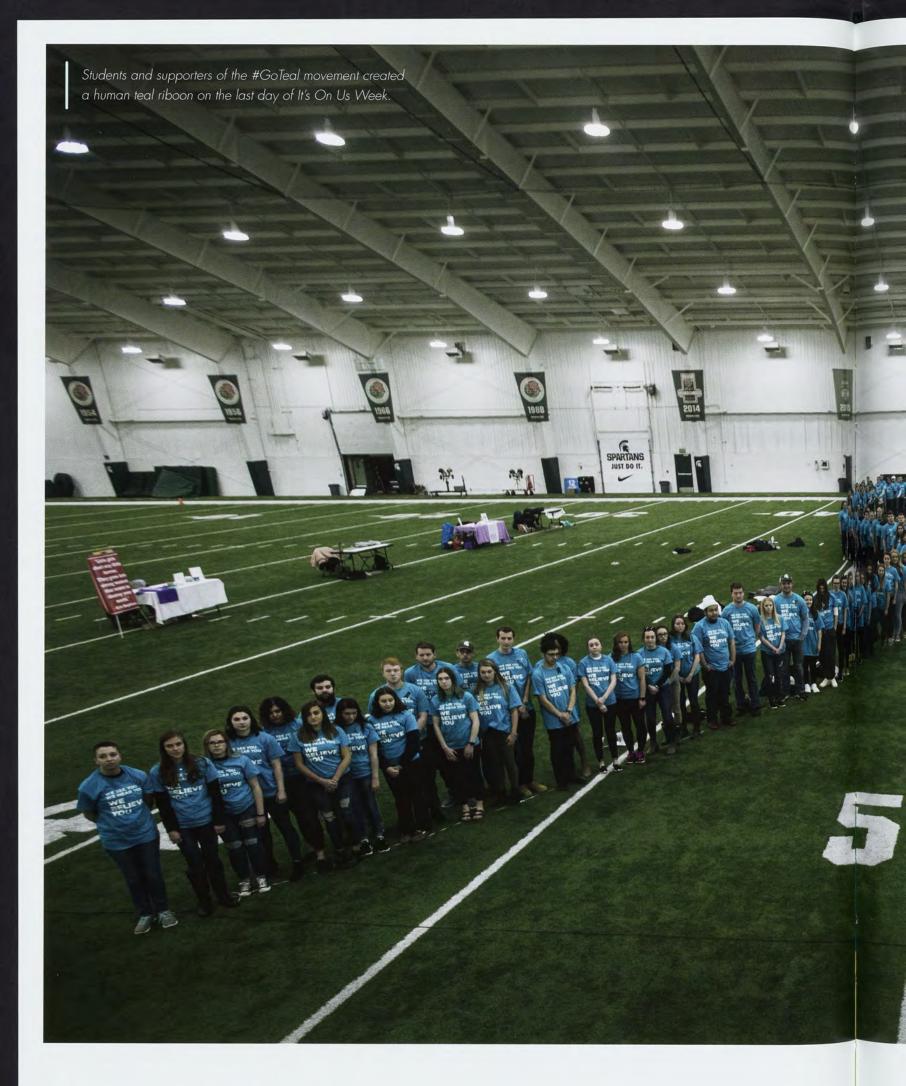
The five students wanted to hang the ribbons and posters

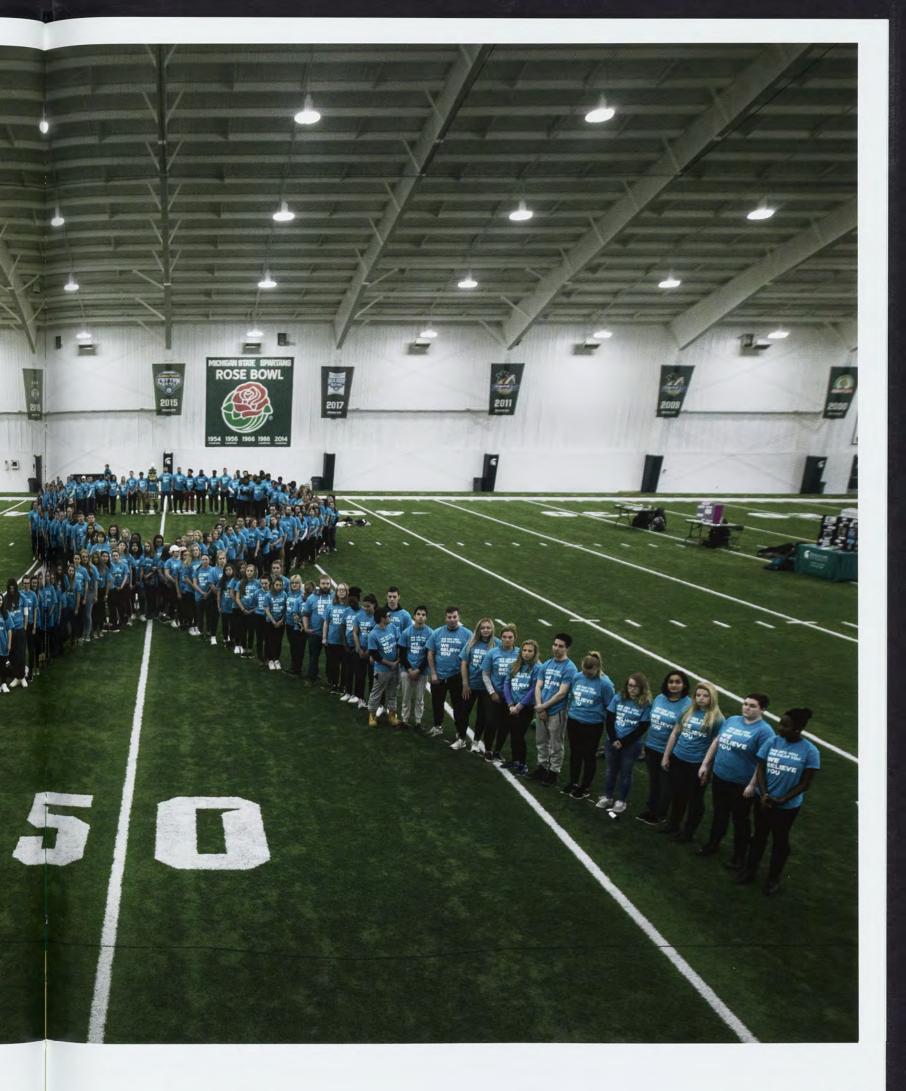
in other colleges and buildings around campus to help expand the movement. They posted pictures of the art on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to gain support not only from Spartans, but from other people in the community. This was more than just an advertising campaign; it was a chance to show support for the survivors.

"Our end goal is to make sure that this never happens again and to turn MSU into a place where this is taken very seriously if you do sexually assault someone," Wirebaugh said. "We want to turn MSU into the safest place possible."

As rain and snow pelted the ground and winds blasted the campus, the teal ribbons stayed tightly wrapped around the trees lining Farm Lane. One by one, the number of teal ribbons hanging from the black poster in the Communication Arts and Sciences Building decreased, while the number seen on student backpacks and jackets blossomed. Spartans were acknowledging the survivors and standing in unity to bring change to MSU.

