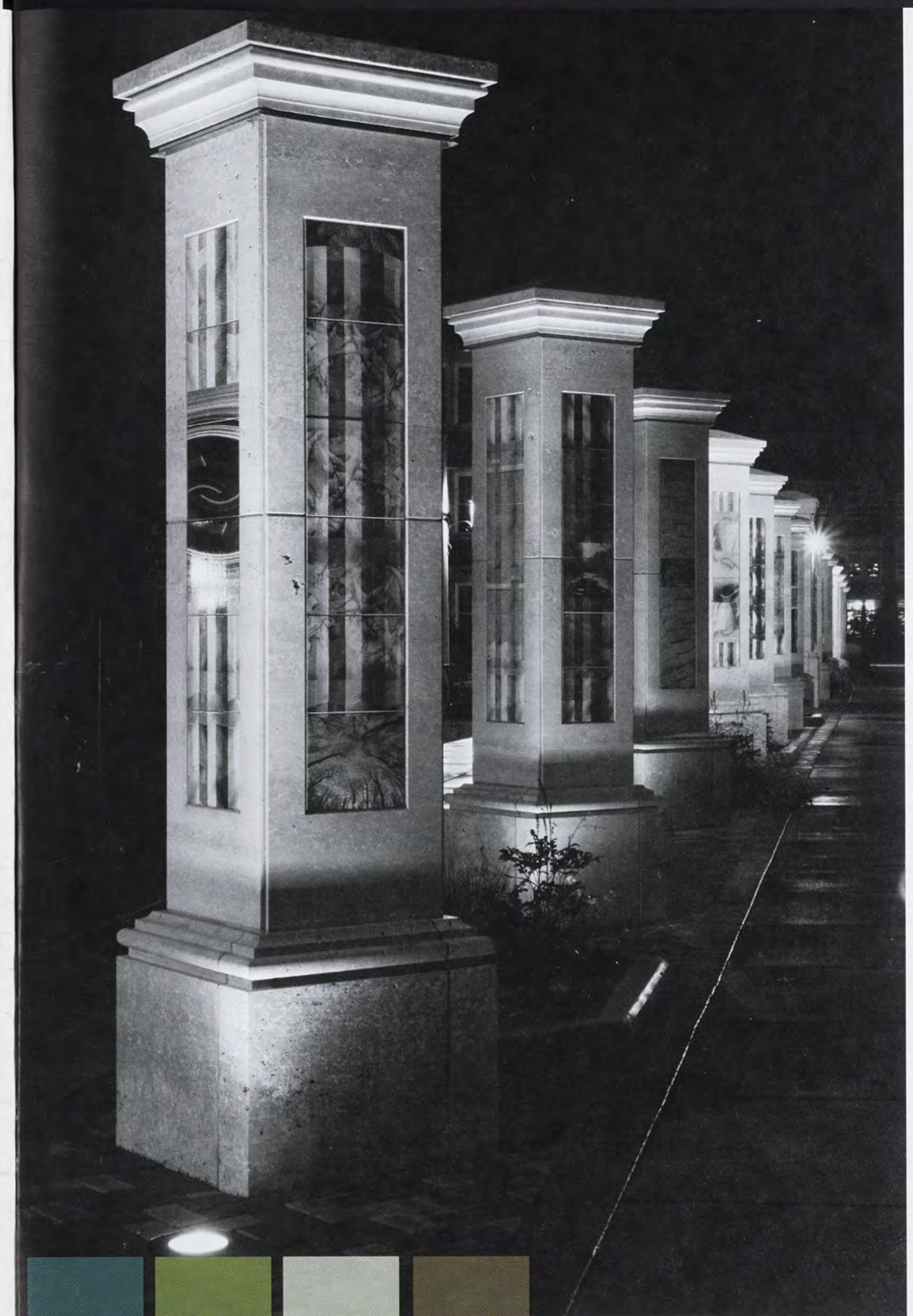
Michigan State Univ

red
cedar
log 2009



Benjamin Lindstrom

A walkway with pillars stands between Farm Lane and the Old Horticulture building named Benefactors Plaza, the pillars feature the names of gererous donors to the university.

2009 Red Cedar Log

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FLATS
GRILLE
• ENTRANCE/PARKING
OZ



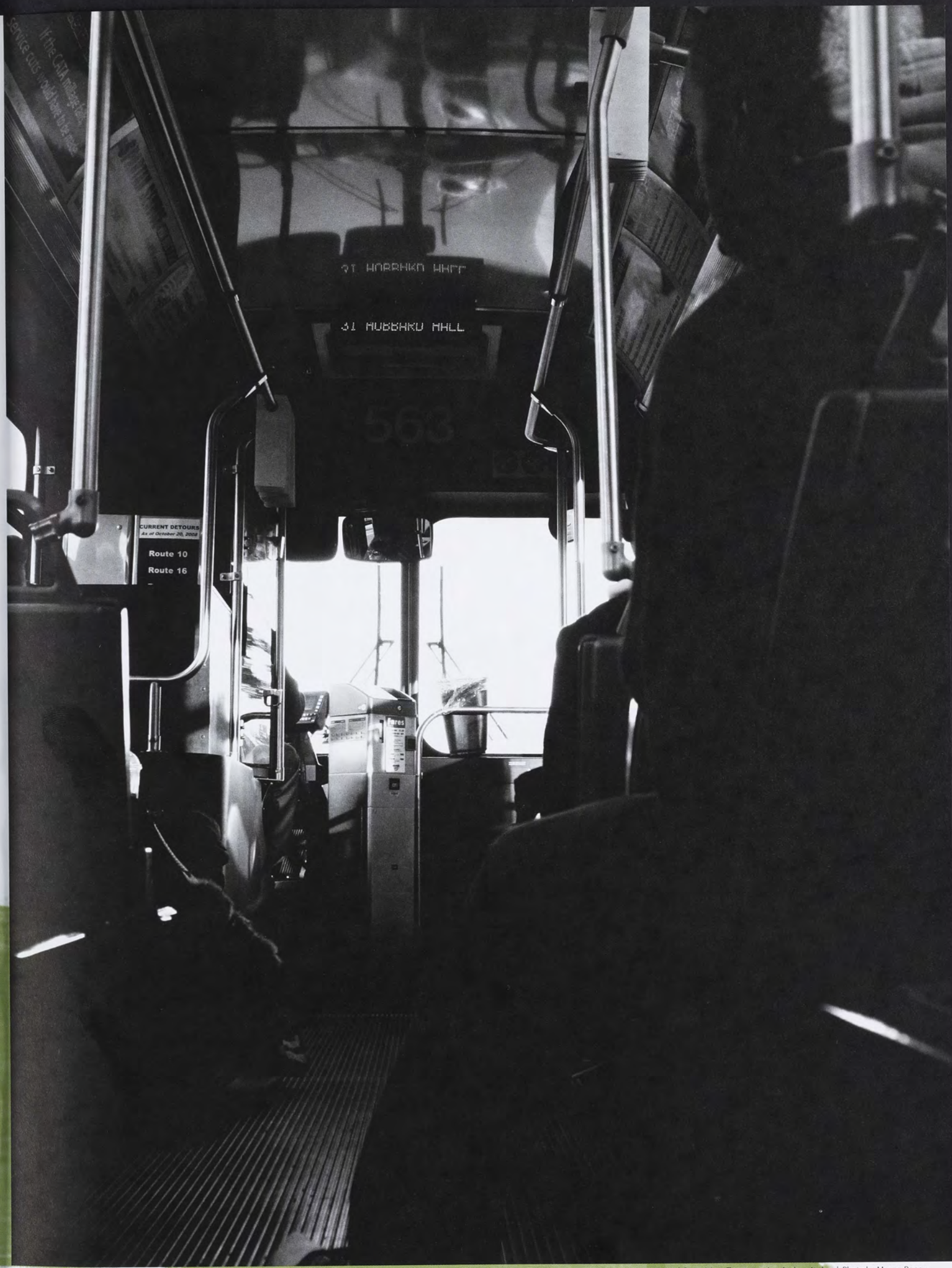
10.26.08 | Grand River Ave. | Photo by Josh Radtke





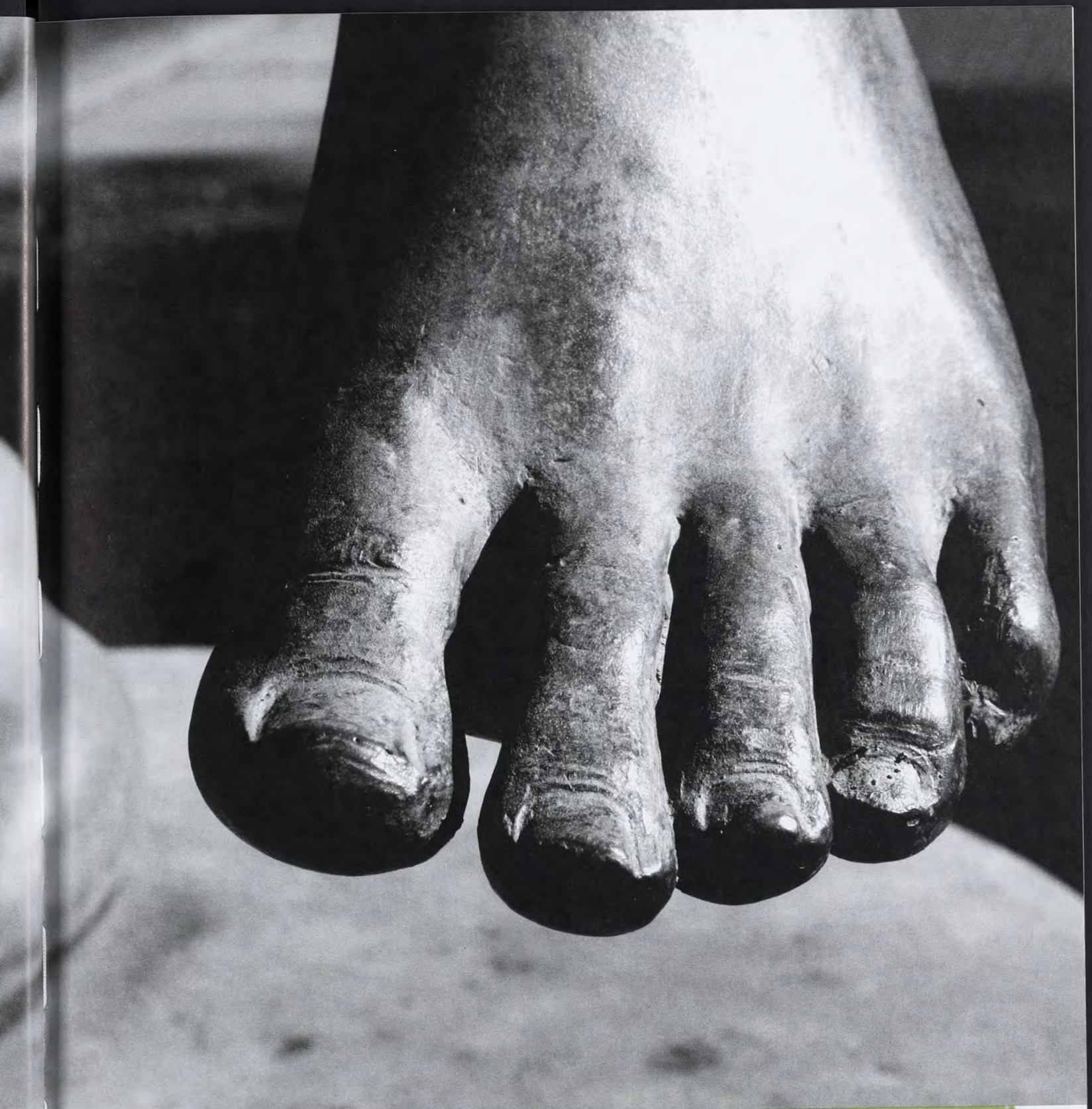
t's only natural for Spartans to bleed green as it's a color found all over campus, but we weren't just green with respect to our school colors, but to the earth as well. The Red Cedar Log went green by printing this book on 80 percent post-consumer product, using recycled board for the cover and ensuring excess ink was re-used during production. When it came to printing 17,000 copies of this 400 page book, these small steps had a big impact. On campus, the color has become more than a staple of our wardrobes on game days or the color of our beer on St. Patrick's Day, but it's a part of our lifestyles. All around campus, recycling bins are present reminding us every day to reduce our wastefulness and give back to the environment that gave us our true Spartan colors.





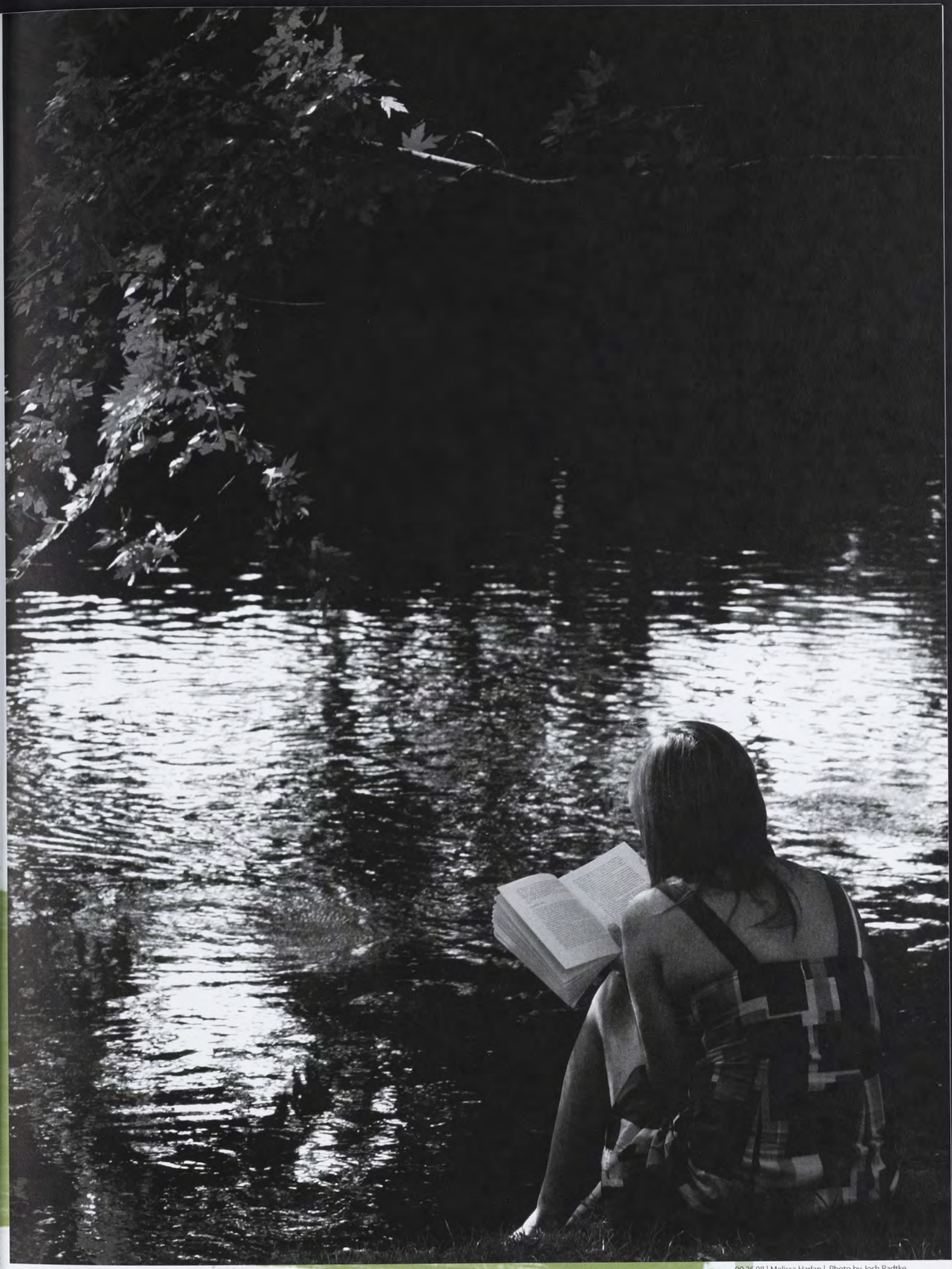
10.22.08 | Capital Area Transportation Authourity bus | Photo by Megan Roney



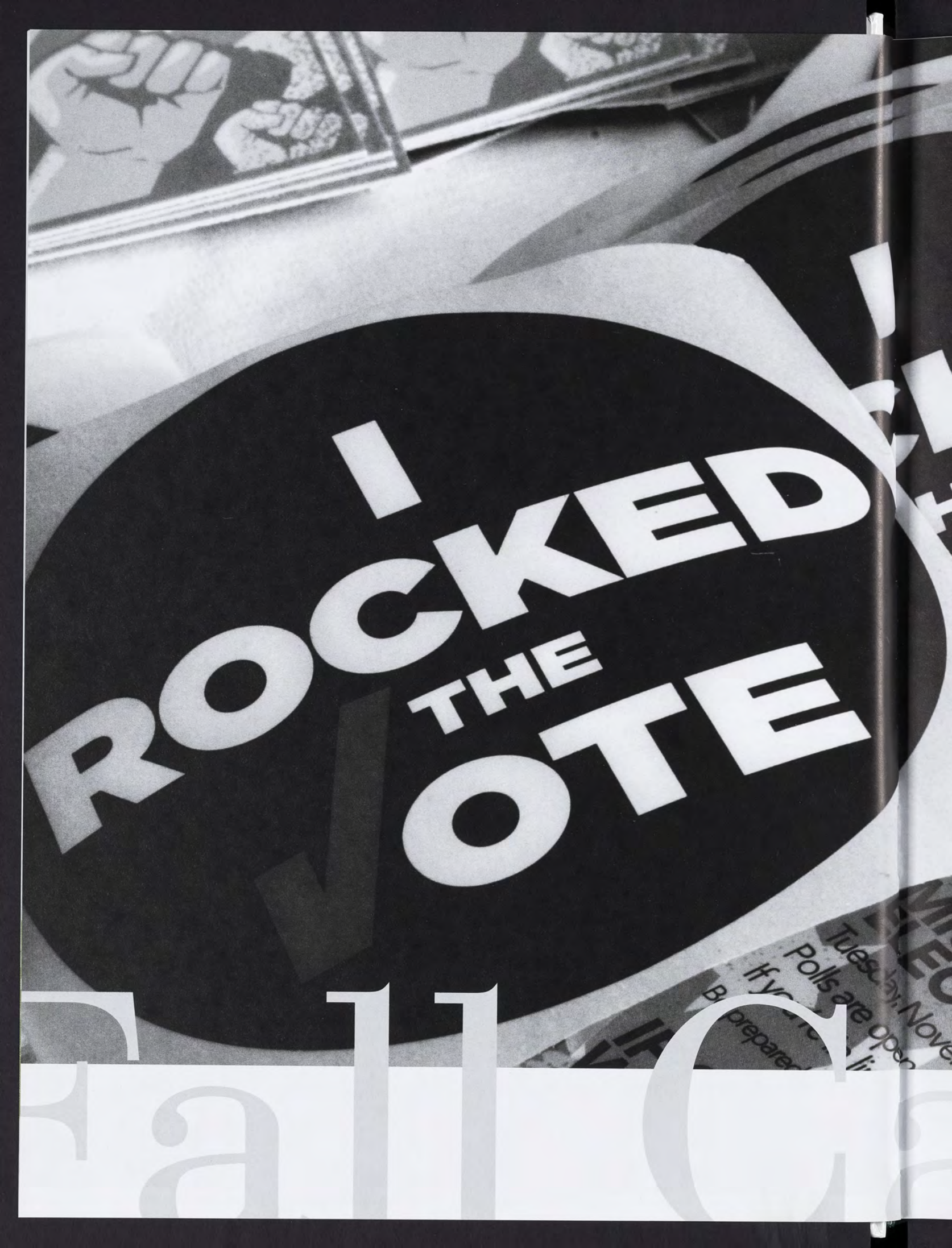


10.30.08 | Statue on Grand River Ave. | Photo by Lauren Wood





09.26.08 | Melissa Harlan | Photo by Josh Radtke


I
ROCKED
THE
OTE



11.04.08 | Rock The Vote | Photo by Eric MacKinnon

From the first day of classes in the stifling August heat, to the last final exam in the frigid cold of December, our campus slowly transformed from leafy green foliage to white snow-clad branches. During the 16 weeks of fall semester, students not only witnessed a change in seasons, but a change in themselves. Many students balanced academics with social activities and work which brought not only stress, but personal growth and memories that would define their college experience forever.

Fall Campus Life



Welcome*Back*

East Lansing residents reflect on returning students

August 20 marked the official start of Welcome Week, the notorious five-day celebration of incoming freshmen and returning students. Parties covered the East Lansing map, filling the air with drunken cheers, beer pong balls and an aura of excitement as the new school year was about to begin.

Just miles away at a small quiet grocery store, area resident Eldora Howe shopped with her grandson while she waited for a haircut. Secluded from the parties that engulfed the outside world, Howe gave her opinion on the returning students, shattering the stereotype of what many students perceive older residents' opinions of them.

"I think it's amazing," Howe said with a smile, "to see so many young people go to college. A lot of people don't get that opportunity… I love it."

Howe doesn't really mind the behavior of local "college kids."

"Key word: 'kids.' People have to realize that kids are kids," she said.

East Lansing resident Margaret Selasky also shared some of her thoughts and experiences about returning students.

"It was a little overwhelming at first," she said.

Among her list of grievances: excessive partying, swearing and the discovery of a dead body in her street the first day she moved into her house.

"But after I had kids," Selasky continued, "[the students] calmed down."

Selasky credited this change to the possibility that college students miss their younger siblings, so they respect the area around her house more.

Several people at the Edgewood United Church garage sale, in East Lansing where Selasky was interviewed, shared stories of the unlikely respect they've received from students. Helen Keefe shared a tale of personal revelation she had in regards to university students.

Keefe participated in the Photovoice Project, where she served as a photographer, chronicling the adventures of students. During part of the project, which had ties to the College of Arts and Letters, Keefe snapped a shot of students drinking.

"It opened my eyes," she said. "It showed me [students drinking] isn't terrible… they're just having fun."

Across the street from the church, five students sat along the sidewalk, beers in hand, fulfilling their end of the promise on the homemade sign in their yard; "You Honk, We Drink."

School had officially reconvened.

Dustin McNees

> "*Welcome Week, the notorious five-day celebration of incoming freshmen and returning students*"



Alissa Lane

A playful Koya Strife takes a break from playtime to make a new friend while under the watchful eye of alumna Judith Stegman. Stegman enjoyed watching students move in, but always remembered to say a prayer for their safety as they celebrated their return to East Lansing.

Helen Keefe and her daughter Carla brave the smoldering heat in hopes of getting rid of an assortment of things from around their house at the Edgewood United Church garage sale. The sale had became a recycling center for the community and provided a great resource for students who wanted to decorate their houses and apartments on a small budget.



Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane

Community Relations Coalition member Marcia Van Ness listens as international relations junior Dan Redford explains his selections from the Edgewood United Church garage sale. Working at the register, Van Ness saw many students taking advantage of the five and 10 cent tables at the sale.



Michelle Mitchell grabs a piece of the ***Spartan*** *display Meijer had to welcome back students to the area. Like so many East Lansing* ***residents****, Mitchell chose to live in the area because of the university* ***environment*** *and the vibrance it brings to the community.*

photo by Alissa Lane


7UP
Dr Pepper
Diet
Sale



"Otla!" says no preference sophomore Brent Ogden as he sprays the Alto's battle cry, (alto spelled backward), onto The Rock in bold green letters. The Rock was turned into a collage representing many of the clubs and organizations at Sparticipation.

The Party *Continues*

Informative gathering replaces old event, keeps purpose intact

Dozens of tents surrounded the Auditorium, with hundreds of booths housed inside of them, and thousands of students moving from booth to booth looking for potential organizations to join.

Sparticipation, hosted by the Department of Student Life and Residence Hall Association, was formerly known as Party at the Aud, and was the annual kick-off event geared to introduce new and returning students to the myriad of organizations on and off campus.

At the entrance to the event, the Resident Halls Association's karaoke machine allowed two students to bellow their rendition of N' Sync's "Tearin' Up My Heart." Meanwhile, the Herp Club, a club that researches and discusses reptiles and amphibians, released some of their tortoises into the grass, hoping their frantic scurrying would draw people in to learn more about their organization. On the other side of the Auditorium, several banks engaged students in games of Frisbee, letting them keep the discs in hopes that they would choose their bank in the future.

Sparticipation had a reputation of not only entertaining students, but informing them about organizations across campus.

"I think they all represent [the university] and [paint] a remarkable picture of our university for the incoming freshmen," said finance senior and resident mentor Abhinav Katiyar. "I was there with a few of my residents, so I showed them all around."

Sparticipation hosted organizations ranging from the Break Dance Club to the Women in Business Association, and everything in between. The mass exposure generally led to increased membership for such clubs.

"People have begun to check out our club because of Sparticipation," said Gabriel Friedman, president of the Kendo Club. "Now we have to see if they stay or not."

Whether it was simply for the sake of a good time or to get involved in an organization, Sparticipation had something for everyone.

"Every year, Sparticipation attracts a huge crowd, but we were surprised that so many people turned out, and that so many of them stopped by tent to check us out," computer science junior and member of the Residence Halls Association Scott Bishop said.

Dustin McNees

> *"Every year, Sparticipation attracts a huge crowd"*



Alissa Lane

Supply chain management junior Kurtis Davis and mechanical engineering junior Harold Hill draw a crowd while stepping at Sparticipation. The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha attended the event to increase awareness of their fraternity and recruit new members.





Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane

Sparty tests out the cars on display at Sparticipation. As the university's mascot, Sparty attended the event to show his support for all the student groups and organizations on campus.

International relations sophomore Pat Harrison and his dance partner, anthropology sophmore Lori Mallon, show off their moves along with fellow members of the State Swing Society. The group hosted meetings and lessons Tuesday nights throughout the year.

Public administration and public policy junior Assem Abzakirova and applied engineering sciences junior Madina Khamzina perform during Spartan Remix. The kick-off performance allowed student groups to showcase different aspects of their cultures.



> *"I was honored to dance at an amazing event like Spartan Remix"*



Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane

Art education junior Maria Kreag teaches psychology junior Daria Kim the basics of tinikling along with the help of mechanical engineer senior Chris Cater. Tinikling is a dance from the Philippines that involves two people hitting bamboo poles to a beat while the dancers move with the rhythm.

Psychology sophmore Catalina Natal takes her turn playing Rock Band. Natal went to Spartan Remix to support Culturas de las Razas Unidas, an organization that aims to advance the Chicano/Latino student community.



Alissa Lane

When Worlds *Collide*

Event brings together multiple diverse groups

The Union became the site of Spartan Remix, a night where eight different cultural groups set up information booths and activities for students.

"Previously, each welcome reception was held separately," said University Activities Board member and international relations senior Brittanie Johnson. "This year, they decided to bring them all together, which was a great success."

Several groups put on performances to kick off the event, one of which was a traditional Kazahk dance performed by public administration and public policy senior Assem Abzakirova and her friends.

Abzakirova represented the International Students Association (ISA), the largest foreign student organization on campus.

"I was honored to dance at an amazing event like Spartan Remix…It was [a] real 'remix,' because you could see not just domestic, but international students as well," said Abzakirova. "I [can't] remember [a] time when my audience was mostly domestic students."

After the performances, students dispersed throughout the Union and partook in the plethora of activities each organization offered. For instance, the Asian Pacific American Student Organization offered students the chance to play the ever-popular Rock Band video game, while across the hallway the International Students Association offered henna tattoos and a make-your-own-music-video activity.

In the room that hosted the Black Student Alliance, sitting at one of the casino-themed tables, Chinese sophomore Emily Chase sat and watched two of her friends play chess. Pointing to her friend as the reason she came, she said that she had learned some interesting things at Spartan Remix.

"I learned a lot from [Coalition of Lesbian Bi Gay Transgender Student Groups] like what famous rulers were gay," Chase said. " And I didn't realize there was such a large Latin American population here."

At 10 p.m., the event relocated to the ballroom for music and dancing.

Other groups represented at the event were Visiting International Professional Program, Culturas de las Razas Unidas, North American Indigenous Student Organization, and Humphrey Fellows/International Studies and Programs.

Dustin McNees

Food science sophomore Afiqah Ahmadhisham puts the finishing touches of her intricate henna design on the back of journalism freshman Brittany Adams. Henna is an ancient form of body art.

a day in the life of

The Red Cedar River

The day began as every day before. The Red Cedar River waited for the sun to break the eastern horizon and reawaken the creatures that inhabited the surrounding land. The only sounds heard that October morning were of the cars and buses taking students to their daily destinations.

The first to emerge were a group of ducks bathing and freshening themselves for the day ahead. At 7 a.m., students appeared and ran alongside the water, beginning their day and taking pleasure in the river's calm demeanor. Leaves of bright reds and rich greens slowly descended from the canopy of trees, signaling the change of seasons.

As the day progressed the sunlight broke through the ceiling of clouds above. The sediment and fish that take home in the depths of the body of water were revealed. Some of the students and faculty of the university buildings came to rest on the banks during their breaks.

"When I have time in between classes on a sunny day, I love to read by the Red Cedar and just enjoy the atmosphere around it," supply chain sophomore Angela Gee said.

Occasionally, students would wade through the water and remov the litter that ailed the beautiful streaming water. On Saturdays in autumn, before all the leaves have vanished, the Red Cedar River could hear its name being sung from Spartan Stadium as pride-filled students belt out the fight song for all to hear.

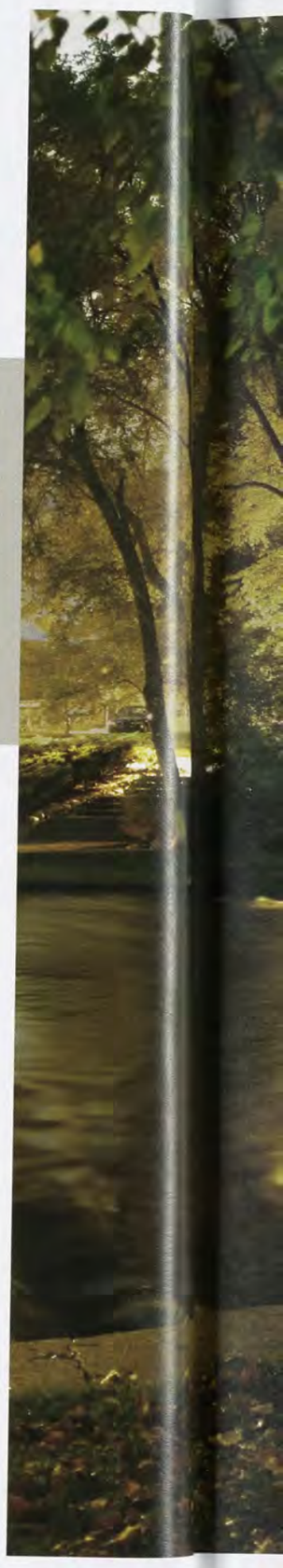
At 5 p.m., the sky turned a bright orange and the students dispersed for dinner, leaving behind the river with all the wildlife it feeds. As night descended, the river stood still as a few people passed by, some headed to the library to study, while others ventured off to locations beyond the river's span. The autumn temperature dropped rapidly and the moon shifted overhead, nearly freezing the Red Cedar River in the darkness.

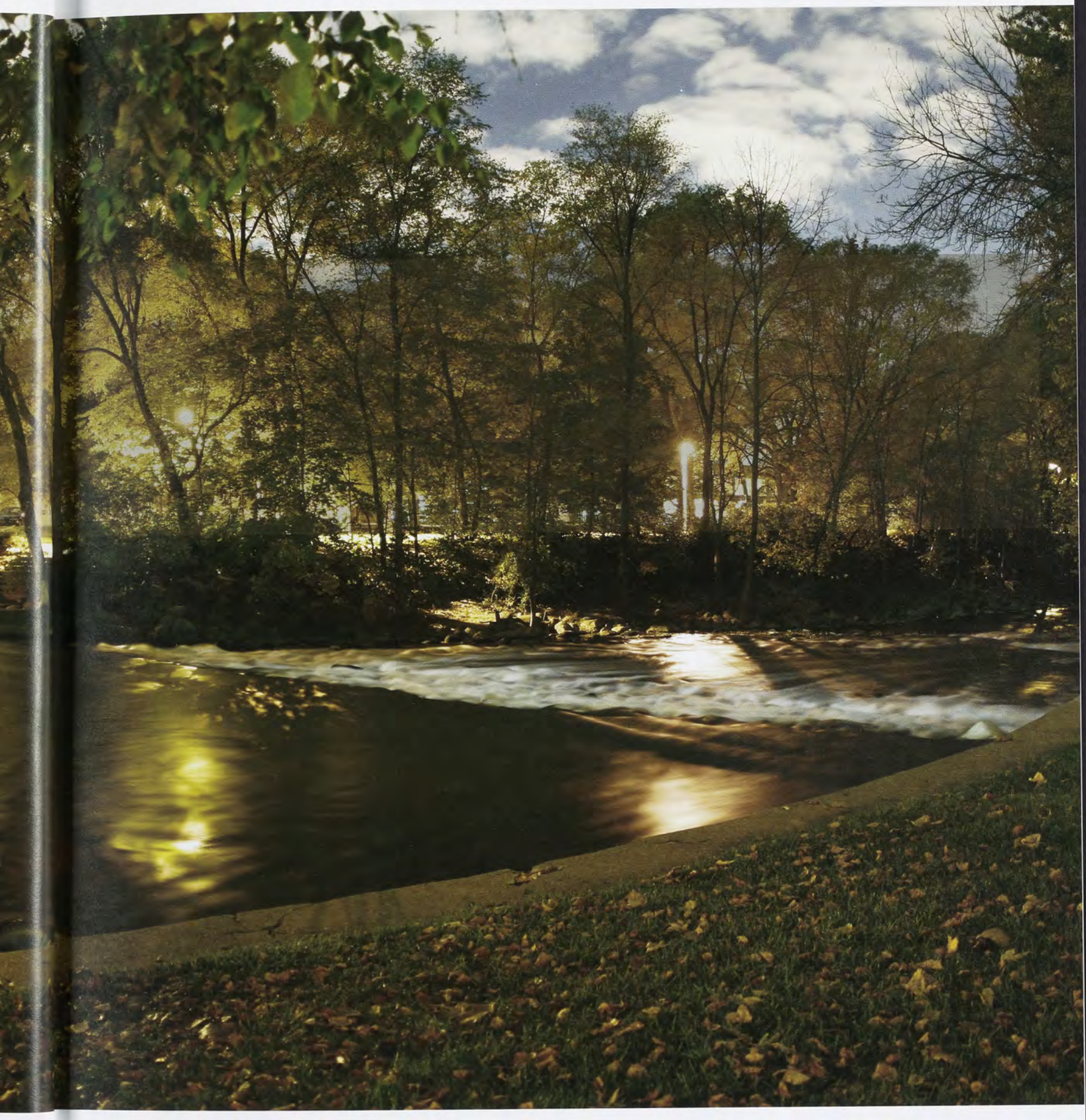
The river would freeze in the later months, but its presence would never be gone. Although the surface would be motionless, water would continually flow underneath an icy shell. During that time, it would be as though people no longer wanted to visit the Red Cedar River or come near the shore, almost as if they were hiding from the brisk cold winter.