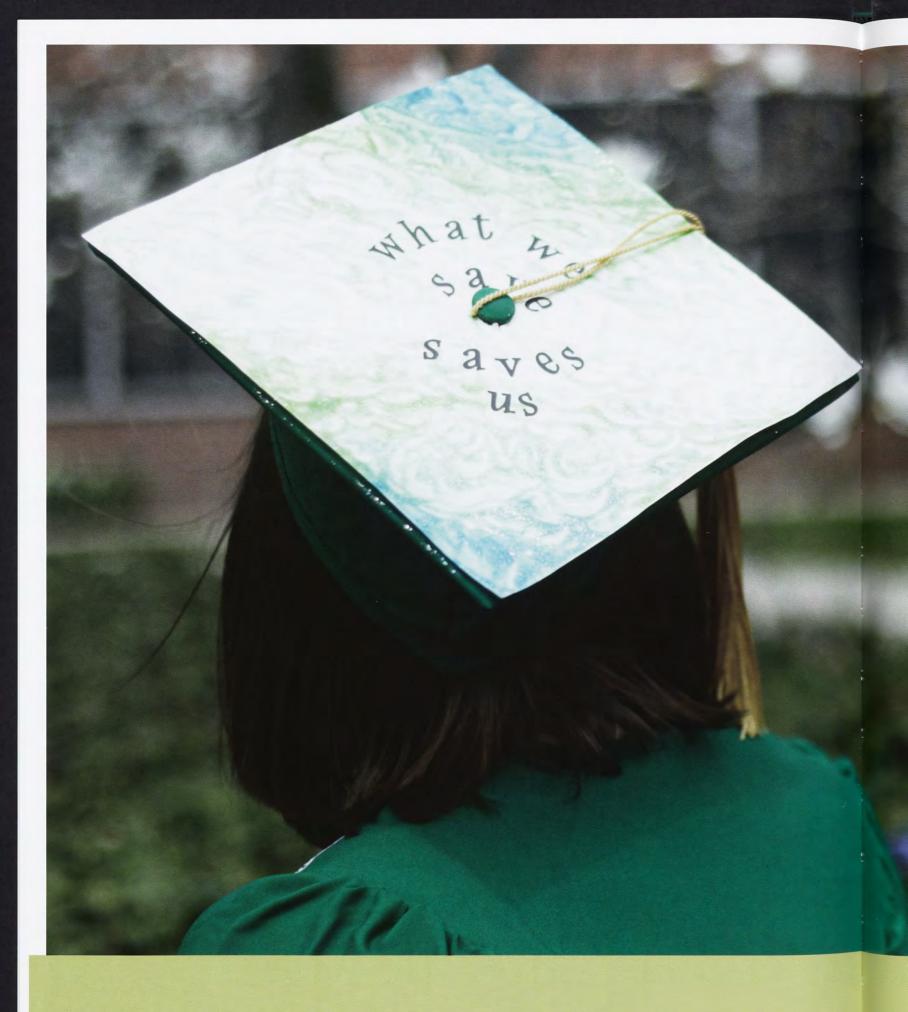




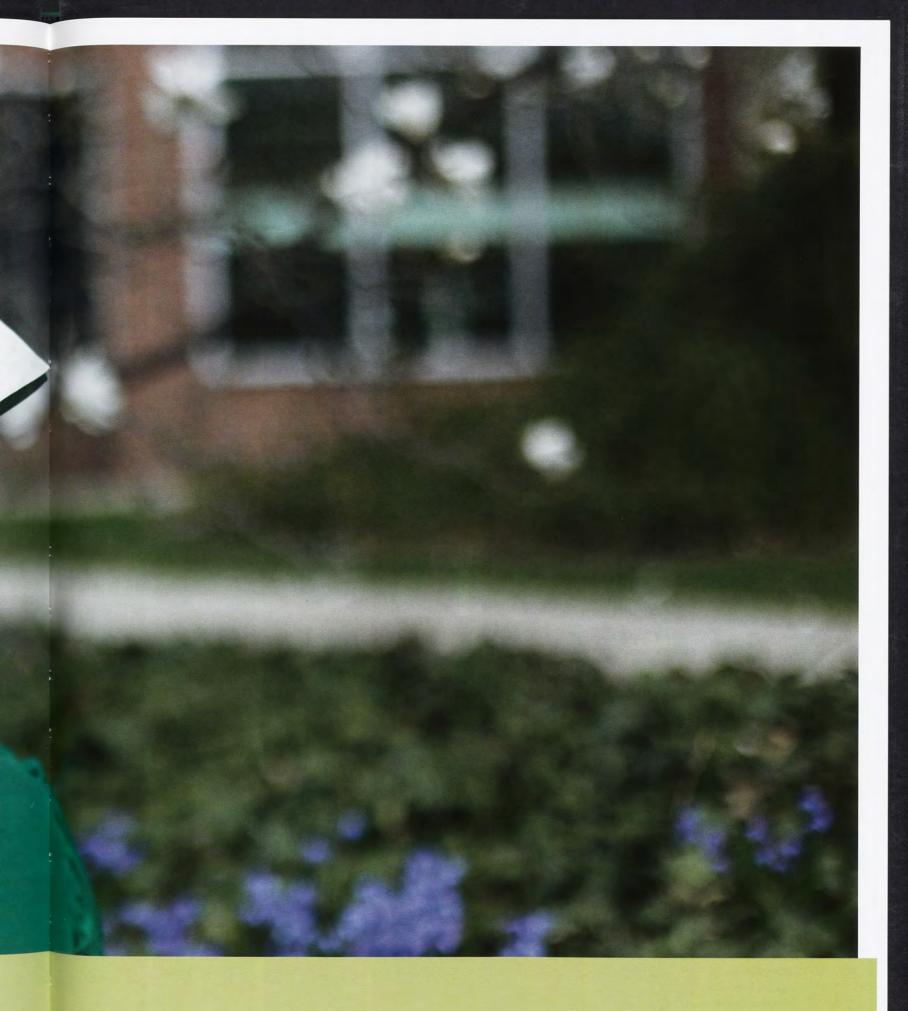












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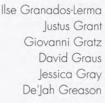








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Arvind Kapila Anne Kaplan Bonnie Kapushinski Georgiy Kariagin Pujitha Kasipuram Nathan Kauffman















Navreen Kaur Zachary Kaywood Dingxi Ke Micaela Keck Kelsey Keehfus Jackson Keith





























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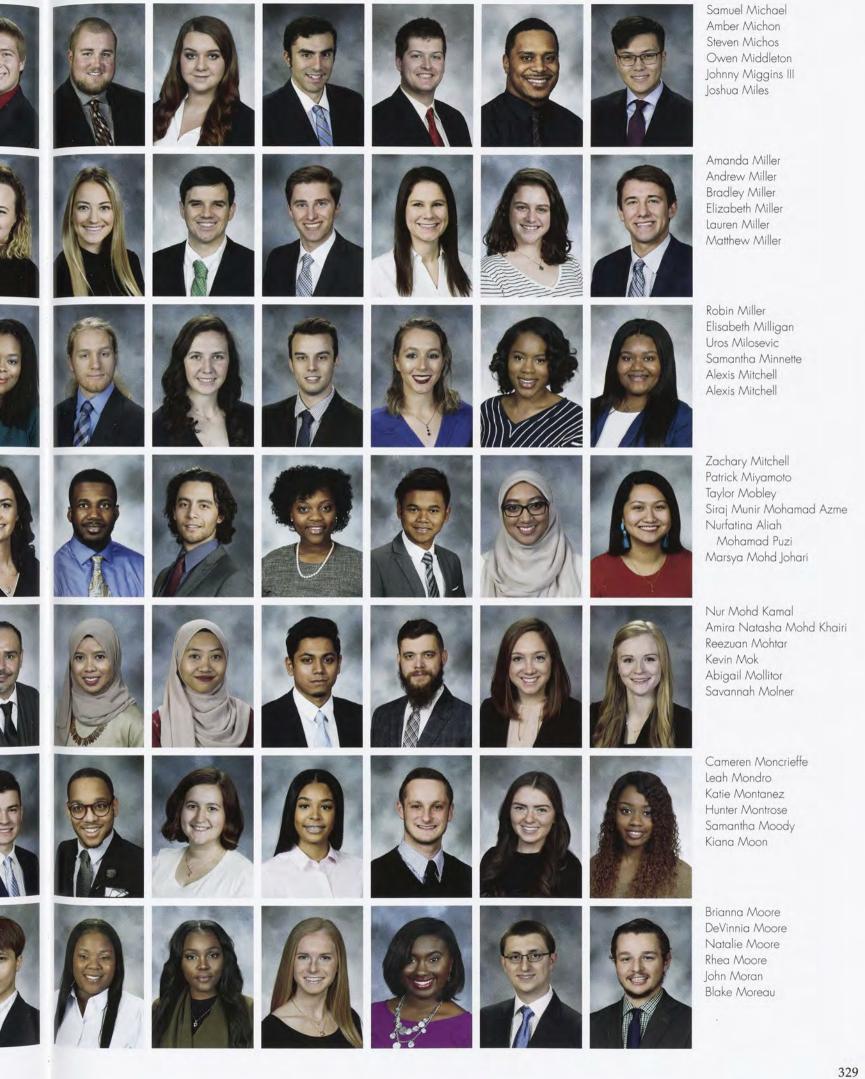












Guadalupe Moreno Arianna Morgan John Morgan Destiny Morris Elizabeth Mors Kamari Morse









Kayla Morse Briana Moss Maria Fernanda Moura Katelyn Mueller Rabbani Muhamad Sarah Mulkey













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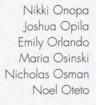














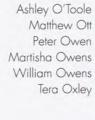














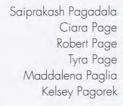
























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Samantha Parent Zachary Parent Brian Park Byeonggwon Park Carissa Park Jaehyun Park

















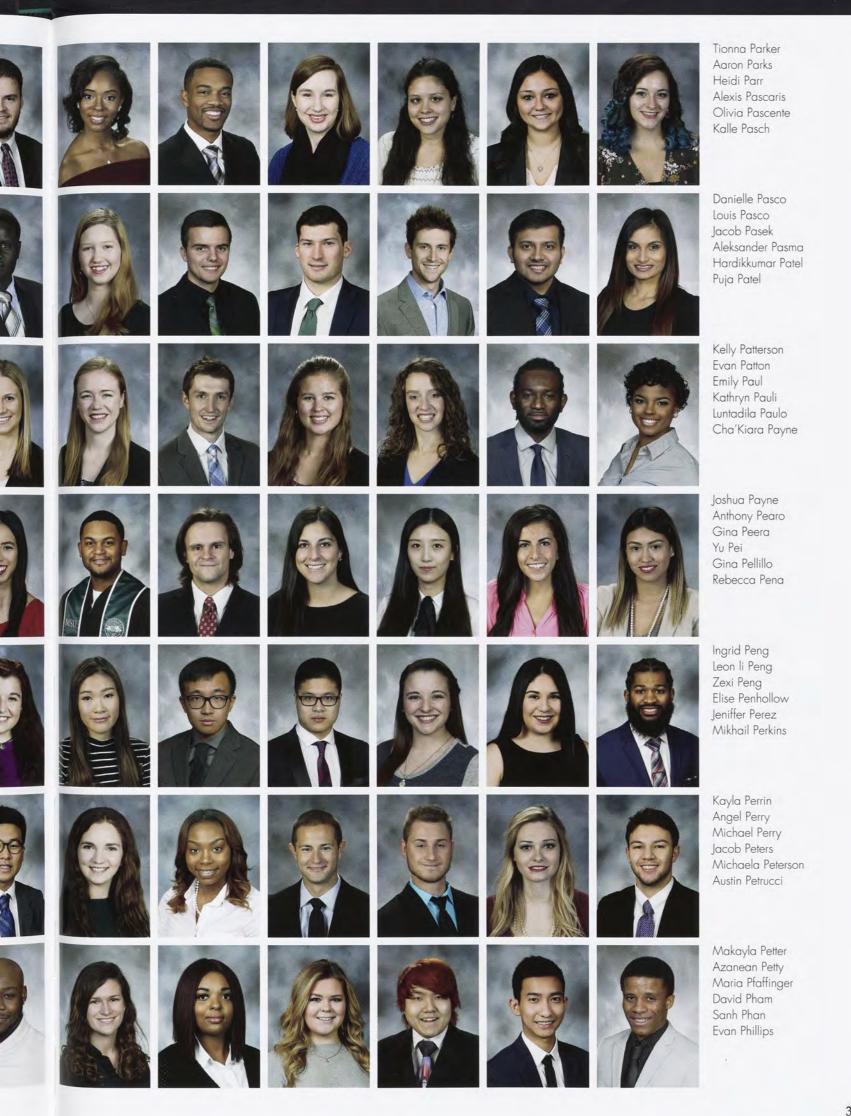












Katelyn Phillips Patrick Philp Joshua Pichardo Kristina Pierson Georgina Pike Andrew Pitlock Gina Pizzo Caitlyn Ploeg Asia Poe Ryan Poniedzielski Alistair Poole Elizabeth Porell





















