When Beaumont Tower rang 12 times that fall night, the river changed its surface appearance as rainwater become one with it. Sometimes during a large rain, the river became bloated and covered the land where students would have walked. But the Red Cedar River eventually shrank back to size again as it drained and was used as a source of energy and life.

At the end of the day, all the river was left with is the Sparty statue. Like the Red Cedar River, it doesn't leave. It waits for the start of a new day; the day where it is thrown into the busy cycle of the students nearby.

Aaron Miller
Photo by Eric MacKinnon





Yi han Du spins the wheel as Ying Lin Ma waits for her turn during the girls' first time playing the game LIFE. There was no shortage of games, pizza or fun at the International Center that night.

International scholars from around the globe practice their poker faces while playing various American card and board games at the Visiting International Professionals Program game night. The program offered a unique opportunity to learn about American culture while exploring academic interests.



Megan Roney

> "[We] bridged a connection of comfort to the United States"

International Gaming

Students play games to understand American culture

On Sept. 17, the Visiting International Professional Program (VIPP) hosted a game night to help familiarize its members with American society.

The event featured many American childhood favorites from board games to fast-paced card games. Complex games like Euchre encouraged friendly competition between individuals of diverse and international backgrounds.

VIPP assists individuals in professional fields trying to gain holistic expertise and insight in their particular profession while developing competency in English communication.

One participant, Ning Yuan, enjoyed playing LIFE.

"I like this game," Yuan said. "I believe it accurately represents the diversity of the culture in the United States, but there are so many rules."

Yuan was more than willing to learn the rules of the true American game of life, indicated by her full smile and forehead wrinkled in confusion.

"I did not know there were so many different kinds of games – board games, card games. Back home, in China, all the games are just called games," said another VIPP participant, Li Jiancang, who was eager to try his hand at the classic detective game, Clue.

The enthusiasm of the evening did not die down as the first few rounds of the newly introduced games came to a close.

With the assistance of the VIPP, both Yuan and Jiancang – in addition to the other participants – felt welcomed into American culture.

"[We] bridged a connection of comfort to the United States as culturally different as China," Jiancang said.

Anthony Harvey



Megan Roney



Megan Roney



Megan Roney

Korean visiting international professional Bae Do Sun learns the fundamentals of poker with Turkish professionals Emre Kaya, Firat Yasar and Yusuf Topgu at the Visiting International Professionals Program game night. Staff members of the program held the game night to allow professionals to mingle and play typical American board and card games.

Xu Yang, a scholar of Chinese literature, takes her turn in a game of Sorry at the Visiting International Professionals Program game night. Yang said the event was a great way to get to know other professionals in the area who participated in the program.

Two in 1

Bands join for a memorable night

The sounds were whimsical and sensual. They were harsh and hip, fast and slow. No one word could describe the unforgettable display of music that was created on the Cobb Great Hall's stage. Masters and students of the musical world formed a union that left the audience in awe.

On Sept. 24, the MSU Symphony Orchestra, led by conductor Leon Gregorian, sat side-by-side with trumpet legend Wynton Marsalis, along with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra (JLCO), and performed a concert at the Wharton Center.

"It's really stunning because you have the interplay between the orchestra and the jazz group as well," said music education sophomore Rebecca Sawyer, an attendee of the performance.

The concert blended the jazz style of the JLCO with the classical fashion of the MSU Symphony Orchestra, creating a unique mix of sounds in a format reminiscent of a battle of the bands just before intermission. Featuring both jazz and classical arrangements of Edvard Grieg's "Peer Gynt Suite," the orchestra played Grieg's classical orchestration, followed by the JLCO's interpretation of Duke Ellington's reinvention after each movement.

Part of the concert combined the bands for selections, including the world premiere piece, "Two in 3," which was composed by Marsalis.

Attendees had the opportunity to watch the students play alongside a group of professional musicians. When asked how it felt to play with Marsalis and the JCLO, viola performance sophomore Johnathan McNurlen said, "Captivating, exciting, exhilarating..."

Along with playing with the students, Marsalis spoke to the students about the importance of working hard and finding love with their music.

"Take the joy out of life," Marsalis said. "Too often, people want others to do their work. If you want something, you do it yourself."

Aaron Miller



Josh Radtke

Flutists play during the Wyton Marsalis concert. The concert was commissioned by the College of Music and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.



Josh Radtke

Jazz musician Wyton Marsalis speaks about his new music piece, "Two in 3." The world premiere for the piece was held at the Wharton Center.



Josh Radtke

Professor of Music and Director of Orchestras Leon Gregorian conducts during the Wyton Marsalis concert held at the Wharton Center. The concert was held to debut Wyton's new piece "Two in 3."



Josh Radtke

Ali Jackson plays the drums during the Wyton Marsalis concert at the Wharton Center. Jackson has toured the country with Marsalis and part of his jazz ensemble.

> *"It's really stunning because you have the interplay between the orchestra and the jazz group"*

Collective *Conscious*

Job fair brings psychology students, organizations together

Psychologists are known to have penchants for helping people with their past and present problems, but who helps psychologists with their futures?

PsychFest, does.

The ninth annual event brought nearly 500 students to the fourth floor of Spartan Tower to meet and greet with 76 different businesses and organizations. Businesses included Shared Pregnancy Women's Center, Wellspring Counseling, Lansing Area AIDS Network and various others.

"It's a one-shop stop," said Psychology Coordinator of Advising Sarah Handspike, who organized the event. "It helps students get involved. It's very informational."

Psychology senior Barb Schooley agreed.

"It actually got me an internship," Schooley said. "I was looking into schools of social work, and started looking into internships for substance abuse and mental illness. It's really helpful."

Psychology senior, Latia Marshall, had different motives for attending the event.

"I just came to see the advertising," said Marshall, who has attended the event every year she's been in school. "There's a lot going on. I want to see what's new."

But Marshall didn't leave empty-handed, as she looked at a potential internship in Hawaii and attained some information about volunteering at a local medical center.

Students weren't the only ones who may have benefited from the event.

Rebecca Reagan, who represented the Ronald McDonald House of Mid-Michigan, hoped PsychFest would help shed light on her organization.

"It's my first time being here. It's exciting. It gives us an opportunity to give a visual awareness [of Ronald McDonald House]," Reagan said. She added that nearly 100 students from the university volunteer at the House annually.

Safe Place also brought student volunteers during PsychFest, but on a smaller scale.

"We have three interns, and six or seven volunteers," said education master's student and Safe Place representative Lisa Wolters. "[PsychFest] helps promote the cause and get people aware of the problem [of domestic abuse]."

Dustin McNees



Megan Roney

Senior psychology student Simone Ivey and Human Resource Assistant Latasha Mcwright discuss part-time positions available at the Community Mental Health Authority.



Eric MacKinnon

Psychology juniors Robyn Beale and Whitney Smith talk to potential employers during PsychFest. Beale was encouraged by her psycholgy professor to attend, while Smith was looking for Job opportunities and internships.



Megan Roney

Psychology junior Christine Azizkhin flips through her collection of pamphlets after walking through PsychFest. "I need to process everything that I've just learned," Azizkhin said.

Resumes in hand, students collect information from multiple companies and organizations at PsychFest. The department of psychology hosted the event to give students a chance to learn about internships and organizations in the field of psychology.



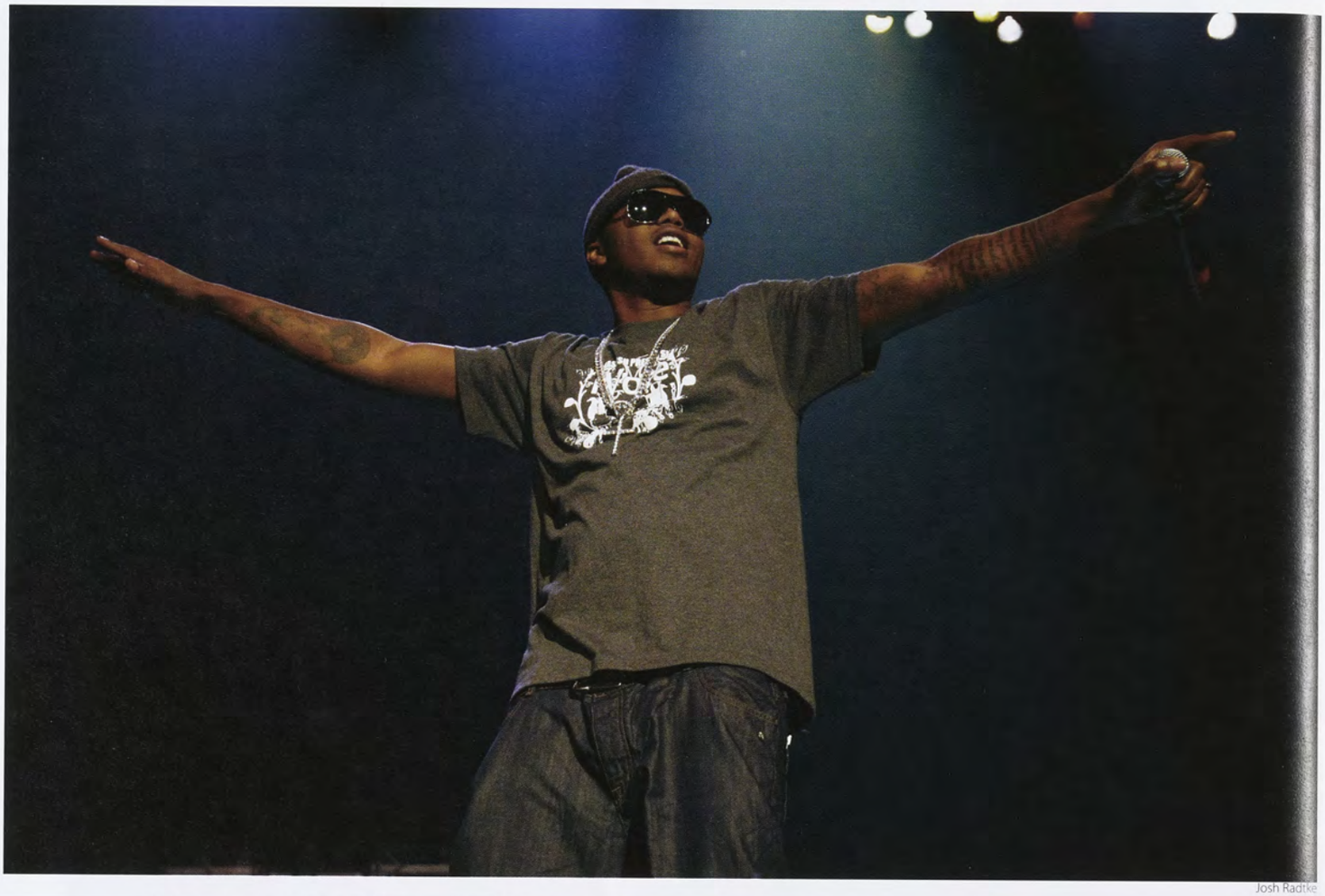
Megan Roney



Megan Roney

Psychology students sign up to learn more about the College of Law at the university while checking out their department's booth at the PsychFest. The event gave students a chance to explore graduate programs offered through the university as well as internships with several different companies and organizations.

> *"The ninth annual event brought nearly 500 students"*



Josh Radtke

With arms outstretched, the hip-hop artist Nas performs "Hip-Hop Is Dead." Nas was brought in by ASMSU to perform at the iVote concert at the Breslin Center.

Thousands of students fill the Brelin Center to see Nas and Brand New perfom. The musicians played several of their hit songs.



Josh Radtke

Rocking the Vote

Free concert provides diverse atmosphere

Rockers and rappers. Dreads and diamonds. The grungiest rock fans and fresh-to-death rap fans trekked to the Breslin Center on Sept. 25 for a free concert. The crowd was full of nearly 9,000 undergraduate students.

"We had front row," said pre-medical freshman Rosy Sosa. "We guarded The Rock for, like, seven hours from 1 a.m. to 8 a.m. to get these tickets, and we still went to class the next day."

The show featured performances by Nas and Brand New and the contrasting styles of these artists drew a wide array of personalities. Students had the opportunity to pick up tickets in advance and the first 1,000 students to arrive at the Breslin Center received free T-shirts. The show had been planned by ASMSU in 2007 and cost $225,000.

"The real difficulty was deciding who to get," said Dan Tuthill, ASMSU member and supply chain senior. "The appeal was to get two diverse crowds here. It's really about the voting; not about ASMSU."

Along with the concert, over 30 registered student organizations set up tables on the Breslin Center's concourse with information about their organizations, while many also provided voter registration information.

Due to the election, ASMSU representatives expressed it was important to have the different political groups present at the event. Students for Barack Obama, Students for John McCain, College Republicans, Student Democrats and UVote each set up booths to persuade, inform and register college students to vote.

"Being the world's first land grant college, we try to talk about the citizen scholar," said President Lou Anna K. Simon. "Being informed and exercising your right to vote is part of that responsibility."

"The political propaganda was overwhelming at times," Spanish freshman Liz Cauley said. "But, it was a good way to involve students that aren't very politically aware. I left after Brand New because they were the reason I came and I really enjoyed them, especially since they didn't try to force their political ideals on anyone."

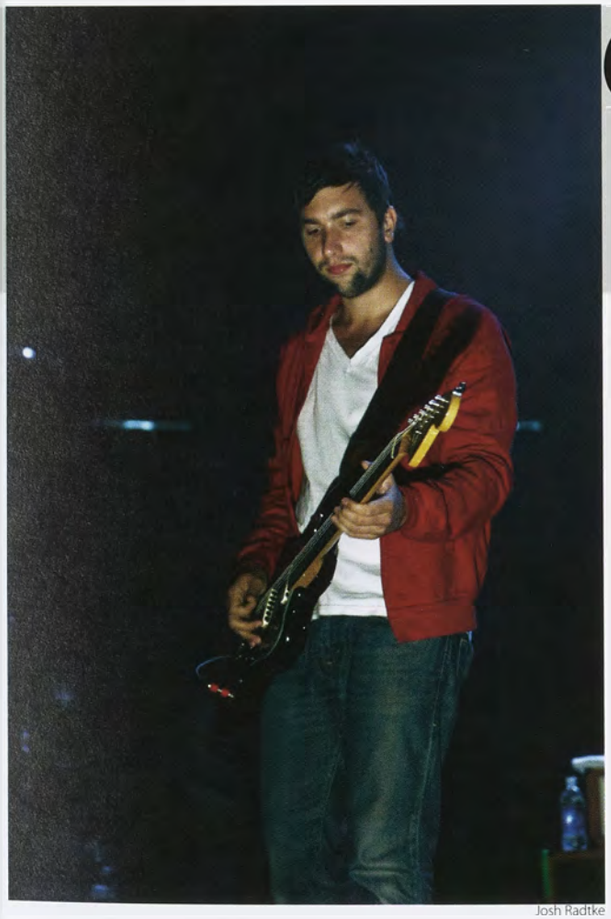
Prior to the performances, various guest speakers, including men's head basketball coach Tom Izzo and Detroit Pistons' announcer John Mason, promoted the importance of voting and political awareness.

"MSU should have more events like this," packaging junior Adesola Abioye said. "This especially brings different cultures together. It was especially good since Nas is so politically motivated."

Nas commented on the current state of America and its politicians during his set.

"Nas really speaks what he thinks," international relations junior Kanika Suri said. "And I think it really helped bring people here to register."

Marissa Cumbers

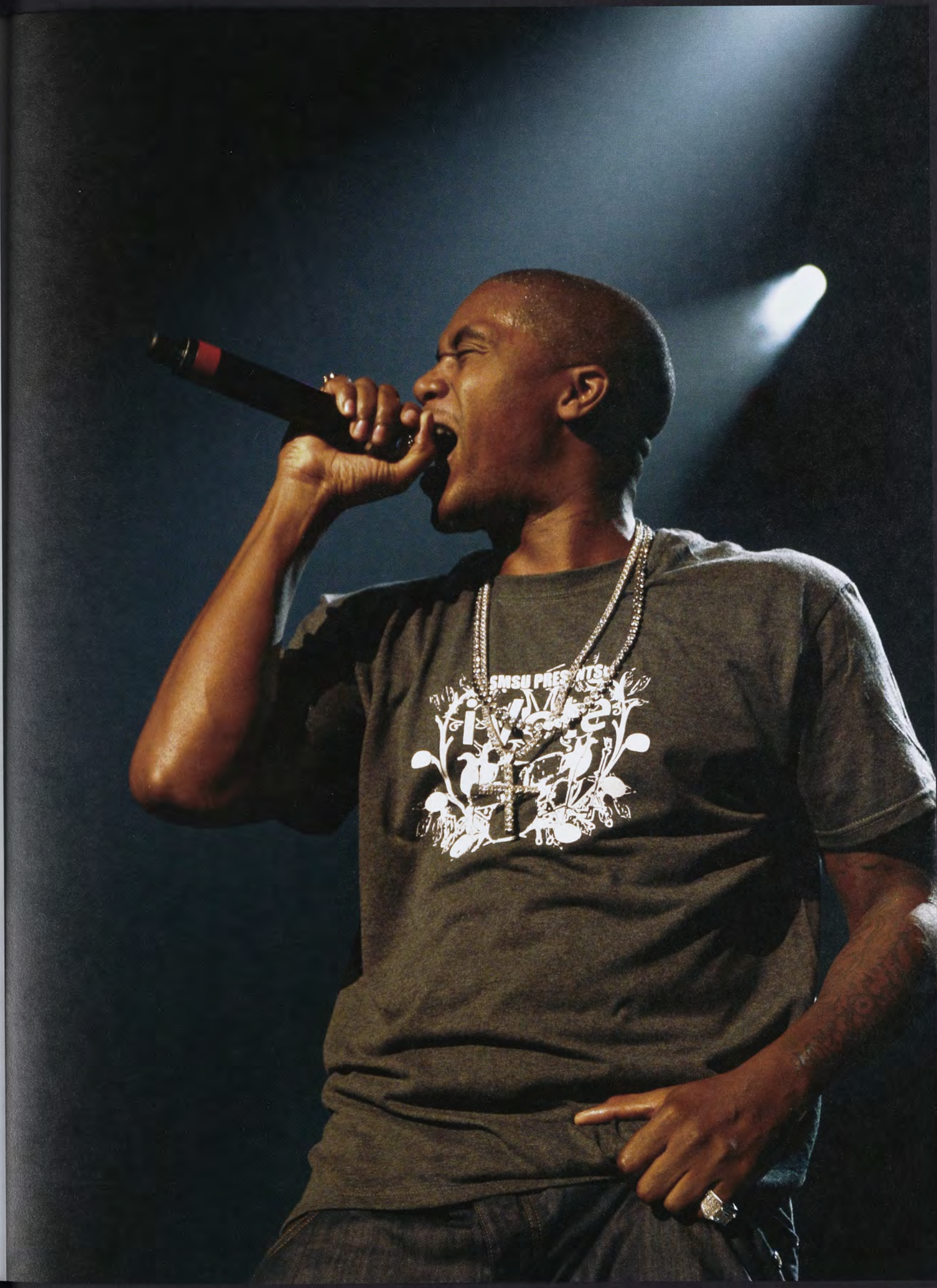


Josh Radtke

"I think it really helped bring people here to register"

Vin Arcadi, guitarist for Brand New, performs at the iVote concert. Brand New opened for Nas at the event.

Hip-hop artist Nas performs at the ***Breslin Center****. His act was part of* ***iVote****, a voter registration initiative put on by the Associated Students of* ***Michigan State University****.*
photo by Josh Radtke


SMSU PRESENTS

a day in the life of

Jason Scramlin

Jason Scramlin, 29, hissed at Daisy, Hunchback and Tawny to get their attention as he herded them through a series of locks and cages into the barn for their winter vaccinations.

For the three cows, and animal science senior, Scramlin, it was just another workday.

Scramlin and his two roommates lived and worked on the Pure Bread Beef Farm at the southern end of campus. Their house, referred to as "The Bullpen," sits on 4,000 acres of rolling fields dotted with cows, sheep and horses.

Each workday, Scramlin would wake up around 7 a.m. and cross the street to meet Cody Zarkey, the Pure Bread Beef Farm manager, for his daily chores, which include replenishing the cattle's food and water, maintaining their health and preparing them for auction.

"I love being outside and I love the flexibility," Scramlin said. "You come to work everyday and you could be doing something different."

The cattle on the Pure Bread Beef Farm are known for their excellent genetic quality; customers have purchased the farm's cattle for about $40,000 to compete in shows or to improve their herd's quality.

The Department of Animal Science selected Scramlin for the opportunity to live and work on the farm, which garners a waiting list each year.

"I was just always impressed with him," said Kenneth Geuns, an extension specialist in the Department of Animal Science. "He is an incredibly hard worker. He's a very atypical student who served his country and then got his education."

Prior to becoming a student, Scramlin served in the Marine Corps for eight years. He traveled to 14 different countries on embassy duty and taught other Marines in California. His experiences abroad in Iraq and Liberia enabled him to gain confidence, discipline and an astute attention to detail.

In addition to working on the farm, Scramlin was the public relations chair for the Block and Bridle Club, which aims to enrich the livestock industry through young people. The club is one way the Department of Animal Science brings its students together.

Students within the department are a close group of individuals who make up a minority on campus.

"We are victims of stereotypes just like everyone else," Scramlin said. "We are trying to be professional and do our job."

Scramlin learned to care for animals while working in Holly, Mich. on the feed farm that has been in his family for the past 100 years. He was the only one of five children who chose to go into the agriculture field.

"I would love to carry on the legacy," Scramlin said. "We have a lot of history and pride there. I feel there is a lot of opportunity for growth and expansion."

Jessica Dupnack
Photo by Alissa Lane



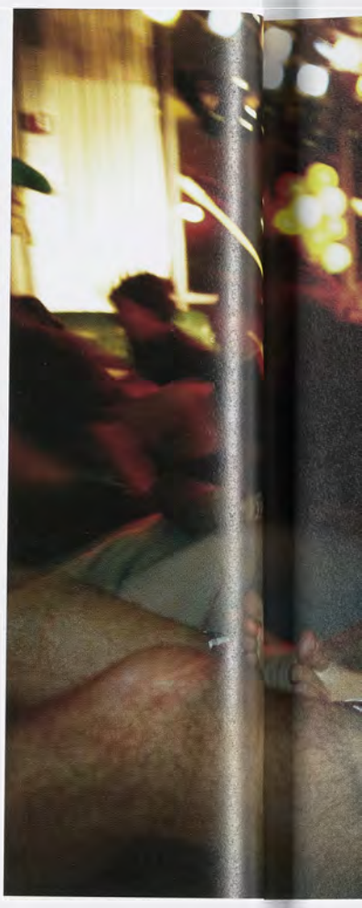






Communications sophomore Katie Hosmer and social work sophomore Stephanie Santoro laugh while trying to burst a water balloon between their stomachs. Hosmer and Santoro were nicknamed "Twinkle Toes" and "Little Foot" by their teammates on "Team Grrr...!"

Benjamin Lindstrom



There could *only be one*

International reality TV competititon comes to campus

It was 7:30 a.m., and anthropology junior Adam Porter and his teammates were fast asleep.

Porter was Captain of his team, "Team Grrr...!," and as captain, tried to prepare his team to win at the first ever Spartan Survivor.

"I wanted to wake up at 7:30 in the morning, but we decided against it," Porter said of his team. The decision may have proven costly for the Survivor hopefuls.

As the event drew nearer, Porter met up with the other seven competitors who lived on his floor. The group then made their way to the International Center, where they would later compete for prizes including, gift cards to Mongolian Barbeque, Meijer, Target, Spartan Spirit and the Dairy Store.

Filling the main lobby of the International Center were the other four teams – "Team AUGGH!," "Four North Phantoms," "Royal Tigers" and "Team Irwin" – each designing their team flags.

"We put dirt on our flag to make it look worn and used because we were a rough and vicious team," Porter said.

After stretching and jazzercising to get warmed up, "Team Grrr...!," grabbed their flag and made their way down the aisle of the cafeteria and took center stage with the other groups. A full Survivor-themed stage, complete with fake tiki masks and a spectrum of colors, set the backdrop for the competition.

Spartan Survivor was soon to begin. They had been waiting for this moment for days.

"I expect to walk away with every prize, chanting 'We Are the Champions,'" said team member and communication sophomore Katie Hosmer. Porter agreed.

Unfortunately for "Team Grrr...!," there were no chants after Survivor ended. Slow times early on in the numerous relay races and a slippery floor made a comeback near impossible, and a last round blunder in the balloon-popping round put the proverbial nail in the coffin.

"Things went the way they did," said Porter, brushing off the loss.

"I'd do it again in a heartbeat, bruises and all," said Stephanie Santoro.

Regardless of the loss, the team went home with some Spartan Survivor T-shirts and gift cards.

Dustin McNees



Benjamin Lindstrom

Mechanical engineering junior Dave Kempf leads "Team Auggh!" across the floor at Spartan Survivor. In this race, teams had to hook their legs together and move like caterpillars.

> "They had been waiting for this moment for days"



Benjamin Lindstrom



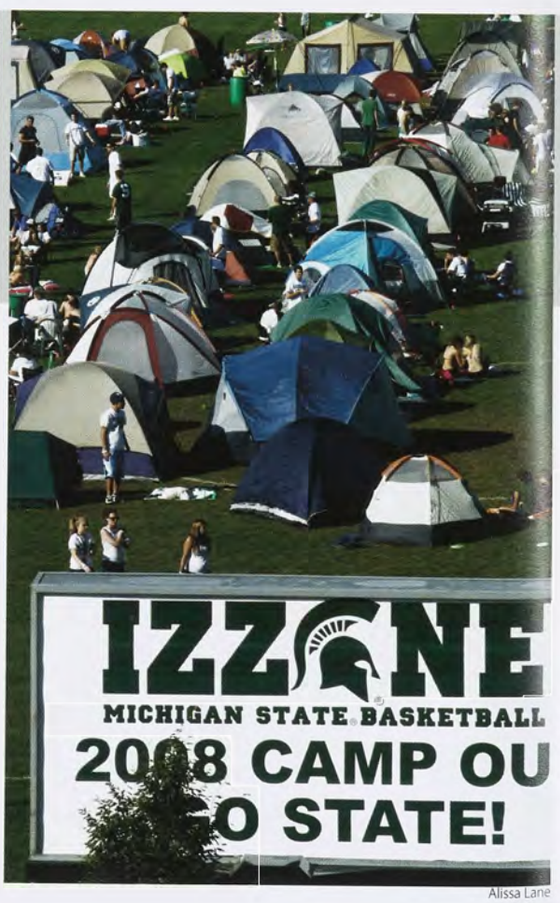
Benjamin Lindstrom

Contestants, obscured by smoke, wait for instructions for the next event at Spartan Survivor. All of the events were performed on a sheet of plastic in order to protect both the competitors and the floor of the International Center.

Special education junior Trisha Langlois waits for urban planning junior Mark O'Neall to gag down some food. The teams were required to feed one of their members a disgusting purée of foods for the event at Spartan Survivor.

Special education junior Trisha Langlois proudly holds her freshly signed basketball at the 2008 Izzone Campout. Members of the basketball team and coach Tom Izzo signed autographs for fans after answering questions about the upcoming season.

Thousands of dedicated Izzone members set up camp at Munn Field in hopes of receiving lower bowl tickets. The Izzone has earned a reputation as being one of the most exciting and intimidating student sections in the NCAA.



Alissa Lane



Megan Roney

Zone *Out*

Overnight retreat brings out basketball fans

On Sept. 27, with the basketball season just around the corner, a slew of students with overnight essentials and enthusiastic attitudes took over Munn Field for the yearly Izzone Campout.

The Izzone Campout is a tradition on campus and is a requirement for every student interested in sitting in the lower bowl during Spartan men's basketball games. To be eligible for the lower bowl tickets, potential candidates are required to have attended every home game of the previous season. However, the campout itself is open to anyone wanting to enjoy the atmosphere anxious Spartan basketball fans created, whether or not they were interested in securing a seat in the Izzone.

During the campout, campers were allowed to attend the volleyball game against the University of Michigan at the Breslin Center, which kept many occupied until head coach Tom Izzo's speech. And since the campout took place on Munn Field, juxtaposed between South Complex and Brody Complex, campers could have visitors but weren't allowed to wander farther than the Breslin Center.

Hospitality business sophomores Cassandra Welsman and Emma Perot said they were most excited to hear Tom Izzo and the basketball players answer questions and speak about the basketball season ahead. Izzo, who participated in the campout with his family, along with the players was eager to answer the fans' questions – no matter how obscene. The question and answer session was the culmination of the campout, which lasted from 8 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27, to 10 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 28.

Much preparation went into the event that basketball fans eagerly anticipate every year.

"All the directors and members of the Student Alumni Association were at the field at 4 a.m.," said Adam Heins, a general management sophomore and one of the directors of the campout.

At the Izzone Campout, there is always an attendance procedure enforced that is similar to that of the basketball season.

"The attendance of games and the campout are all monitored in a database," Heins said.

However, the strict attendance policy of the Izzone did little to deter fans or dampen the atmosphere of the campout in any way. The campers achieved a sense of togetherness from the night spent alongside one another - and Izzo - and they seemed to be more than ready to cheer on the men's basketball team for the upcoming session.

"Interacting with the different people in the surrounding tents, and the games, is what I look forward to the most," Welsman said.

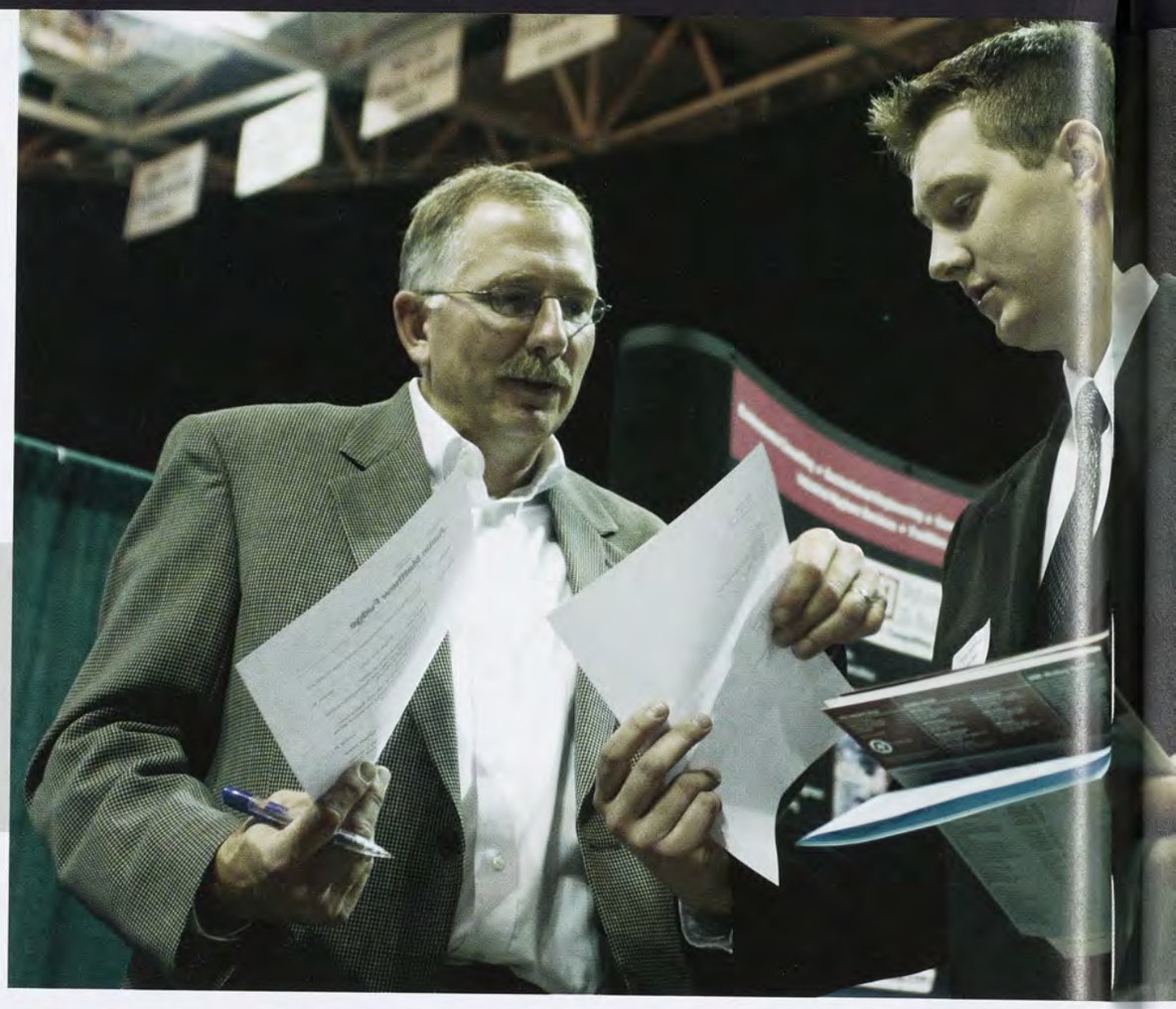
Anthony Harvey



Alissa Lane

Men's basketball head coach Tom Izzo waits with freshmen basketball players Delvon Roe and Draymond Green at his side for the cheering to subside before continuing his speech. Izzo's traditional campout talk got the crowd hyped for the upcoming basketball season and allowed them a chance to ask the team questions.