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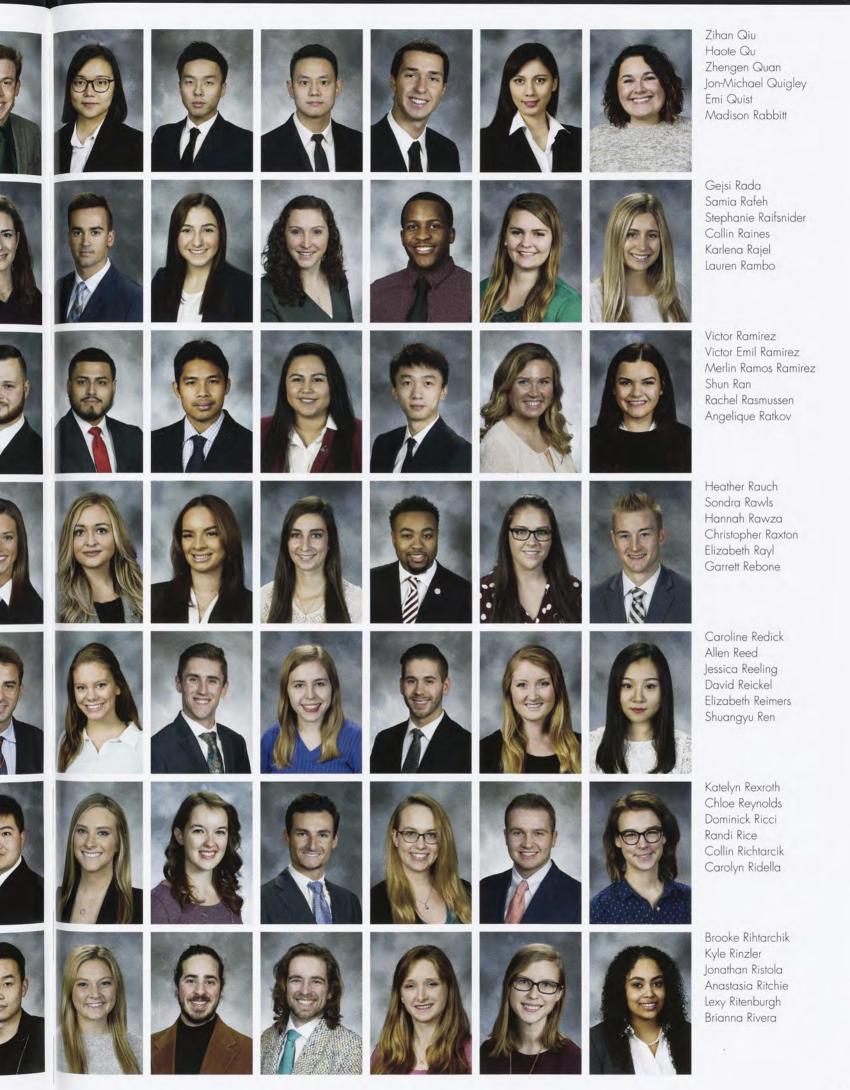
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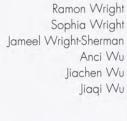


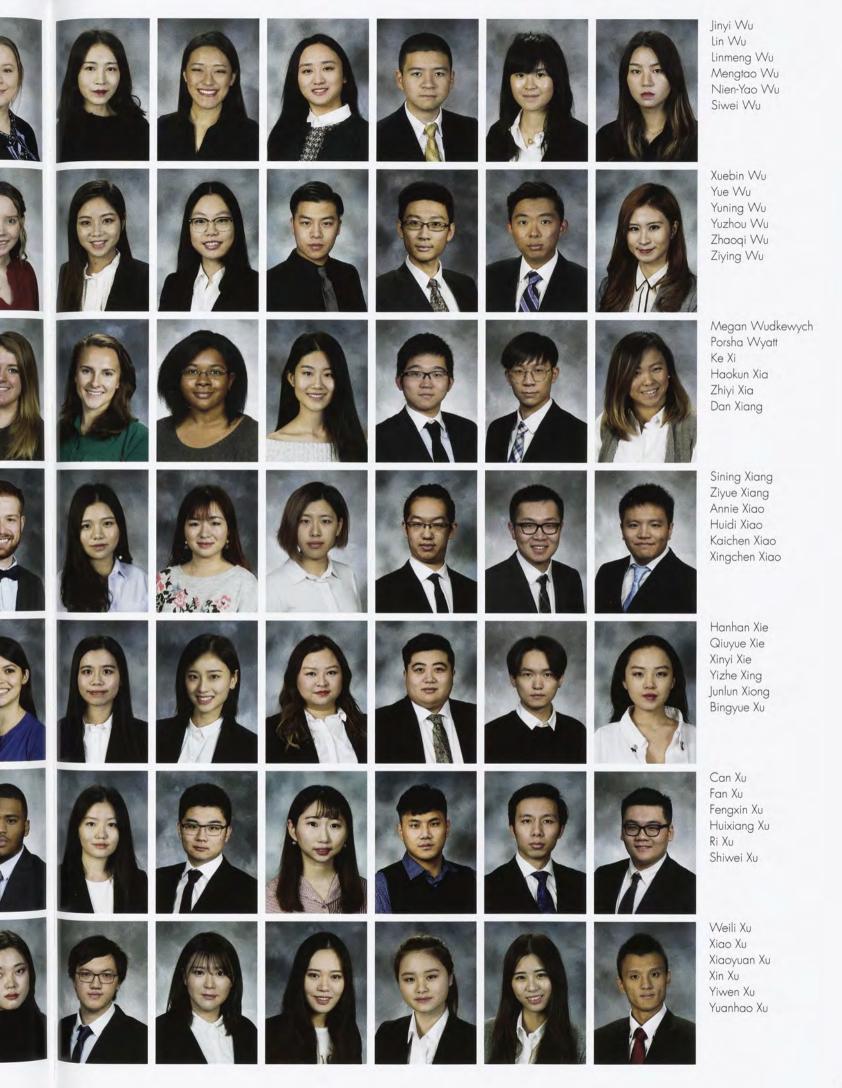












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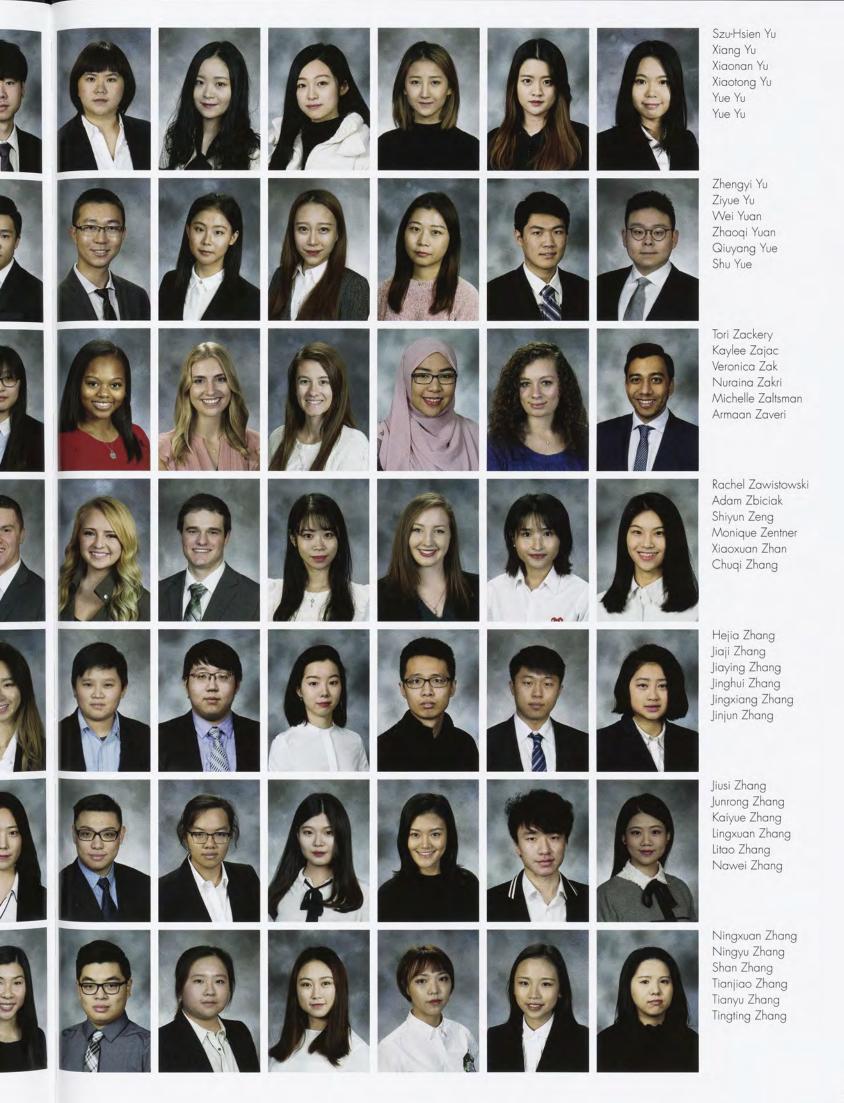








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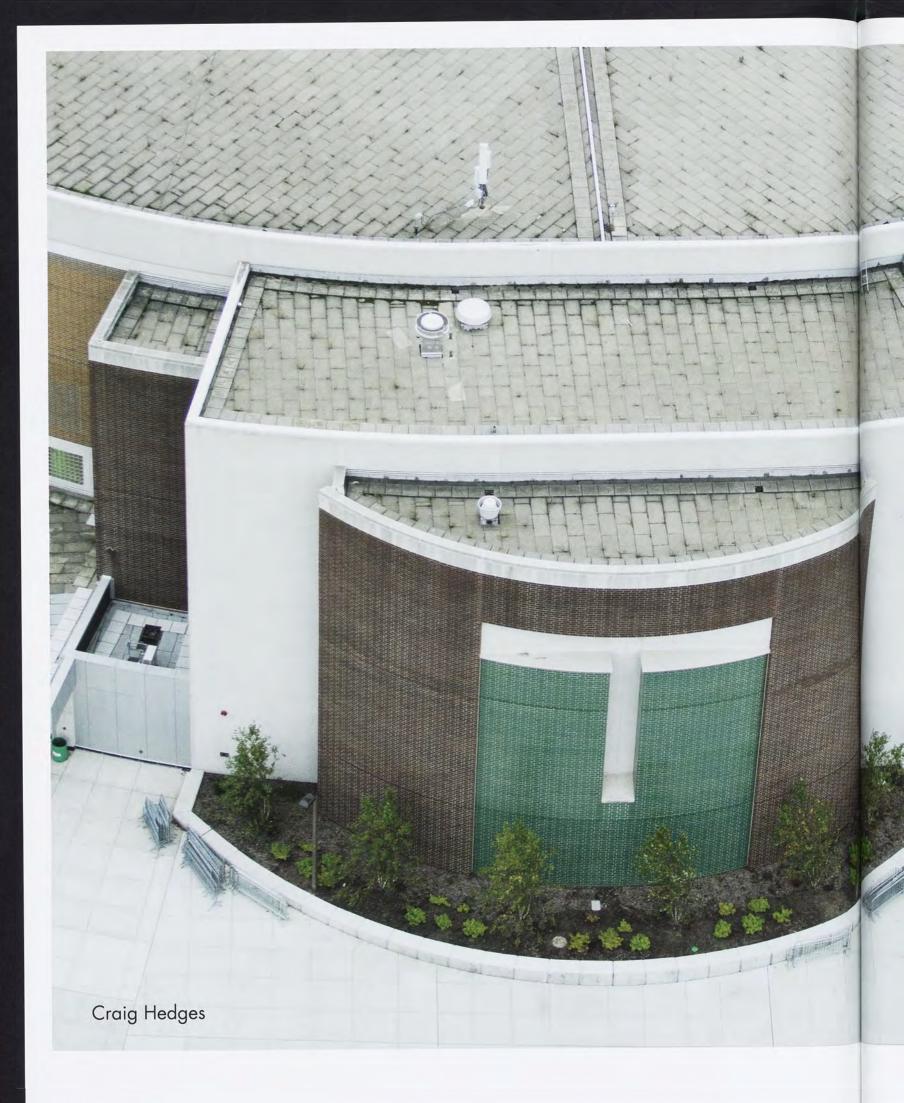


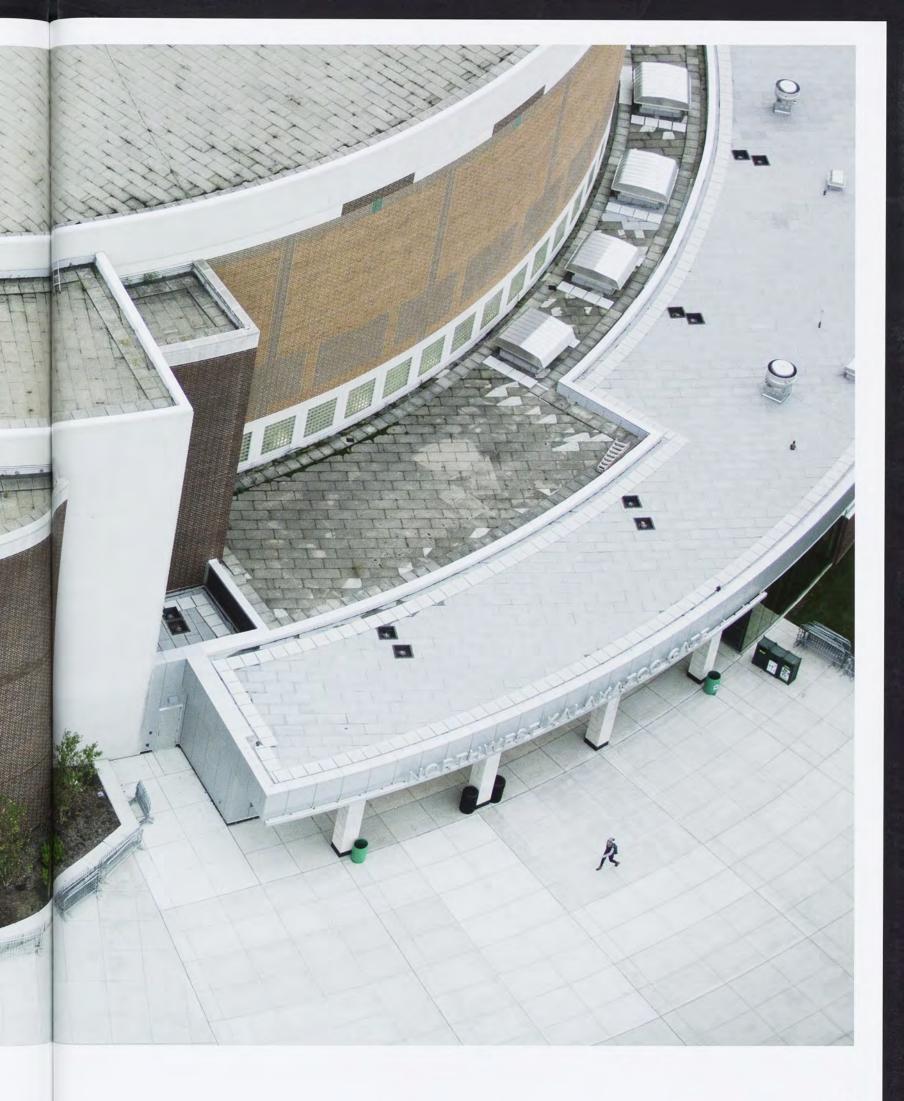
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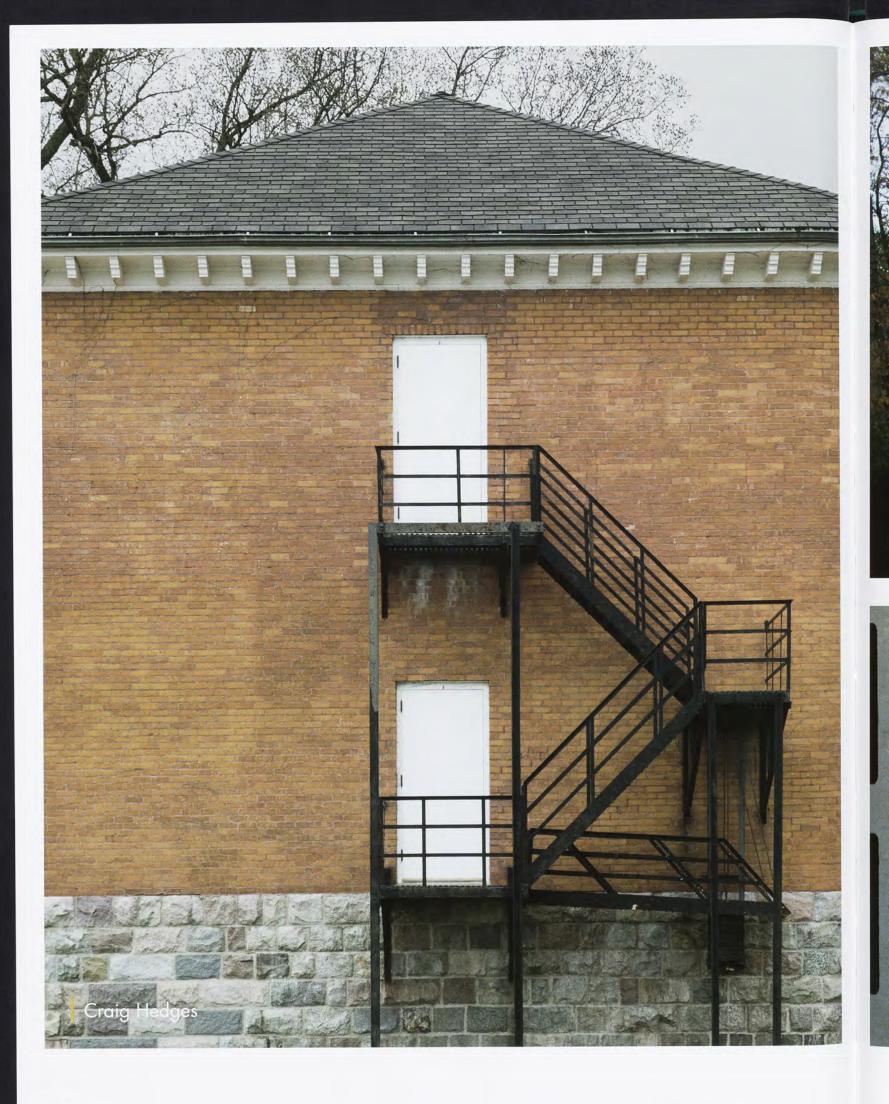




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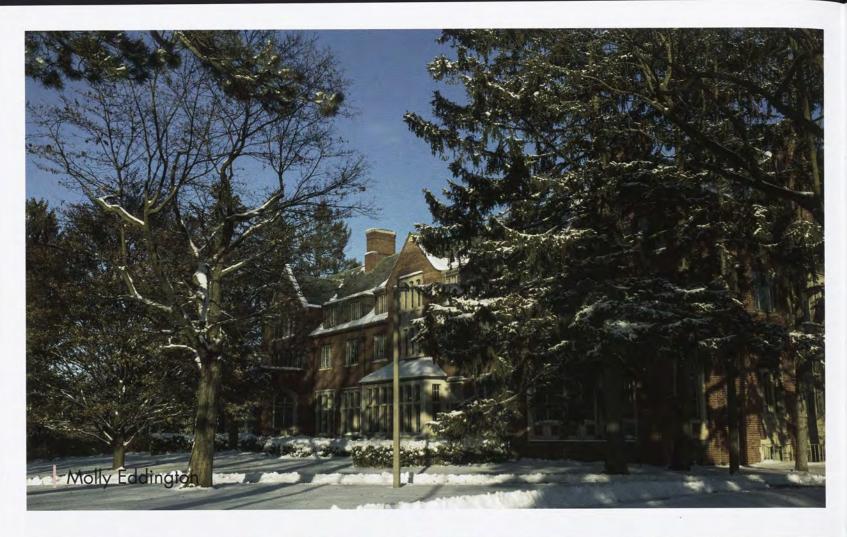