> "Attendance of games and the campout are all monitored in a database"



Civil engineering senior Justin Fudge hands his résumé to Soil and Materials Engineers, Inc. representative Dave Hurlburt. The company participated in the Career Gallery at the Breslin Center.

Hundreds of people came to the Career Gallery at the Breslin Center looking for interships and possible jobs. There were two career days, one focusing on science technologies, the other on business and marketing.



Josh Radtke



Lauren Wood

Telecommunication, information studies and media senior Nicholas Lucas enters his name into a raffle for IBM at the Career Gallery. IBM was one of 328 companies that participated in the fair at the Breslin Center.



Lauren Wood

Electrical engineering junior Kevin Harrison takes a break to look at his information packet and to figure out what companies he would like to meet with. Harrison attended the first day of the event, which included science, technology and communication-related companies.



Lauren Wood

> *"The fair is a great opportunity to learn more about companies or receive a job or internship"*

HelpWanted

Job seekers attend university's largest career fair

On Oct. 1, hundreds of hopeful job seekers with their résumés in hand wandered around the 350 booths at the annual Career Gallery, the university's largest career fair.

Located in the Breslin Center, the two-day event aimed to bring together those in search of work with companies looking to hire. Companies like Amway, DuPont and Johnson & Johnson gave students the chance to inquire about internships, part-time and full-time work in business, technology, communications and science-related fields.

"The fair is a great opportunity to learn more about the companies or receive a job or internship," chemical engineering junior Alexandra Perosky said. "Even if you're not looking for a job, it was a great experience to improve your interviewing skills and talk with professionals."

The event took a year to plan, and included the efforts of over 100 student volunteers. Theda Rudd, the associate director of the Office of Career Services and Placement, estimated that October's Career Gallery would draw in some 5,000 participants.

"A successful indicator of the Gallery is the number of students and recruiters who return each year," Rudd said.

One such student is biosystems engineering junior Aaron Work. After hearing about the Career Gallery from his adviser, Work said that he prepared by reviewing a list of employers looking to hire in his area of concentration.

"The vendors treated me with respect and always listened intensely to my pitch," Work said. "It is a great way to learn how the companies – that you will one day we working for – operate."

Although a majority of those in attendance were dressed in professional attire, a handful of students chose to casually outfit themselves in jeans and sneakers. In the eyes of Nancy Julius, a representative from Parker Hannifin, this was a mistake. To make a lasting impression upon a possible future employer, Julius advised it would be best to "dress properly, make eye contact and have a strong handshake."

Julius also said that being prepared prior to the Career Gallery is essential, and Jill Day, a representative from Gordon Foods Service, agreed.

"Have knowledge on the company, come interested and be willing to listen and learn about each company," Day said.

Much of the preparation occurs well before the Career Gallery takes place. General Mills representative Jason Masternak explained that "a solid GPA is a basic expectation, and it's the work experience, leadership and the rationale about why the student wants to join my company that will land the interview."

As the Career Gallery came to a close, it was evident that the first day was a success for both recruiters and job applicants alike. Excitement over next-day interviews left many with hopeful smiles on their faces as they left the Breslin Center.

"I think we found some very promising candidates," Masternak said.

Rachel Sylvester

Students are hard at work making sure their banner looks great for the Homecoming parade. The Spartan Stadium concourse was filled with student groups and organizations preparing for the big day.

Apples the Clown, as played by Nancy Woodruff, marches down Grand River Avenue. Children crowded around her in hopes of collecting candy.



Alissa Lane

> *"Fans walked around campus cheering and singing the fight song"*



Alissa Lane

After making it to the final round of an eating conest, mechanical engineer senior Brent Augustine will not go down without a fight. During the competition, Augustine described himself as feeling "squishy."

Central Michigan University senior Kyle Lindquist, Lansing resident Brian Bell, mechanical engineering senior Craig Helewski and human resource management senior Robbie Daza wait at the grill for their food. The tailgate was held just before the Homecoming game against Iowa.



Lauren Wood



Alissa Lane

Bleeding Green

Students and alumni celebrate new and old traditions

Gray skies and drizzle loomed over campus throughout the week, but school spirit prevailed and did not allow the gray to hold back the green and white pride.

The University Activities Board (UAB) and Student Alumni Foundation (SAF) hosted a variety of Homecoming events in celebration of the Spartans. The week began with the annual tradition Hayrides and History. The event was updated with a new script that included even more facts about the university. Attendees enjoyed cider and donuts and a tour based on the book, "The Spirit of MSU."

"All of the alumni know so much history about this university," said Katie Kosko, child development junior and UAB scriptwriter for Hayrides and History. "But current students don't know about the history. It's exciting to kick off Homecoming with an event for everyone."

Along with Hayrides and History, UAB hosted events including Sparty's Flag Find, float building, Sounds of Homecoming and the Spartan Spirit craft night.

"I love how we fuse old traditions with new events during Homecoming," said Jake Lestan, marketing junior and UAB Spirit and Traditions director. "I also love the great partnerships we form with other campus organizations during Homecoming."

Students from University Farms drove tractors around campus, which left the International Center pulling full trailers about every 15 minutes.

"Campus has a lot of history," said Josiah Hirschman, agricultural business management senior and University Farms employee. "It's entertaining for me, too."

Despite the weather, Homecoming continued on throughout the week with spirit and tradition. On Oct. 2, UAB launched a new project, the Spartan Iditarod, at The Rock. Students were invited to register, create and decorate cardboard sleds and then race them across wet tarps.

"The turnout for the Iditarod was small but it was my favorite," human biology junior Dayna Hoopes said. "I just love all the events we have. During Homecoming, UAB puts on six different events in one week, which is awesome for any campus organization."

Friday finally brought warm weather, and a large crowd for the annual Ice Cream at The Rock event. The Dairy Store donated the ice cream, while UAB members distributed T-shirts and cowbells to spread Spartan spirit.

"I think this week is just about getting involved," Hoopes said.

Homecoming week became a time not only to bring together the student community, but also families and alumni.

Dave Martin and his son Derrick laughed and smiled at one another as they slammed their red plastic cups together in celebration of Homecoming.

Dave, an MSU alumnus from 1981 and Sigma Chi fraternity brother, came back for Homecoming to reconnect with old fraternity brothers, but, more importantly, to partake in the week's festivities with his son, Derrick.

"I had multiple family members and their friends here with me," Dave said. "I counted on [Derrick] to host my friends. He and I knew it would work out good, and it did."

The Martins, along with hundreds of others, woke as early as 6 a.m. to begin tailgating. The smell of barbecue and beer filled the air while excitement built on and off campus.

After the Spartans close win over Iowa, fans walked around campus cheering and singing the fight song with their arms slung on each other's shoulders. Many were in high spirits after their win and continued the celebration late into the night all over East Lansing.

Homecoming is also synonymous with an elaborate parade down Grand River Avenue and through campus on Friday night. This year's theme was the Olympics, and the Grand Marshals were each former university Olympians or Olympic coaches.

Student organizations worked diligently on their floats and banners for the parade all week. The organizations could interpret the theme however they wanted and SAF recreated the Olympic podium on their float.

Chelsea Woell, a hospitality business senior and member of the Senior Class Council, walked in the parade with a banner and threw out pingpong balls to the crowd to get their organization's name out there.

"The parade went well," Woell said. "We had a great time seeing all the MSU fans and were surprised to be greeted by some past Senior Class Council members. We all had a blast."

Marissa Cumbers and Jessica Dupnack

a day in the life of

Jigna Patel

"Hello, my name is Jigna and I'm a student calling from Michigan State University."

Dietetics and pre-nursing junior Jigna Patel sat down at her cubical, booted up her computer, wired up her headset phone and began dialing from a pre-selected list of 250 alumni phone numbers – then she waited.

Patel is a student telemarketer.

Sitting close to her friends, Patel passed the time chatting or watching one of the four flat-screen TVs on the wall. Eventually, through the seemingly endless stream of ringing on the other end of the line, she would hear a faint voice.

"Hello?" said the person on the other line as Patel quickly clicked over to her caller, beginning her script with a friendly tone.

After some discussion about the rising cost of tuition and the football team, the alumnus on the other end decided to make a donation.

"Thank you again for your generous donation," Patel said. Let me hand you over to my supervisor for verification,."

Because Patel had worked for MSU Telemarketers for two years, she was sometimes allowed to solicit who she refers to as the "ballers." These are the alumni who have made donations between $500-$10,000 in recent years.

Patel's campaigns raise money for the MSU Student Food Bank, study abroad and the general maintenance of the school. College deans go to MSU Telemarketers to raise money for an upcoming project or renovation.

"It's important for people to remember that without us doing what we do, none of the programs here at Michigan State – from the colleges to scholarships to study abroad programs to student food bank – would be possible," Patel said.

The student telemarketers are split into eight teams that change every semester. Each person is ranked based on the percentage of donations they called from the people who answer the phone. On average there are about 15-20 alumni called per shift.

The supervisors developed contests and other activities to provide the student telemarketers with incentives to receive donations. Winners have earned extra hours of pay on their paychecks or food parties for their team. At the end of the semester, the person with the highest percentage ranking receives the biggest raise. Patel and a member of another team were up for first place.

"Usually, when I tell people I'm a telemarketer, they'll roll their eyes or make some joke about how I'm one of those people who bother them," Patel said.

Unlike the typical telemarketing company, the MSU Telemarketers only call alumni and current seniors for donations.

"Most of them are nice because they are alumni," Patel said. "It's always exciting talking to retirees because many of them attended here when it was just Michigan Agricultural College or during the war. They always have the best stories."

Many people stereotype telemarketers as people who annoyingly call during dinner, interrupting at the most inconvenient time to ask for money, but the MSU Telemarketers, especially Patel, work diligently to get rid of the negative stigma and better the university for all students.

"After working here, I have a much bigger appreciation for what they do because I do know how difficult it can be sometimes," Patel said. "I definitely like to spread the word to others [to] not be rude to telemarketers because they're just doing what they have to. It's their job, so go easy on them."

Jessica Dupnack
Photo by Benjamin Lindstrom





Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama addresses the crowd during his campus visit. Obama's speech focused on issues important to Michigan voters and students.





Alissa Lane

Studio art junior Chad Powell flashes the peace sign above the crowd at the Obama rally. Students and community members waited hours for a chance to see Sen. Barack Obama.



Alissa Lane

Swarms of people jockey for a chance to shake hands with Sen. Barack Obama after his speech. Many classes were either cancelled or skipped due to the arrival of the Democratic presidential nominee.



Benjamin Lindstrom

A member of the crowd holds up a vote-forchange.com sign at the Barack Obama speech on Adams Field. Voteforchange.com was designed by the Obama campaign to simplify online voter registation.



Benjamin Lindstrom

> *"With this presidential race, you can really see the campus coming alive"*

Making *History*

Presidential candidate wins crowd with Spartan pride

The wind was strong. The air was brisk. Leaves fluttered down and only occasionally did the sun peak out from behind the clouds, but this did not stop nearly 20,000 people from making their way to Adams Field on Oct. 2.

The Democratic presidential candidate, Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., addressed a crowd of students, faculty and community members in his first trip to the university's campus. The rally was announced just days before his arrival, and its attendees waited to be admitted for as long as six hours in a line extending along the Red Cedar River past Farm Lane.

"We've only waited a half hour," fashion design junior Krystle Mckay said. "But, a lot of people skipped class to wait in line and be here. We love Obama and want to show our support."

Obama's appearance took place during Homecoming week, and the senator did not lack in Spartan spirit. His opening line was "Go green!" to which he received the enthusiastic "Go white!" response from the crowd before modeling his gift of an "Obama '08" Spartan basketball jersey.

"With this presidential race, you can really see the campus coming alive," said Liz Petoskey, an African studies and political science sophomore. "People are really sick of the government. Students are out there registering voters, protesting and actually doing something."

During his speech, Obama stressed the importance of the college vote as well as political involvement among college students.

"Everybody has to vote," Obama said. "You have no excuses, but you have to go get cousin Pookie – you know, Ray-Ray, who's sitting on the couch loafing around – you have to get them registered and get them out to vote as well."

Obama addressed many of the issues affecting college students and centered much of his attention on the current economic crisis. He particularly emphasized the effects the economic crisis is having on college students and young Americans.

"Young people, you are going to have to pay for this debt we are piling up," Obama said. "We can't afford to mortgage our children's future on another mound of debt."

Obama also explained that if he were elected, he would create programs to help with college tuition for students who serve for America.

"If you are willing to serve in the military or the Peace Corps or the community, we will make sure you can pay for college," he said. "You invest in America, and we invest in you."

Many students were thrilled by the promise he made to reward those who serve the community.

"He really encouraged students to take on jobs that help more than themselves," international relations and psychology senior Noel Schroeder said.

As he explained where the money for programs and improvements would come from, Obama received booming cheers from the crowd.

"We'll start by ending a war that is costing America $10 billion a month while the Iraqi government sits on a $79 billion surplus," Obama said as the blue and white "Change We Need" signs pulsated in the sea of supporters.

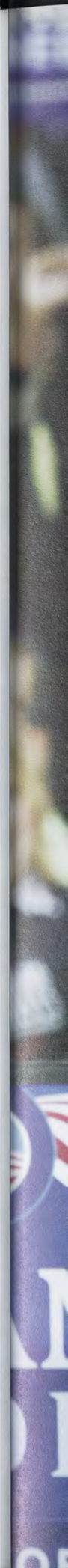
Despite all the guarantees Obama made, many students attended the rally for the chance to be a part of history and simply experiencing the excitement.

"I'm a Republican, but I didn't want to pass up the chance to witness living history," retailing senior Emily Belenky said. "This could be the next president."

And not everyone in attendance was prepared for the future Obama was promising. The College Republicans were gathered for a counter demonstration outside of the rally.

"We just want East Lansing and Barack Obama to know that there is a conservative presence on campus," political theory and constitutional democracy junior said Louie Glinzak, the College Republicans' press secretary. "We are also hoping to influence some independent voters."

Marissa Cumbers



Presidential candidate Barack ***Obama*** *makes a point to potential voters at his* ***speech*** *on campus. Obama came to camups* ***Oct. 2,*** *just over a month before the election.*
photo by Benjamin Lindstrom


CHANGE
WE NEED
WWW.BARACKOBAMA.COM
OBAMA

Children prepare to join the fun during the age 12 and under Musuem Mile. The event led contestants along West Circle Drive.



Alissa Lane

Alissa Lane

"I liked when I came through all the people who were cheering"



Alissa Lane

A stampede of little dashers speed by Beaumont Tower during the 200-yard race. The Dinosaur Dash raised money to help support the musuem's educational programs.

B.J. Pankow of Williamston leads the way during the Dinosaur Dash. Pankow finished with a time of 16:31, placing him first in his age group and second overall.





Eric MacKinnon

Williamston resident Elizabeth Erickson finishes the Dino Dash. Erickson's mother, who works on campus, encouraged her daughter to run both the Dino Dash and the One-Mile Fun Run.

Runners start off the Dino Dash. The 15-minute runners lead participants through the starting line.



Eric MacKinnon

PrehistoricDash

Runners of all ages participate in 5K

For the past 23 years, the Dino Dash has been a highlighted race in East Lansing, and October's race was no different.

On the morning of Oct. 5, the streets surrounding the Museum were swarming with runners of all ages, warming up and stretching before the races. The events started at 10 a.m. with the 5K run/walk followed by the One-Mile Fun Run for young kids and the 200-meter sprint for kids ages 6 and up. The Michigan State Federal Credit Union, Playmakers and the Museum sponsored the race.

Museum communications director Lora Helou has coordinated the event for the past 10 years.

"It's been a great partnership over the years," Helou said of the race and its sponsors. "It's a nice race for the fall and it's the last competitive event in the Playmakers Capital City Race Series."

The Dino Dash got its inspiration from real dinosaur skeletons, as the Museum is home to two fully mounted dinosaurs. Before the races started, parents and children were able to participate in dinosaur-related activities such as dinosaur balloon making, dinosaur fossil digging and photo opportunities by a big inflatable dinosaur.

Dewitt resident Lisa Grost heard about the race through Playmakers and had ran it in the past. She brought her children along to run and enjoy the kid-oriented activities available.

"I've [ran] in it before, and it's usually very well organized, has a good turnout and is a great family run on campus," Grost said. Her 5-year-old and 9-year-old both participated in the One-Mile Fun Run.

Not all participates were veteran runners however. Children as young as a year-old competed in the 200-meter dash, accompanied by their parents and siblings.

Third grader and first-time runner Alex Scott competed in the One-Mile Fun Run.

"I liked when I came through all the people who were cheering," Scott said. He enjoyed his first race so much that he was interested in doing another.

The Running Club had many of their runners participate in the race as well.

Elementary special education freshman and Running Club member Megan Grierson really enjoyed the race because of all the people and different age groups that participated.

"I really like to compete in running events," Grierson said. "I ran cross country in high school, so I like to run against people."

Grierson ran the race with friend and fellow Running Club member, psychology freshman Wendy Stein. Although both girls said they did not have their best races ever, they said they had a lot of fun and were looking forward to running in the Dino Dash in the future.

The morning concluded with an awards ceremony, where the top male and female competitors as well as the top five competitors in each age group received prizes. Lansing resident Jerome Recker took first on the men's side with a time of 16:19 and East Lansing resident Colleen Davenport for the women's, with a time of 18:52.

Leslie Tilson

Living a Fantasy

Students and children reinvent themselves

From ghoulies and ghosties to long-legged beasties and students that go out late at night, for one weekend, the streets of East Lansing filled with everything imaginable. Whether students celebrated as a vixen or a vampire, Halloween was the one time of the year when students could be anyone or anything they wanted.

Falling on a Friday, Halloween night encouraged students to dress up in character while clogging the sidewalks of East Lansing all weekend long. Fast food restaurants had lines out the door past 2 a.m. and even restaurant employees sported costumes.

"Halloween at MSU is great," hospitality business junior Jack Marvin said. "The things you see are out of control. I saw some dude skateboarding with a 30 pack dressed as George Washington. It was awesome."

The diversity of Halloween costumes ranged from provocative characters - like sexy nurses or firefighters - to movie characters such as McLovin' or the Joker. It was a weekend for everyone on campus to forget their roles as students and create any version of themselves they preferred.

"I love Halloween because it is a chance be someone you are not," education senior Allison Taber said. "For one weekend, you can be someone new every night. Plus, I love trying new crazy hair and makeup without people thinking I'm nuts."

On and off campus, the Halloween celebrating began weeks prior the actual holiday. Many students couldn't get enough of the gory goodness and chose to spread the holiday throughout the whole week and make it a celebration for people of all ages.

The Interfraternity Council fraternities and Panhellenic sororities held a Halloween street carnival Oct. 23, reaching out to children of the East Lansing community. The block party, known as Safe Halloween, featured activities including pumpkin painting, cookie decorating and a costume contest, as an alternative to trick-or-treating.

"We want to provide a means for chapters to participate together with the community and to facilitate positive public perceptions of the Greek community," said vice president of external relations for Panhellenic council Allison Drompp.

Over 100 fraternity and sorority members volunteered along with the Community Relations Coalition, a non-profit organization that works to build trusting relationships between the communities and the university. Volunteers handed out treats and students created a festive atmosphere by decorating their doorsteps and running booths and games for the children of the East Lansing to participate in.

"It allows us to learn how to interact with children," said no preference major and Pi Kappa Alpha pledge Max Ieuter. "It's great because we can make the kids happy while we gain hands-on knowledge."

Along other parts of M.A.C. Avenue, between Elizabeth and Bircham streets, other sororities and fraternities rented a moon bounce and a dunk tank. The East Lansing Fire Department also lent a hand filling the dunk tank with water and entertaining some of the children.

"It's a great way to meet the community," said hospitality business sophomore and Kappa Delta member Jamie Sloman.

Children 12-years-old and younger, and their parents, were welcomed to take advantage of the free-of-charge street carnival.

According to Drompp, Safe Halloween has been held every year since its founding in 1998. In the last 10 years, there has continually been an overwhelming turnout from community members, student volunteers and children from the East Lansing community.

Marissa Cumbers and Aaron Miller





Josh Radtke

People crowd downtown on Halloween. The sheer number of people out and about rivaled those during Welcome Week.

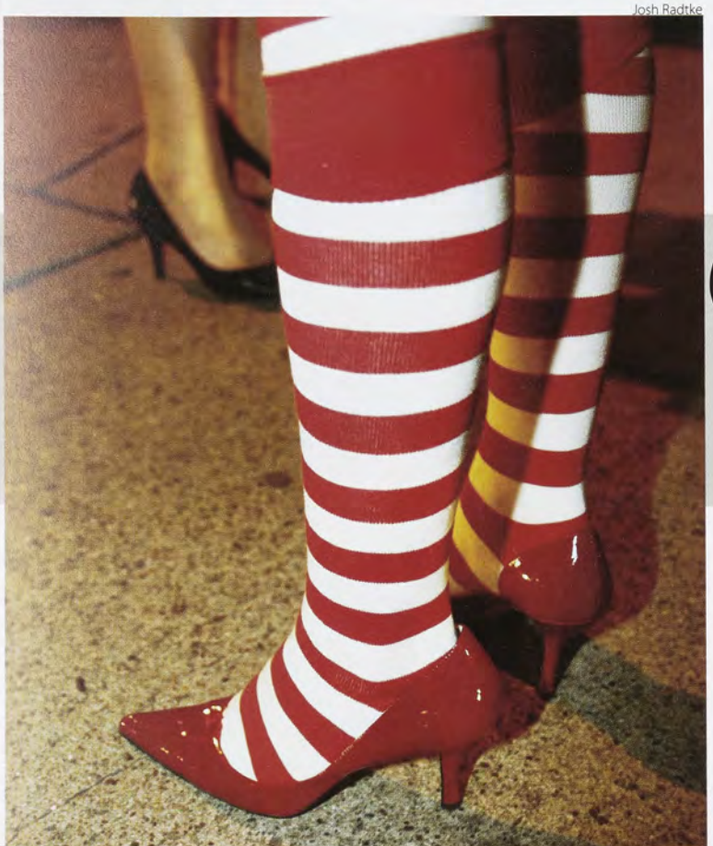


Alissa Lane

Sammy the Black Labrador meets Leah Shadduck the Ladybug during Safe Halloween on M.A.C. Avenue. Sammy sported a Pi Beta Phi sweatshirt; Pi Beta Phi was one of the sororoties hosting the event.

Alissa Lane

Josh Radtke



Ty Lumbert, Kierra Hudson, Isabella Gallo and Gina Mondro take a break from the Halloween festivities to do some bouncing. The Moon Bounce was filled with Power Rangers and ballerinas enjoying their play time.

Communication graduate Kaylan Sweno is wearing bright, striped socks and high heels for her Halloween costume. Sweno and her friends went out to have a good time in downtown East Lansing.

"I saw some dude skateboarding with a 30-pack dressed as George Washington"

Alissa Lane

a day in the life of

Monica Majewski

It is unique to discover a person who is interested in a language completely void of any oral communication, especially when that person is only 5 years old. Communicative Sciences and Disorders sophomore Monica Majewski has known the American Sign Language (ASL) alphabet since she was a child and Majewski describes it as one of the most beautiful languages there is.

She began her day as most students do, waking up to head out for classes. However, Majewski's dorm was special, as she lived on the ASL floor of Snyder-Phillips Hall.

After leaving the dorm, Majewski could be found going to her ASL class or working as the secretary for Signing Spartans, an organization designed to increase the use and awareness of ASL. As secretary of Signing Spartans, she took the meeting's minutes and met with other board members to discuss what the next meetings goals would be.

"I love learning and using ASL because I think it is such an interesting and unique language," Majewski said.

Her involvement with sign language at the university started the spring semester of 2008 in her first ASL class. The following summer she worked with a 9-year-old autistic boy, teaching speech studies. Majewski said the speech therapy she and the boy went through together involved sign language and other communication devices.

Sunday nights at 7:30 p.m. Majewski studied for her ASL class with fellow students and university volunteers in Snyder-Phillips Hall. The bi-weekly study group brought students together to critique and improve their knowledge of sign language.

"There are so many spoken languages, but only with sign language can you talk with your hands and actually have it mean something," Majewski said. "Not only do you learn the manual signs, but you also have to show the emotion on your face."

Majewski also attended many of the various monthly sign language events held in the hall, including Silent Lunch, a lunch period where students "turn their voices off" and only communicate through ASL.

"[Silent Lunch is] a lot of fun and it helps people become more comfortable with signing," Majewski said.

Her passion for sign language never ceased to show no matter where she went. Whether talking to friends on her floor, helping children in need or even in class, Majewski said ASL is something she attempts to incorporate into every part of her day.

Aaron Miller
Photo by Josh Radtke







Poll worker Alex Heideman checks over ballots at the first precinct on Election Day. The increased election staff allowed for the record turnout at the Brody Complex polls.

Megan Roney

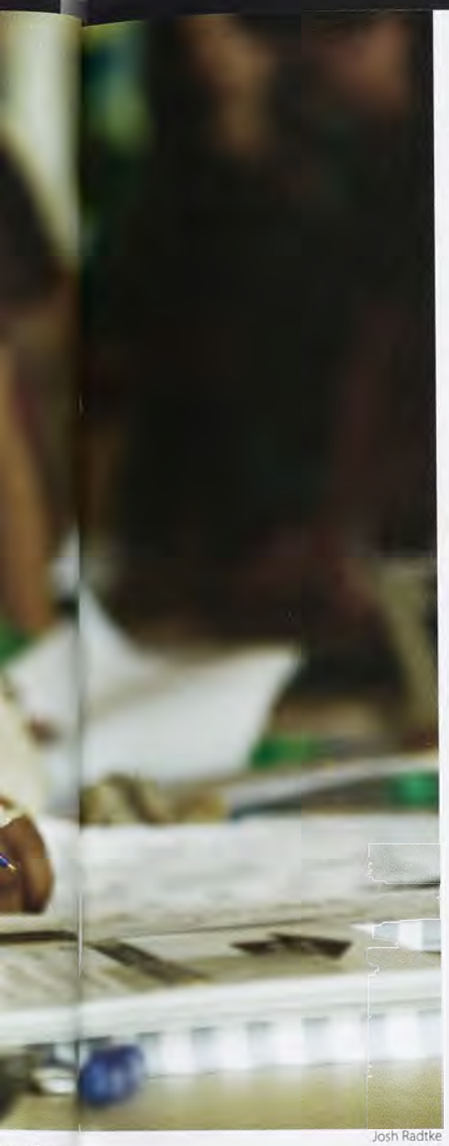
Kinesiology sophomore Kevin Erb uses no preference freshman William Hutta's back as they both fill out their proof of registration cards on Election Day. They waited in line at Wilson Hall, where at some points throughout the day, the line reached out the door.



Lauren Wood



Criminal justice junior Chris Hoolsema puts on his "I Voted" sticker after voting at the Peoples Church on Election Day. Former Speaker of the House Bobby Crim, who volunteered to help on Election Day, said student turnout was higher than any other election he had seen.



Josh Radtke

egan Roney

Projection*at the Polls*

Students turn out at polls on campus

Early in the morning on Nov. 4, each of the campus polling locations had lines going out the door, and many of them were comprised primarily of excited first-time voters.

"I feel like this election is very important for us because, no matter who is elected, America just needs change," finance freshman Michael Cotant said.

In the days leading up to the election, political signs and campaigners could be found throughout campus. Their advertising ranged from local concerns such as the CATA millage and the county commissioner election to the presidential candidates.

"Groups have been formed all throughout campus, such as Proposal 1 groups," said communications junior Gabriel Hernandez.. "I believe that the most important issues that directly affect us are covered with great intensity. I feel like you couldn't really go anywhere on campus for the past few months without being asked to register to vote."

Most students would argue the election was covered pretty well on campus, but some, like accounting freshman Wade Johnston, believed the campus favored Obama way too much.

"It was very hard to come by a McCain supporter or sign," Johnston said. "I believe most college campuses would be like that though, and as a strong supporter of the Republican Party, I'm not going to let that change the way I vote."

Brody, Wilson, Akers and Owen halls, along with All Saints Episcopal Church, the People's Church and the Wesley Foundation, served as polling locations for students living on campus. Some polling locations hosted the Rock the Vote campaign, but unlike many of the other campaigns around campus, this one was non-partisan.

"We have been out here since 7 a.m.," said James Madison freshman and Rock the Vote volunteer Katie Colbert.

Rock the Vote's main purpose was to encourage people to vote and help to answer voting questions.

"We are kind of like a voting hotline," Colbert said. "If anyone has any problems they come to us."

As Election Day turned into Election Night, students on campus attended different viewing parties and buzzed about whom they thought would win. While several halls held smaller viewing parties, the University Activities Board put on a party for more than 150 people from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Union. Partygoers were treated to pop and popcorn along with two big screen TVs on each side of the main lounge.

One of the biggest viewing parties for Sen. Barack Obama's supporters was at Dublin Square on Abbot Road. It was sponsored by the Obama campaign and gave his supporters a chance to gather for some drinks and food and watch the results. And as they came in from each state, the crowd of students and East Lansing residents began to cheer louder and louder.

"It is satisfying to not only see the success from all our hard work, but to also know that our country is guaranteed to get the change it needs," said political theory senior and Obama campaign volunteer George Schuttler.

Finally, at 11 p.m. on Nov. 4, Obama was declared the President-elect of the U.S. Excited cheers could be heard from the streets, congratulatory claps were given out throughout the halls, and no matter whom they selected on the ballot, voters across the nation had participated in the event.

"This is truly a turning point for American history," Schulter said.

Colby Berthume



Lauren Wood

> "This is truly a turning point for American history"

Communication freshman Melissa Tarter glances at fliers at the Rock the Vote table- which marketing sophomore Jourdan Weiss was manning. Weiss was stationed at Wilson Hall on Election Day, and passed out election information while encouraging people to vote.

Fall Timeline

8. 27 - 11. 21. 08

8. 27. 08

On Aug. 22, suit-donned undergraduates filled Student Services to partake in the fall semester Earn, Learn, and Intern event. The gathering was geared toward connecting students with various businesses and organizations in the greater Lansing area.

Businesses set up booths in the main lobby of the building; some with plates full of cookies, others with wacky pens, and all with information and sales pitches reasoning why their company was the best fit for students. A few organizations especially caught the eye of veterinary medicine freshman Monica Sanders.

"I wanted to see what the greater Lansing area and MSU had to offer," Sanders said. "I enjoyed seeing what other things were offered in this field [of veterinary medicine]."

Organizations like Canada Dry Bottling Company of Lansing, Sparrow Health System, Two Men and a Truck and the Lansing State Journal sent representatives to the event, hoping to find students who were willing to earn, learn and intern.

Dustin McNees

Networking in the Community

Alissa Lane



No preference freshman Sarah Mroczek discusses her options with Lansing State Journal recruiters Robin Pehrson and Cheryl Richardson. Mroczek had previously worked in an office and hoped to find a position that would allow her to build upon the skills she learned there.



Josh Radtke

8. 28. 08

Uniting for Change

Obama supporters intently watch the Democratic National Convention. The televison viewing was a feature of a voter registration initiative held at the Green River Café.

Change was the message Barack Obama relayed throughout his campaign, and, as he accepted the Democratic presidential nomination on Aug. 28, students gathered to support that message.

"Our generation is still optimistic about Barack Obama's offer of hope and change," said Phil Ajlouny, an intern for the Obama campaign and physiology senior. "Obama gets criticized for his lack of experience but the last thing this country needs is another old white man as president."

Students for Barack Obama along with student interns and members of the Michigan Campaign for Change hosted an event at the Green River Café on M.A.C Avenue to encourage students to tune in to Obama's speech. Interns and volunteers registered voters to the beats of Blockbuster Trio, a student jazz band, before the speech began.

Then, on the 45th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, Obama became the first black to receive a nomination for the presidential candidacy in a political party.

The room roared with excitement as Obama took the stage in Denver, Colo. at the Democratic National Convention and the crowd was captivated. Audience members swooned with each promise, and it was more like Obama was a pop star playing a hit song than a politician. Naturally, there was an eruption of joy as Obama promised more reasonable college tuition prices, but the Illinois senator also spoke of alternative energy opportunities and universal health care – and, of course, of change.

"I'm here to support the change," said fisheries and wildlife junior Evan Fischer. "We're ready for it. This country needs to be fixed."

Marissa Cumbers

8. 30. 08

The Lives of Llamas

Robert Douglas of Dexter, Mich., shows off his prize llama, Elegance, to Kathryn Schafer of Lansing and Karen Schafer of Boston. Like many people who attended the event, the women were curious to learn about llamas' unique qualities.

Llamas were lined up one by one with their owners; shades of brown and tan filled the hallway leading toward the arena. To a bystander, the differences were hardly noticeable, but to camel lovers and camel owners, changes in fleece texture or strength of the llama silhouette can mean the difference between a first and second place ribbon.

On Aug. 30, 183 llamas and 23 alpacas, both part of the Camelid family, invaded East Lansing when the Michigan Llama Association hosted Lamafest at the Pavilion.

During the two-day competition, the animals competed in different categories including obstacle, costume, fleece, halter and showmanship. The llamas and alpacas traveled with their owners from as far as southern Illinois and northern Michigan to showcase beauty, skills and build.

Twelve-year-old Kaitlyn Schasser and her 15-year-old brother Matthew Schasser from Lake Odessa, Mich. have been showing llamas for about three years and were antsy to compete in the under-16 showmanship and halter divisions.

"It is fun to see the other llamas," Schasser said. "They have such big personalities. This is Rosie, we feed her Fruit Loops for a treat and she eats all of them but the green ones."

However, there were more than just llama loving pet owners at the 14th annual Lamafest. In addition to the competition, the event consisted of a craft fair with artisans from all over the Midwest, a silent auction, a llama sale and a scavenger hunt around the Pavilion.

"We've been coming to Lamafest for about ten years," Mary Mazei of Kalamazoo, Mich. said. "People here are really appreciative of the art we bring and it is fun to see the llamas."

Marissa Cumbers



Josh Radtke

9. 5. 08

Mission Accomplished

On Sept. 5 at 9:05 p.m., five minutes after the scheduled start of the show, students were lined behind the last row of chairs in the International Center. The once quiet crowd became impatient, anticipating the start of improvisation comedy show, Mission IMPROVable.

Moments later, the familiar theme song from "Mission Impossible" blasted out of the speakers, and actors playing agents came running in through the packed crowd.

The night of improvisation began with the first skit, "New Rule," an act in which a scene would be interrupted and audience members would shout out rules for the agents to abide by. A particularly boisterous audience member called for the agents to get "kicked in the balls every time they stop moving," which added to the fun and spontaneity of the event.