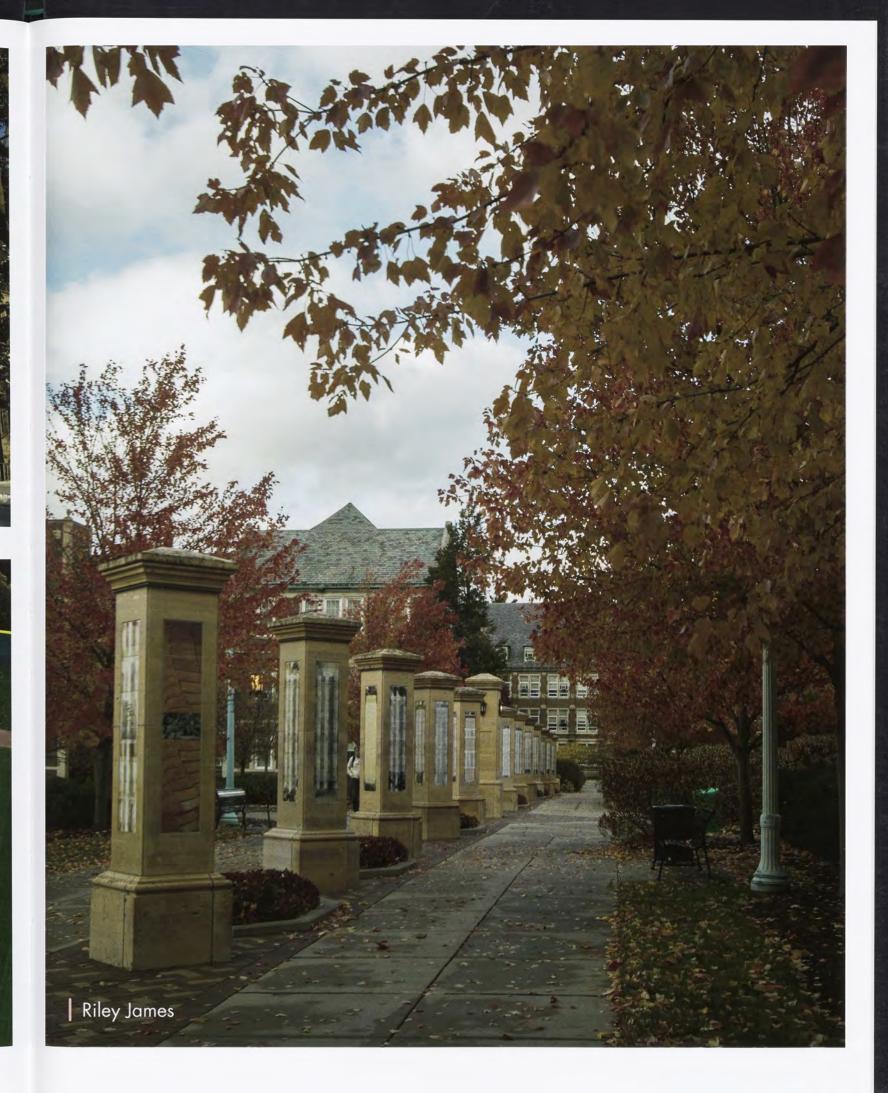










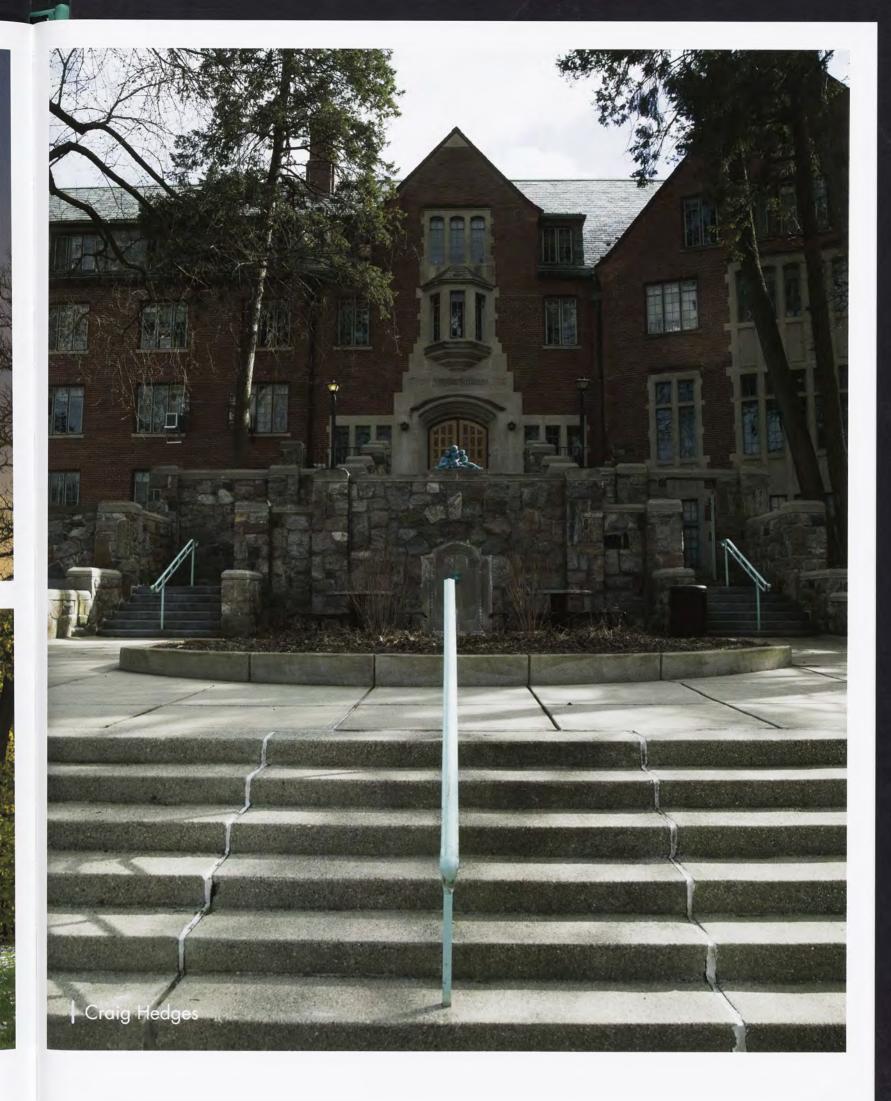












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A Letter from the Editor

I would be lying if I said I had an easy time thinking of what to write for my final letter in the 2018 Red Cedar Log. After such a turbulent year on our green and white campus, I, like many of you, have found it difficult to put my thoughts and feelings into words. Upon sitting down and trying to decide what I wanted these final words to be, I remembered a Facebook status I posted on January 26, 2018, after I got home from attending the March for Change at The Rock. Underneath my anger, confusion and disappointment in a small group of individuals affiliated with MSU, there was a feeling of hope that had sprung about after seeing and hearing my fellow Spartans speak in support of the Survivors. It was a feeling that I described as follows:

"Spartans Will."

It can be seen and heard all over MSU's campus. It is a response to many questions, used to describe MSU's student body's affinity for hard work, service, and value system. Who will stay true to their principles? Spartans will. Who will remain resilient? Spartans will. Who will stand up for what is right? Spartans will.

"Spartan's Will."

It's cannot be seen or heard—only felt. The past few weeks have been surprising, but the last few days have been utterly shocking. This is an incredibly painful chapter in MSU's story and it has made me think and feel many things, but soemthing I have felt has been more powerful than anything else. This feeling has compelled me (and many others, I'm sure) to stay true to my principles, remain resilient when I have felt powerless and to stand up for what is right and for those who cannot stand up for themselves.

This feeling is Spartan's Will.

Kent Kubani

Editor-in-Chief, 2018

Red Cedar Log

Colophon

CREATION

The Red Cedar Log was produced entirely by Macintosh computers for page layouts, photo editing and word processing. All computers were networked with a LaCie server. Software used included Adobe Creative Cloud and Google Drive. Adobe Creative Cloud was provided by Josten's program, Monarch.

TYPOGRAPHY

All headlines were set in ITC Souvenir Bold. Subheadings, the folio, body copy and page numbers were set in Futura Light. Captions were set in Futura Light Oblique.

COVER

The cover design was created by Managing Design Editor, Autumn Hilden. With Jostens support, the front cover was produced with a matte finish on a base material of High Gloss Litho 478. The map design is emphasized through Shine Fx, along with "Michigan State University" on the spine. A blind Shine Fx was used for the ribbon that appears on the spine. The roads and buildings on the map on the cover were printed in Process Ink CMYK. The endsheets were printed on 280 Snow White material.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The photography in the Red Cedar Log, with the exception of the senior portraits or unless credited otherwise, is entirely the original works of the photographers who produced the 129th volume. The cameras and flash units used were a combination of Canon, Nikon and Sigma lenses.

CONTENT

The articles in the Red Cedar Log are entirely the original works of the staff journalists, journalism interns, content editors and copy editor who produced the 129th volume. Quotes from sources within stories derived from interviews.

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

The Red Cedar Log is an entirely student-run publication. Each semester, ASMSU provided funds generated through student tax dollars, which equals about \$3 per undergraduate student, for publishing the book. The previous year's book was available throughout campus at rack locations, by request through the Red Cedar Log website, and at on-campus events held in the fall. For a small fee, alumni can have books shipped to them anywhere in the United States. Content in the book was determined by the editor-in-chief and editorial staff with consideration of requests from student organizations to be featured free of charge. No funds were received from the university. A total of 7,000 copies of this 392-page, full color publication were printed by Jostens, Inc.

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RECOGNITION

Thank you all for your hard work, communication, support and creativity. The distribution and production of the Red Cedar Log would not be the same without you:

Rianne Price, Helena Hunt, Susan Lowell, everyone from the Jostens plant, Lexi Peard, Nicole Gonzales, Erik Maillard, Brian Jeffries, Paul Bilgore and Lauren Studios, David Heit, Rachel Alli, Amanda Hodges, Fiona Muegge, Lorenzo Santavicca, Dan Iancia, Megan Murphy and Katherine Rifiotis.

To the Class of 2018

A Letter from the President

Dear Fellow Spartans:

You have successfully completed a busy and eventful year at Michigan State University. Congratulations, especially, to those who achieved your goal of earning a degree from this globally respected institution.

There were many reasons to come to Michigan State, including the great diversity of talented classmates, caring faculty, world-class programs, global connections, Big Ten athletics, and the countless opportunities for enrichment. You no doubt also made this investment in your future because of our Spartan tradition of excellence—a tradition that is in our very DNA.

Our roots reach down to the founding of the nation, a commitment to an educated public that within a couple generations inspired the creation of the land-grant college. Michigan State, established in 1855, was a pioneer for this development.

By joining our Spartan family, you inherited this audacious idea of establishing an entirely new class of public university, one balancing the timeless liberal arts with the most advanced scientific knowledge; one that imparted technical training along with civic engagement, public service, and global connections. The American landgrant university turned out to be one of the most powerful ideas ever conceived. In East Lansing and many other places, the land-grant university quickly became one of the nation's emblems of democratic progress.

It has provided upward mobility, and advanced knowledge and global opportunities, for countless graduates. It is not coincidental that within a few decades of the land-grant program, the United States became the world's leading nation by many measures—economic, political, and social. Our opportunities for citizen betterment, along with the drive for continuous reform, proved unparalleled in world history.

You are linked to one of the world's most empowering ideas: a university dedicated to the advancement both of the individual and of society through the integration of cutting-edge instruction, research, and outreach. You can forever be proud of Michigan State's role in pioneering that idea and keeping it vitally relevant through generations of Spartans.

The tradition is yours to carry on, so be bold. Continue your transformation from learner to leader. I am confident that you, too, will show the world what we Spartans can do!

Very respectfully yours,

John Engler Interim President, Michigan State University

A Message from the Board of Trustees

The Michigan State University Board of Trustees salutes our graduating seniors for the dedication you have demonstrated in the pursuit of your degrees. We wish the Spartan Class of 2018 the very best in the years ahead!

Brian Breslin, chairman
Joel I. Ferguson, vice chairman
Dianne Byrum
Melanie Foster
Dan Kelly
Mitch Lyons
Brian Mosallam
George Perles

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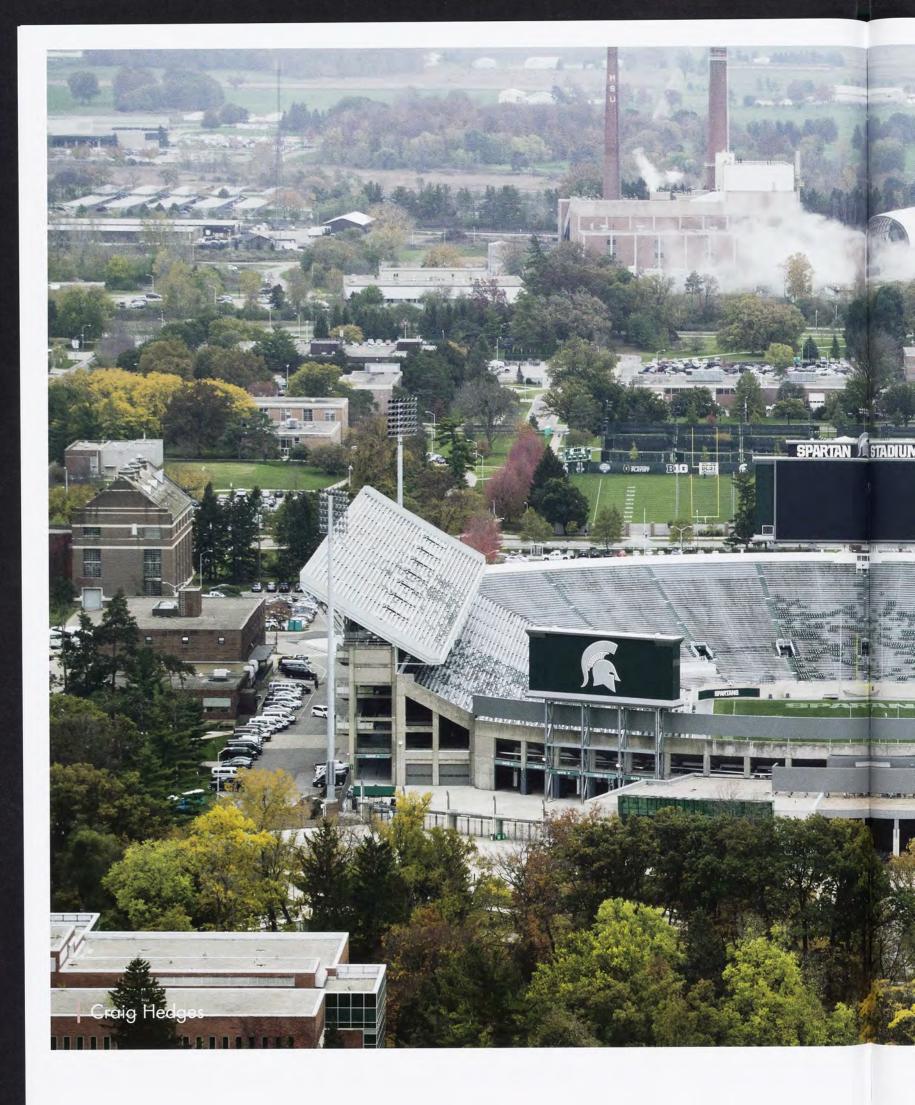
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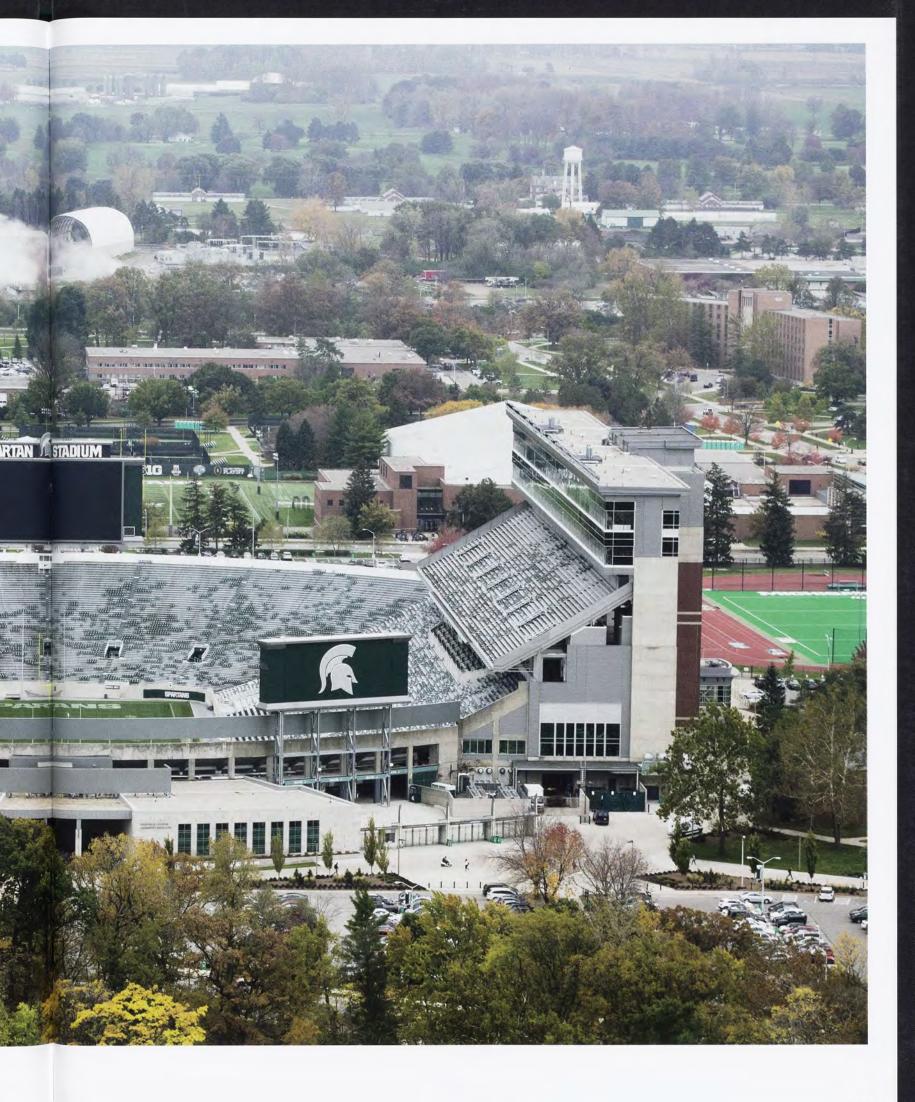
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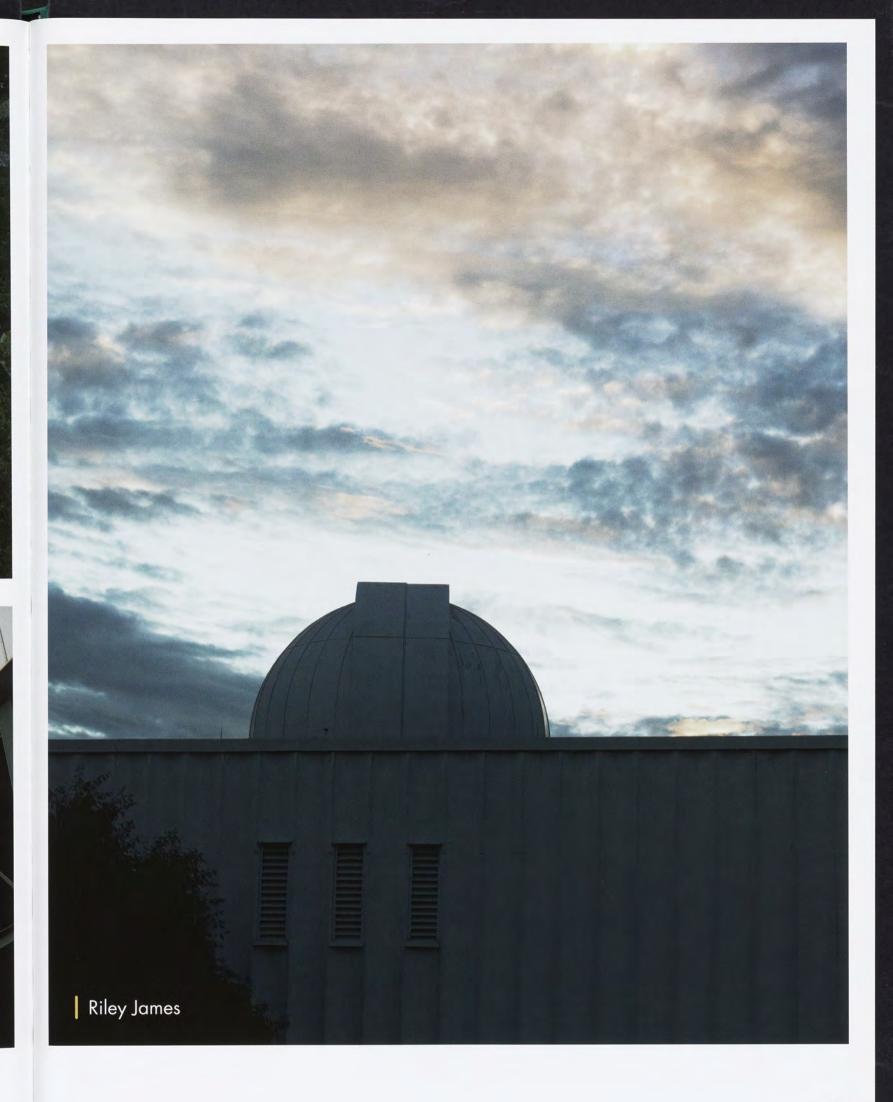