"I like how they get lots of participation," said linguistic senior Sandy Mckeon of the troupe's penchant for interacting with audience members.

The agents for the "World's Worst" skit acted out what it would be like to be the world's worst doctor, clown and condom salesman, leading to hilarious suggestions from the audience.

The night ended after "Guessing Game" with a thunderous applause and a large amount of cheers.

"I thought it was hilarious," education freshman Missy Gosbee said. "It was so funny."

Dustin McNees



Josh Radtke

Agent A-Bomb, played by Aaron Elsworth, gets laughs with his startling expression. Each agent brought their own special something to the stage to create an engaging and hilarious comedy act.

9. 6. 08

You Me and Everyone We Know

The floor of the Union Ballroom shook from the heavy bass as You, Me and Everyone We Know played the opening notes of their set. On Sept. 6, the University Activities Board (UAB) sponsored the concert beginning with local band Letter to You as the opening act. Psychology, anthropology and health studies senior and UAB Director Sara Cottrill coordinated the event.

"A friend of mine told me about the band, so I started listening to them and became a fan, and A Letter To You is from East Lansing, and has played on campus before, so I knew they would draw a crowd," Cottrill said. "Indie rock is a pretty big genre right now, so I thought it would be good for this setting, and my first UAB event."

About 160 people showed up for the concert, which was close to what Cottrill expected due to the fact it was during a weekend of a home football game.

Philosophy freshman Derek Felton said he had never heard of the bands until his friend told him they were putting on a free concert.

"It was free, I didn't have anything else to do, and I used to listen to this genre a lot, so I came," Felton said. "My friend said they were good, and it was."

Leslie Tilson

Josh Radtke



Nate Wethy of the band A Letter to You shows off his guitar skills to the crowd. His band opened for You, Me, and Everyone We Know at the Union Ballroom.



Josh Radtke

9. 11. 08

Green Power

Physiology seniors Corrinne Thomas and Sean Donovan discuss the proposed energy portfolio. Donovan, along with other students, showed his interest in the subject by coming to support the rally on the Capitol steps.

The usual white steps of the Capitol Building were spattered with dots of green, as dozens of students from the Michigan Student Sustainability Coalition and members of Power Vote assembled on the seventh anniversary of September 11.

While the end of the rally was a commemoration of those who died seven years earlier, the meat and potatoes of the rally saw several speakers advocate Michigan legislature adopting a renewable energy bill.

"If you want us to vote for you," guest speaker and organizer Scott DeSilva said, speaking to the politicians inside the Capitol, as well as those walking across the lawn, "support a renewable energy bill."

"Either way," co-organizer and general management and alternative energy engineering junior Adam Duke said, "people are going to hear the message."

Students and community members alike listened to the hour-long collection of speeches, which ranged from talk of Michigan's potential role in the manufacturing of wind turbines to the state government's role of passing cleaner and renewable energy bills.

Dustin McNees

9. 18. 08

With open salsa in the ballroom and salsa lessons in the main lounge, the Union was filled with the sounds of Latin music on Sept. 18, a night sponsored by the University Activities Board. Advertising junior Jessica Hoffman organized the event.

"Last year when I was thinking about what kind of event to do, I knew I wanted to put on a dance, and I talked to my adviser and she said salsa dancing would be really popular," Hoffman said. "I just worked out that my event's date fell during Hispanic History Month."

When trying to find someone to teach at the event, Hoffman came across East Lansing's Bamboo Salsa Club while she was searching on Facebook. Ricardo Acosta owned the club where his wife, Valarie, taught a group of students and community members the basics of salsa, as well as the merengue and the bachata dances.

"I have been taking Spanish forever, and I knew how to salsa from a recreational class I took my junior year of high school, but I forgot some steps so I came for a refresher," no preference freshman Jordan Laney said.

After taking one of the 30-minute lessons, students who felt confident in their salsa skills could move up to the ballroom and dance the night away to music played by a DJ.

"It's pretty fun," Laney said. "I just like dancing to the music."

Leslie Tilson

Salsa Fest

Ricardo and Valerie Acosta demonstrate a salsa move. The Acostas were brought in by the University Activities Board to teach salsa lessons.



Josh Radtke

9. 19. 08

Dive-In Movie

Students dove at the opportunity to attend the Dive-In movie showing of "Kung-Fu Panda" at the I.M. West outdoor pool Sept. 19. Free candy bags, beach balls and inflatable rafts shaped like whales, pretzels and lounge chairs were more than enough to attract the 421-student crowd.

"We were looking for something that everyone could do..., and we're like, 'Wait, movie at the pool, awesome,'" physics junior Thomas Manner said. Over half of the students, including Manner, took advantage of the heated pool, games and the 12-by-12 foot projection screen which could be viewed from the inflatables in the pool. Other students laid out their blankets to relax on the grassy lawn adjacent to the pool.

The Dive-In was created in 2007 by the University Activities Board (UAB) to bring students an event at a different venue from the commonly used International Center and the Union, explained child development senior and UAB Arts Director Rebecca Kapler.

"It is a change from the normal movie theater," Kapler said. "It is so nice just to watch the movie on the big screen in the dark while you are on the lawn or in the pool."

In 2007 over 600 students attended the two Dive-In showings of "Oceans 13", and from the students' reactions, the event's popularity was still evident. When asked if they would attend another UAB sponsored Dive-In movie, many students, including political science senior Ashley Nesby, said, "Most definitely."

Aaron Miller



Eric MacKinnon

Communications sophomore Danielle Parlapiano watches over the students in the pool at I.M. West. Parlapiano and other lifeguards enjoyed watching "Kung Fu Panda" while working at I.M. West pool.

9. 20. 08

Stanley Cup

Hockey fans lined up outside of Spartan Stadium anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Stanley Cup before the anticipated football game against Notre Dame on Sept. 20.

The Cup appeared as a part of the Shoot for a Cure campaign to raise money to fight against children's cancer sponsored by Sparrow Hospital. Fans could get their picture taken with the cup for a $5 donation to the charity.

The campaign was created in 2007 by former senior forward Dan Sturges and alumnus Justin Abdelkader, a former Spartan and current Detroit Red Wings forward.

Committed hockey fans young and old came from around the state to be a part of the Cup's legacy. One of the first people in line, Megan Haryckowian, drove over an hour with friends to see the Cup. Her friends joked that she cried when she heard about the event.

"I called in sick to work to be here," Haryckowian said, giggling.

The two-hour event raised $2,500 to help cure children's cancer. This was the first of many events, along with hockey memorabilia auctions, that were sponsored by Shoot for a Cure during the 2008-09 hockey season.

Jessica Dupnack

Benjamin Lindstrom



Alumnus and Lansing resident Paul Des Lauriers poses with the Stanley Cup at the fundraiser organized by former Spartan hockey player Justin Abdelkader and his Shoot for a Cure charity. Every dollar raised went to Sparrow Hospital's "Cure Kids Cancer" program.



Lauren Wood

10. 6. 08

UVote

Students wait in line to register to vote or change their registration address. UVote hosted the East Lansing event, Register at the Rock.

Change was a main theme of the presidential election, and at the Rock on Oct. 6, it seemed as though just that was taking place.

For the second straight presidential election, UVote teamed up with the Michigan Secretary of State and the University Activities Board (UAB) to register voters on campus.

The event gave students a chance to ask questions about their registration status and if they weren't registered for the election, the Michigan Secretary of State Mobile Unit made it convenient and easy to do so, as 311 new voters were registered, while another 473 other students updated their voter information.

Along with registering, many students took the opportunity to get free food or participate in the activities offered. Hot dogs, cookies and punch were provided and students got a chance to pie a candidate of their choice.

"The activities are just another way to get students to come out to the event," said UVote coordinator Allison Barlow.

Telecommunications senior Robert Davis thought the event's location in the Auditorium field was perfect.

"All of the bus routes go by The Rock," Davis said. "I was just on my way to the Secretary of State so this saved me a trip. It is really great that MSU does something like this."

Colby Berthume

10. 10. 08

Office FUNraiser

Elementry education junior Danielle Doski and hospitality business junior Lauren Jones participate in the office chair race at The Office FUNraiser. The University Activities Board also held other contests as a part of "The Office Olympics."

The night was full of excitement as fans of the popular sitcom "The Office" assembled on Oct. 10 in the International Center food court, which was decorated to resemble an office setting, a common sight in the NBC hit show.

At the beginning of the night, teams of five signed up to answer trivia questions that only true fans could answer correctly, such as what a particular character's favorite flavor of yogurt is. The director of the event, University Activities Board (UAB) director and anthropology senior, Sara Cottrill, said she was a huge fan of the show.

"I love this show. The entire thing was a huge success, considering people usually go home during weekends of away games," Cottrill said.

In between the rounds of trivia, fans had an opportunity to watch episodes of the show in a viewing room.

In addition to several episodes being played, participants took part in games playing off of the boredom that sets in when one works in a rigid office environment like that seen on "The Office." The games included paper basketball, paper football and the most exciting, office chair racing.

The UAB took pictures of eager participants and digitally placed them into several background settings seen in the actually show.

"I really feel connected with specific characters," supply chain management sophomore Nate Clark said. "I relate to Jim the most. He is relaxed and laid back [like] I am,"

Anthony Harvey



Josh Radtke

10. 24. 08

Sparty Watch

During the week leading up to the pivotal football game against the University of Michigan, the Sparty statue was protected day and night from the historic Wolverine rivals. Spartan Marching Band members and campus legend "Johnny Spirit" followed the traditional university Sparty Watch, making sure no Wolverine defaced the statue.

Alumnus and university fanatic "Johnny Spirit" is a regular guard during Sparty Watch. According to journalism freshman and tuba player Brandon Kirby, not much is known about Spirit. Kirby said that all most people know about Spirit is that he is a die-hard football fan.

On Oct. 24, band members held karaoke, game, dance and meet the team theme nights to keep spirits high. Local DJ, Sparty and the football team made appearances to help support Sparty's guards.

"I think it's an awesome tradition, filled with great activities," said education junior and Spartan Marching Band color guard Mindi Murry.

At midnight during Sparty Watch, the Spartan Marching Band members sang the university's alma mater, "Shadows," giving honor to both Sparty and his traditions.

Aaron Miller



Benjamin Lindstrom

Dedicated members from the Spartan Marching Band prepare for a long cold night watching Sparty. They slept facing out from the statue's base in order to catch Michigan fans coming toward Sparty.

11. 1. 08

El Día de los Muertos

On Nov. 1, students and residents of East Lansing residents gathered together to pray for and celebrate the lives of those that had passed away.

El Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a Mexican holiday that calls for the honoring of the dead.

For the second year, the All Saints Episcopal Church collaborated with the Episcopal Canterbury Fellowship to host a Día de Los Muertos celebration.

"It has taught me a lot more about Mexican culture," Rev. Sarah Midzalkowski said. "This is a great way for us to reach out to the community."

A traditional custom of the holiday is the decorating of an altar. For the event, the altar at All Saints Episcopal Church was filled with the traditional loaves of bread, sugar skulls and marigolds, in addition to photos and mementos of lost relatives.

Students helped decorate the church and arranged the festivities for the event, and many of them were introduced to aspects of Mexican culture that they may never have experienced otherwise.

"Our members have found out that there are different ways to look at death – they can now look at it in a celebrative way," said Midzalkowski.

Colby Berthume



Benjamin Lindstrom

Music education freshman Marliz Gonzales takes a break from playing the violin during the Day of the Dead celebration at All Saints Episcopal Church. The Day of the Dead, known as El Día de los Muertos in Spanish, was celebrated at All Saints Episcopal Church to honor deceased relatives and friends.



Josh Radtke

Olympic Superstars

A gymnast poses while a fellow cast member supports her during the Gymnastics Superstars show at the Breslin Center. They were two of many gymnasts who performed during the opening act.

11. 7. 08

On the night of Nov. 7, the Breslin Center buzzed with the excitement of young gymnasts and their fans as they waited for the Olympic Gymnastics Superstars show to begin.

The tour visited 37 cities, including East Lansing, and featured 2008 Olympic medalists Nastia Liukin and Shawn Johnson along with the rest of the women's and the men's gymnastics teams. Also in attendance were 2004 Olympic gold medalist Shannon Miller and Disney musical guests Jordan Pruitt of Jump In! fame and the all-girl rock band KSM.

Alumna and Concord resident Kami Webster said she heard about the show from the Breslin Center updates she receives.

"My daughter is a gymnast at Twistars in Lansing," Webster said. "I brought her for a girls' night out. She looks up to these girls. She is in heaven."

Webster's 6-year-old daughter Kaite said that her favorite part of the show was the ending because she got to see all the gymnasts perform at the same time.

Although many of the young fans were inspired by the performance, not everyone could pick a favorite part.

"I loved every bit of it," said 10-year-old Kelleigh Gustafson of Haslett. "There wasn't a favorite part. It was all amazing."

Gustafson has been a gymnast since she was 4, and said she wants to be just like the Olympic gymnasts.

Leslie Tilson

Silver Bells

A crowd watches in awe as fireworks burst one after the other above the Capitol Building. The cold night was complete with plenty of lights, hot choclate and Christmas cheer all around.

Alissa Lane



11. 21. 08

The streets and sidewalks of downtown Lansing were overflowing with people of all ages on Nov. 21. They were gathered together for the 24th annual Silver Bells in the City, sponsored by the Lansing Board of Water and Light.

The evening featured an electric light parade that led to the Capitol building for the lighting of the state of Michigan's official Christmas tree, followed by fireworks over the Capitol's dome.

The city had a variety of activities planned, such as horse-drawn wagon rides, self-guided tours of the State Capitol and visits with Santa and his reindeer.

Many of the businesses along the parade route sold hot chocolate, coffee and snacks to help keep the crowd while watching the parade in the bitter cold.

Although dietetics senior Jessica Glancy had never heard of the tree lighting ceremony before, her roommates convinced her to go to the event.

"It seemed like a cute idea for getting excited for Christmas," Glancy said. "If I had known about it before I would have come every year."

Though Glancy and her friends only saw half of the parade, they agreed that the tree lighting was the best part of the evening.

Agriscience and natural resources education freshman Marie Hruby was also encouraged to come by friends.

"We came for the fireworks," Hruby said. "And to get in the Christmas spirit."

Leslie Tilson



With over 550 registered student groups on campus, everyone was able to find a sense of belonging and understanding. Each organization had a different goal; whether they were promoting environmental awareness, building academic success or keeping peace in the world, each made a significant contribution to the lives of students and members of the community. The friendships and connections made provided members with a strong sense of camaraderie for years to come.

Student Groups



10.26.08 |Meera Patel | Photo by Benjamin Lindstrom

Building a Network

Agriculture enthusiasts find a niche

Wearing boots and jeans, members of the Agronomy Club chattered happily as the smell of grilled hamburger and fertilizer wafted through the autumn breeze.

Beyond the boots, the members shared a love for animals, crop management, soil science and the outdoors. At the Agronomy Club kick-off barbeque Sept. 9, members and newcomers had the opportunity to discuss their passions.

Agronomy is the science of crop production and soil management, and the club's members boast goals ranging from becoming conservationists and soil consultants to taking over the farms they were raised on.

"There are a lot of people here I relate to," said crop and soil science sophomore Chris Heck. "A lot of them come from farms and are agriculturally-based."

The Agronomy Club acted as a social and professional club to help students get ahead. In addition to the annual barbeque, members took tours of different farms and businesses, attended seminars, met with industry professionals, designed a corn maze and hosted several other social events.

"I enjoy watching the students combine the fun aspects with the professional development," said Taylor Johnston, Agronomy Club adviser and professor in crop and soil sciences. "I just love it. Students bring a new energy. They have new ideas and inquisitive minds."

Each year, the Agronomy Club takes at least one excursion to a local industrial farm. In October, members took a trip to Crosby's Mint Farm in St. Johns, Mich. and the Students of Agronomy, Soils and Environmental Sciences (SASES) National Conference in Houston, Texas. They also attended the SASES regional conference in Manhattan, Kan. in April.

At both the SASES national and regional conferences, members had the opportunity to tour different farming research centers, compete in events and connect with other Agronomy Club members and industry leaders.

"The thing I love about the regional meeting is the networking with other university agronomy clubs and agricultural industry leaders, competing in events and being able to go on tours and learn more about agronomy in different states," said Megan Ross, Agronomy Club president and agricultural business management junior.

The university's organization currently has about 20 undergraduate and graduate members. The club's vice president Marc Hasenick agreed that meeting knowledgeable sources in the industry is a big part of the club.

"My goal is go back and work on my family farm," Hasenick said. "But, this is something I like to do while I'm at school. Meeting other people and gaining as much information from them as possible is important."

Marissa Cumbers





Megan Roney

Alumnus Tim Boring removes hamburgers from the grill at the Agronomy Club kick-off barbecue as farm manager Brian Graff, crop and soil sciences professor Wesley Everman and graduate director Taylor Johnston watch with hungry eyes. Johnston, who is also the adviser of the club, said he was pleased to see so many new faces at the event.



Alissa Lane

Crop and soil sciences sophomore Rita Gentner and agribusiness management junior Dan Mittlestat prepare to chow down. The Agronomy Club provided food for the annual kick-off meeting to welcome back members and encourage newcomers to join.