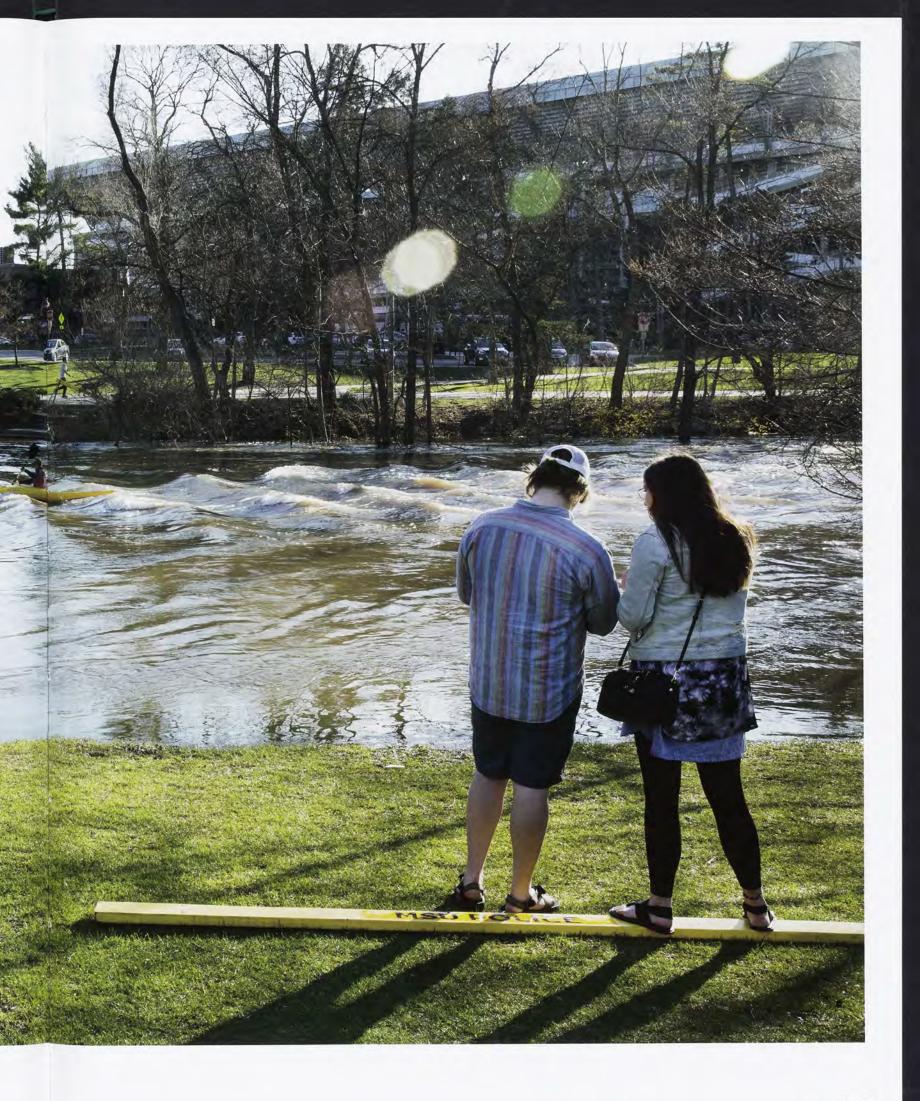


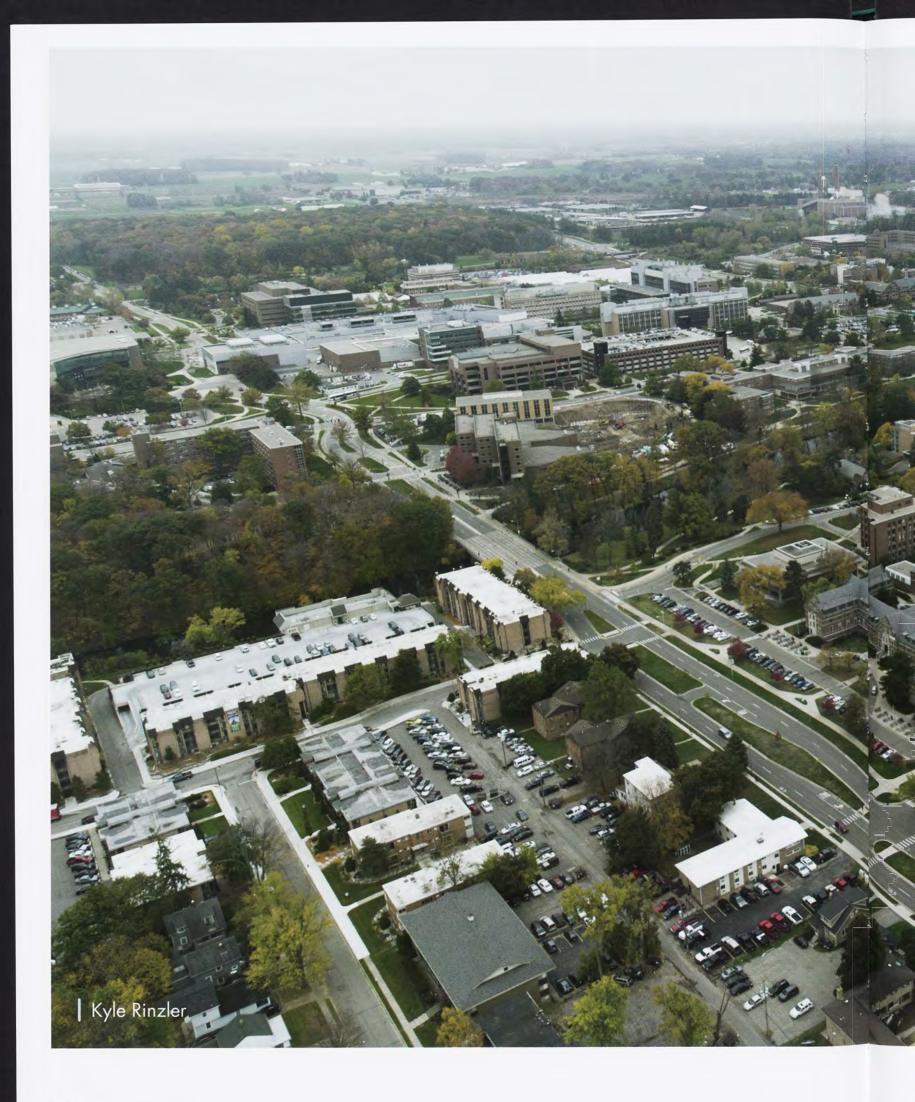




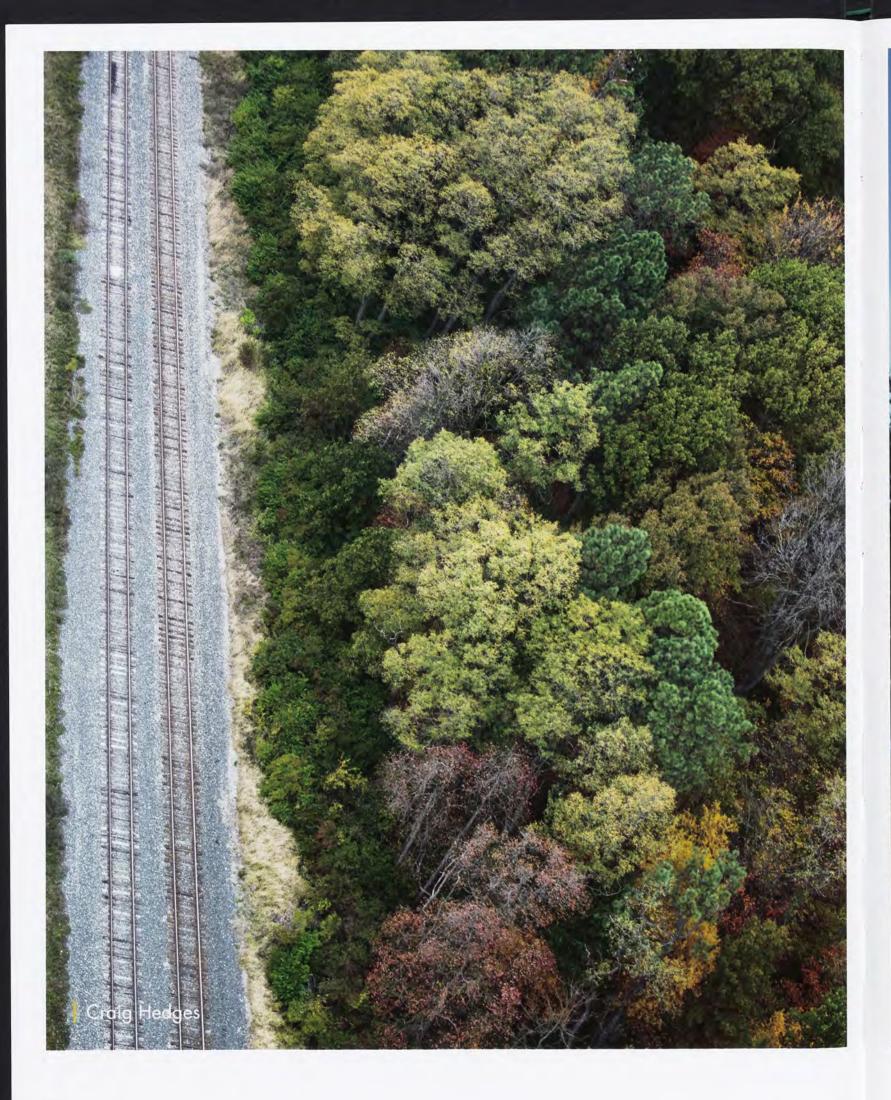




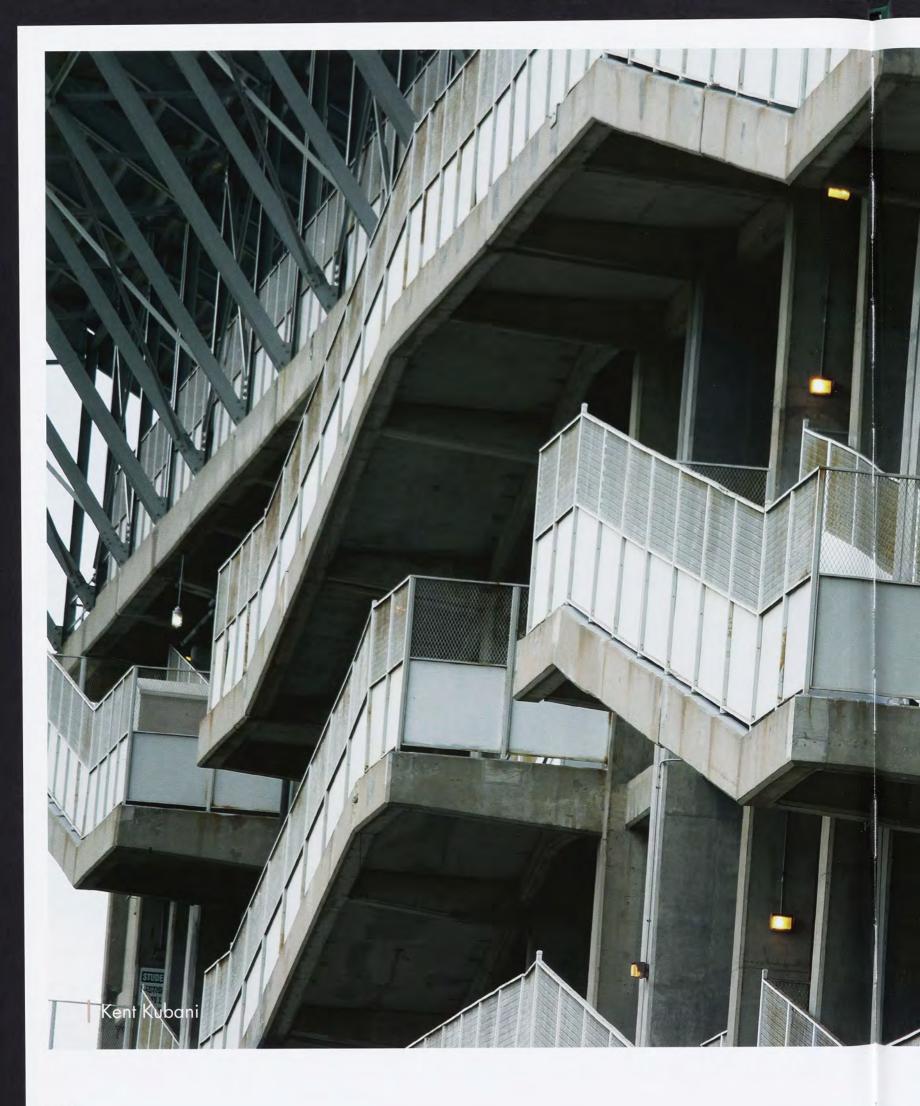


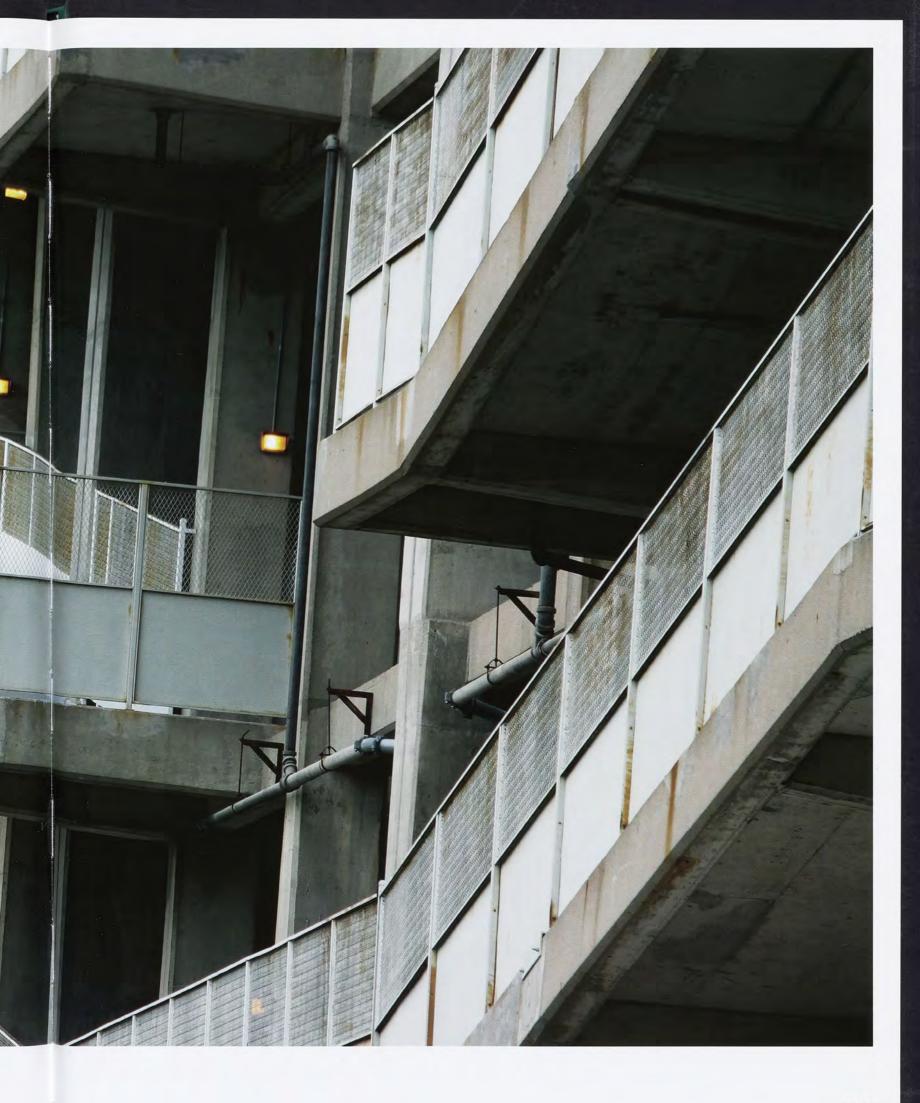














The Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) is the undergraduate student body government of Michigan State University. Our mission is to enhance our individual and collective student experience through education, empowerment and advocacy by dedication to the needs and interests of students.

During the 2017-2018 academic year, ASMSU worked hard to fulfill this mission by maintaining and expanding services for the undergraduate student body population.

Services

iClicker and Graphing Calculator programs

ASMSU rented out over 1,200 iClickers and 110 graphing calculators

Short Term Loan Program

ASMSU issued over 180 short-term loans, totaling over \$55,000

Blue Books

ASMSU distributed over 14,000 free Blue Books

ASMSU Safe Ride Program

ASMSU launched the full Safe Ride Program at the beginning of the 2017-2018 academic year, completing over 3,400 rides to over 4,900 passengers.

Student Legal Services

Provided free legal services for all students at Michigan State University.

Readership Program

Provided over 152,000 copies of free newspapers including: USA Today, The New York Times, Detroit Free Press, and Lansing State Journal to all students.

Registered Student Organization (RSO) Funding

Provided over \$245,000 in RSO funding during the 2017-2018 academic year.

Bike Share Program

Expanded to offering 40 bikes for students to rent out of 5 residential halls.