Special education junior Maggie Golab decides which pieces of pottery to buy. She was one of many students to attend the Clay Club's pottery sale outside the Auditorium.



Josh Radtke

Glazed Creations

Students sell their art to raise money



Josh Radtke

Senior studio art major Genna White blows into a pot, demonstrating how well it's made. White was helping to sell different pieces during the Clay Club's pottery sale.

Unique and beautiful earth-toned cups, bowls, vases and plates of various shapes and sizes were among the items laid out for the Clay Club's semi-annual pottery sale at The Rock on Oct. 2.

Twice a year, the Clay Club has a sale to raise money for its members. In the past, the money has gone toward purchasing art supplies, helping members attend visual art conferences and hosting guest speakers. The pieces on sale ranged in price from $5-$120.

"These [pieces] for sale are the rejects that we want to get off our shelves," Genna White, studio art senior and Clay Club officer said, while laughing and unpacking her creations.

All of the materials used in making both clay and glaze for the final pieces are homemade out of minerals from the earth. The clay is manipulated on a spinning wheel, glazed and put into an electric, gas or soda kiln for two sessions of about 15 hours.

One of the highlights of the year for the Clay Club was their annual outdoor wood kiln event. Alumni of the Clay Club and current students in the clay program took turns tending to the fire around the clock in six-hour shifts to make sure there was an adequate wood supply. The wood kiln needed to fire for 72 hours to reach its peak temperature of 2,300 degrees and to produce final sculptures with a distinct burnt orange glaze. The distinct color was a sign that the fire's extremely hot ash adhered to the clay.

Many of the club's members said they hoped to one day become art professors, own a gallery or show their pieces in galleries.

The members also said they realize art is a difficult field of work to make it in, but most find great satisfaction and relaxation by working with clay.

"There is something very therapeutic when you're manipulating the clay," White said. Studio art senior Jason Steinman agreed.

"People give me backlash about what I'm doing, but it's OK because I don't need the money because I love what I'm doing," Steinman said.

Jessica Dupnack

Some Things

Never Change

Telecasters return after 20 years

On Oct. 11, students and alumni gathered in the Communication Arts and Sciences building to celebrate the 20-year reunion of "The ShoW."

"The ShoW," produced by the university's Telecommunications Club, is the longest running college sitcom in America. The production focuses on the lives of students living in 3 East Wilson Hall, and uses the original set in one of the College of Communication Arts and Sciences' studios.

"'The ShoW' has been in the same place since its origination. I guess it is kind of a metaphoric example for dorm room life," said Ryan Alloway, a communication senior and executive producer of 'The ShoW.' "Students come in and out of the MSU Telecasters, just like a particular dorm room for the academic year."

Alumni who graduated more than 15 years ago returned to interact with interested students, as well as members of the cast and crew.

The reunion was an opportunity for the original cast and crew, including alumnus Greg Harrison, who created "The ShoW," to connect with current members of the production. Some of the more successful alumni sat on a panel to talk about their careers, answer questions and give advice.

"Do not be afraid to say what you want when looking for permanent or internship positions, persistence is essential, but do not become a stalker", Harrison said. "However, on the line of 'The ShoW,' I am still in amazement that it is still in production today. I really did not know what I was doing back then, but I just kept at it and look at it now."

Anthony Harvey



Benjamin Lindstrom

Telecommunications freshman Allie Hock, telecommunications senior Phillip Moon and alumni Neil Yashinski and Mara-Cook Greatorex watch an old episode of "The ShoW." When "The ShoW" was first created, it was a variety show, but by episode six it had developed more of a story.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Alumnus Greg Harrison laughs as Jeff Witzke pretends to talk on the telephone during the panel interview at the Telecasters 20th anniversary celebration. Harrison and fellow alumnus Scott Grayson created "The ShoW" in 1988 when they were undergraduate students.



Benjamin Lindstrom

The cameras used to film "The ShoW" sit just off the set, waiting for the next taping. "The ShoW" has been in production for 20 years, and still uses its original set.



Alissa Lane

Students listen as politician Dick DeVos discusses the upcoming presidential election. DeVos expressed his support for Republican presidential nominee John McCain and his belief that he will be the leader this country needs.

Jordan Lindsey, a freshman in the James Madison College, awaits the next speaker at a meeting of the College Republicans. Earlier, Lindsey questioned the meeting's guest of honor, Dick DeVos, about his thoughts on the growing financial pressures facing college students.



Alissa Lane

Impacting Politics

Students participate in political history

College Republicans was not a new student organization, but, at its first meeting on Sept. 2, a campus-wide buzz brought in a slew of unfamiliar faces.

Eager for action and the work promised by an election year, these new faces came to meet friends, bulk up résumés and make a difference. Most importantly, these students were united in their confidence that a Republican-led nation was the solution regarding issues such as the housing slump and the energy crisis.

"Senator McCain is absolutely the best candidate for president," said Carrie White, a senior in the James Madison College and chair of Students for John McCain. "We are going strong for McCain until November."

Republican Dick DeVos helped the group kick off the year as a guest speaker. DeVos was a gubernatorial candidate for Michigan in 2006; however, DeVos made it clear that he was not there to make political announcements or talk about his own campaign. He praised the attendees and spoke to the organization about the importance of young people being politically active.

"I really admire kids that have so much going on in their college careers but are still looking beyond themselves," DeVos said. "This election is especially getting people energized on both sides. All the people here tonight are a reflection of the energy going into this campaign."

College Republicans had plenty of plans during the election season. The organization combined all of its committees to devote energy to the Students for John McCain committee.

"I'm really excited because it is an election year – a lot more people get excited about politics," said Angela Taylor, a sophomore in the James Madison College and treasurer of the College Republicans. "This year, College Republicans is presidential campaign-focused."

Although some students attended the meeting to hear DeVos speak, much of the turnout was due to the upcoming election and the efforts of College Republicans to turn Michigan "red" in the next month, including a campus-wide search to find Republicans and register them to vote. The group also planned to attend upcoming Republican rallies in Michigan, and get as many students to those rallies as possible.

"Michigan is going to be important in deciding this election," said Ben Morlock, political science senior and chair of the College Republicans. "Hopefully we can make an impact."

The College Republicans' officers agreed the turn out was especially high and hoped the support of students and community members would help them spread their message of political activism.

"Very few people under 30 vote," said state Rep. Paul Opsommer. "Getting them excited about voting is important." "Hopefully they will vote Republican, but the most important thing is that they just understand the issues and vote."

Marissa Cumbers

What's in Your Cup

Organization brings together coffee lovers

In a simple gallery filled with trendy artwork, the walls quivered as local band Ringo Star hit a first note and the cozy aroma of coffee wafted through the sculptures.

The Coffee Club hosted the second annual Javapalooza fundraiser on Oct. 8 at Scene Metrospace on Charles Street. In addition to the free coffee and other refreshments donated by Espresso Royale and Cafetzin, the fundraiser featured three local bands: Ringo Star, Irwin Vega and Ante Up.

"A bunch of us used to all hang out at Espresso Royale," said Grace Kulbaba, psychology senior and Coffee Club treasurer. "And we're like, 'Why don't we make a club of it?' Now we have about 100 people on the mailing list. I guess people like caffeine." The Coffee Club was founded last year.

The organization requires members to pay $5 dues and attend meetings regularly. The dues and the Javapalooza fundraiser cover the costs of several of the educational and cultural events the organization plans each year.

"It's great to learn more about what you are drinking," said Jennifer Chen, zoology senior and Coffee Club president. "We go out into the industry and learn from experts. I enjoy the social and educational aspects of this organization."

In October, the Coffee Club hosted a showing of the documentary "Black Gold," an educational film about coffee and global trade. The club also took a social trip to a cider mill, participated in a latte art workshop as well as a coffee-cupping workshop and toured a coffee roasting plant.

"A lot people hang out and drink coffee," Japanese senior Chad Cole said. "You can add education, and you'll enjoy it more and meet new people."

With about 30 active members, the Coffee Club hoped to expand its membership and planned to recruit coffee lovers throughout the year. English junior Paige Tobin was surprised and excited to learn about the club when she transferred schools.

"I wanted to meet new people," said Tobin. "When I heard about Coffee Club, I thought, if other people like coffee and I like coffee, we must have a lot more in common."

Marissa Cumbers



Josh Radtke

Microbiology junior Ashley Wilens helps herself to coffee at Javapoolza. The coffee was donated by Espresso Royale.



Senior English major Nicole Nguyen gives her coffee the thumbs up. Nguyen and many other coffee lovers attended Javapalooza at Scene Metrospace.



Lauren Wood

Elementary education sophomore Kristin Beery glances through a book in Erickson Hall. The book fair was held throughout the day and was ran by students.

Secondary education senior Andrew Smith looks over a book with Kappa Delta Pi advisor Joan Smith. The book fair was an event that the fraternity held to fund literacy programs.



Lauren Wood

Josh Radtke



An Honorary

Read

Honor society hosts annual book fair

The lobby of Erickson Hall was full of activity Sept. 25 as the College of Education's honor society, Kappa Delta Pi, hosted its annual Scholastic Book Fair.

As potential buyers perused the shelves of illustrated books, active members of the Epsilon Kappa Chapter were hard at work to ensure the fundraiser went smoothly. One of several fundraising events organized each year by Kappa Delta Pi, the main purpose of the book fair was to raise money for the organization's annual Literacy Alive project.

While details of the service project vary from year to year, past Literacy Alive events have involved aiding elementary students in the writing and assembly of their own stories. The proceeds of the Scholastic Book Fair were used to purchase book vouchers, and help improve literacy among children in the Lansing area.

Although the planning for Kappa Delta Pi's Literacy Alive project can take anywhere from four to five months, members believe it is well worth the time.

"It takes a bit of effort to plan each community service project – a lot of brainstorming and team work," said education senior and vice president of service Megan Clover. "It definitely gives you that 'I'm doing a good deed' feeling."

Kappa Delta Pi is an international organization dedicated to recognizing achievement and excellence within the College of Education. Comprised of roughly 175 undergraduate students, the honor society requires its members to obtain at least a 3.5 GPA and be accepted into the Teacher Education Program prior to being invited to join the organizatio

Once initiated, members participate in a variety of professional development activities and service projects.

"Holding a position [in Kappa Delta Pi] has definitely made me more prepared for my career," said Liz Trexler, a mathematics senior and president of Kappa Delta Pi. "It has provided me with opportunities for greater responsibility and networking across the College of Education, as well as the country."

Rachel Sylvester

A pile of kimbap, a traditional Korean dish, sits on a cutting board for participants to enjoy. Although it appeared to be like sushi, the dish contained no raw fish; rather, cooked meat.



Josh Radtke

Marketing junior DJ Zhao, journalism sophomore Page Kim and international relations sophomore Ronnie Hwang enjoy making kimbap. The students were part of the Korean Council that held meetings every week to learn about different aspects of Korean culture.



Josh Radtke

Discovering Korea

Students learn through hands-on experience

Crammed into a conference room on the third floor of the International Center, Korean culture was shared among students of various ethnicities. On several Wednesdays throughout the fall and spring semesters, the Asian Studies Center sponsored the Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTL) event Korean Coffee House.

Korean Coffee House taught students about areas of Korean culture including language, food and color symbolism through interactive events.

"It's just fun all over," said Residential College in the Arts and Humanities freshman Elizabeth Rattner. "Any student can come and learn about Korea."

As an icebreaker, the students participated in hand-clapping memory exercises to learn Korean numbers and names. The memory exercises were followed by a lesson on making the Korean specialty food kimbap - a combination of rice, vegetables and meats wrapped in seaweed.

"The program is a good way for students to explore different cultures and languages that aren't commonly taught," LCTL instructor Hyunju Ha said. Korean Language professor Ok'sook Park said Korean cannot be taken as a major or minor program; however, he said, the university, along with the LCTL, is working on making Korean Studies a minor program.

The LCTL is a section of the Department of Linguistics and Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages.

Aaron Miller



Josh Radtke

Cross cultures junior Adam Grajewski dances to a song at a weekly Korean Council meeting. The group met every week to enjoy food, dance and song while learning about Korean culture.

In preperation for the upcoming career fair, students get their résumés together and head to the Women in Business Students' Association Mock Career Fair. Students had the chance to talk with people who had already been through the process and established a career.



Alissa Lane

Résumé, Please

Practicing for the real world



Alissa Lane

Marketing junior Christie Wilson researches companies in order to prepare herself for an interview. Wilson came to the fair so she wouldn't be as nervous during the real one.

Companies like Target, Chrysler and Dow Automotive were some of those that graced the Women in Business Association's Mock Career Fair on Sept. 30.

Students who attended the fair in the Business College Complex had the opportunity to meet individuals who head some of the most profitable corporations known internationally.

Students were granted brief interviews in a career fair setting and given feedback on their performance. The event also required students to dress in professional attire with résumés and references in hand.

"This is a larger turnout than the last one we hosted," said accounting sophomore Kelli Rogge. "The last one we hosted only had close to 100 people."

The Women in Business Association is geared toward assisting its members with career development in their desired professions. Ever since the organization was established in 1994 by four Master of Business Administration students, they continue to host beneficial events like the Mock Career Fair.

"This career fair gives the participants an opportunity to see where they place against others students that are just as qualified," Rogge said.

The Women in Business Association efforts went far beyond the career fair, however. They organized multiple community service projects, bonding activities for those in the group and biweekly informational meetings.

"I am very appreciative that the Women in Business Association had something like this," hospitality business freshman Whitney Boulter said. "I do not know about other people, but this helps me in getting more practice with interview-type settings."

"Some of the skills I look for when conducting formal or informal interviews for internships or full-time positions are: team player, leadership abilities and time management skills – just to name a few," said Ashley Burbach, a sales representative for Dow Automotive. "But what I do not like is bad communication and self-centeredness. An employee with us has to be able to efficiently communicate, verbally or written".

Anthony Harvey

Chase for Charity

Event fundraises for African orphanage

SCOUT BANANA, a non-profit organization started by international relations senior Alex Hill, has been gaining credibility around campus for its humanitarian efforts.

The main focus of SCOUT BANANA, which stands for Serving Citizens Of Uganda Today Because Africa Needs A New Ambulance, is to involve itself with health care needs in Africa.

Hill started the organization in high school when he saw a desperate need for ambulances in Uganda and raised enough money to purchase multiple ambulances for Ugandan communities.

"Presently, SCOUT BANANA is a non-profit organization that is geared toward making individuals globally aware of health issues," English junior Mary Lefere said.

The organization has turned its focus toward the construction of an orphanage for poverty-stricken children in South Africa. In order to fundraise for this project, the group organized an event that rekindled childhood memories.

"People come to donate a minimum of $3 to play Capture the Banana," nursing sophomore Garrett Miller said. "Which is essentially like Capture the Flag, but with bananas. The winning team gets prizes, too."

The game was comprised of two teams. One team was represented in red and the other yellow. Each team had to conceal five bananas on either side of a moderately sized field. The objective was to capture the opposing team's bananas without being tagged.

All the proceeds of the event went toward the orphanage SCOUT BANANA planned to build.

SCOUT BANANA had previously engaged in other projects that incorporated similar humanitarian efforts.

"Before this project, we built [an] HIV/AIDS center in Africa," said Erin Courtney, psychology junior and vice president of external affairs of SCOUT BANANA. "On campus, our main goal is to spread the word about SCOUT BANANA, since it's a fairly new organization."

Anthony Harvey



Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

Participants wait for the SCOUT BANANA game of Capture the Banana to start. Players tried to capture bananas, rather than flags, in the green area surrounding Beaumont Tower.



Comparative cultures and politics and nursing sophomore Garrett Miller gestures with newspapers in hand while dressed as a banana. Miller dressed in his banana suit for many of their events.

Social relations senior Kristin Arnold, mathematics senior Liz Trexler, no preference freshman Carrie Stermer and psychology and social work sophomore Amanda Garza choreograph dance moves. An hour later, the Dance Club had new dances ready to perform.



Eric MacKinnon

Facing the

Music

Club shares a passion for dancing

With an abundance of smiles and resounding beats, dancers gathered in I.M. Circle as the Dance Club held its weekly workshop. Feet were not the only objects in motion, as the walls also thumped to the beat of the music.

Created in 2004, the club began with only a handful of students, each possessing a passion for dancing. Several years later, the club grew to include more than 50 students.

Although no formal experience is necessary in order to join the club, hopeful members had to audition in order to determine their level of dance.

They were categorized into level one or two, the latter being more advanced. Once members were placed into their level, they dedicated several hours each week to the group's workshops, conditioning and performances.

Workshops were open to both members as well as non-members hoping to learn a short routine which is normally taught by members of the club. Occasionally, other groups are brought in to teach various styles of dance.

"In the past, we have brought in friends with experience in Irish dancing," mathematics junior Stephanie Donelko said. "We are trying to have a workshop with the Break Dancing Club as well."

The club's main performance, an annual spring recital, took place in April. During the recital, club members performed workshop pieces as well as solo and group dances.

With numerous other dance-related groups on campus, the Dance Club distinguishes itself by providing members with a more relaxed atmosphere.

"It's not a huge time commitment," said astrophysics senior and Dance Club president Laura Green. "We differ from other dance groups because we aren't about making the cut. It's not about making the team; instead it's for the fun of dancing."

Rachel Sylvester



Megan Roney

No preference freshman Carrie Stermer lifts her leg into an arabesque while she looks over her shoulder to learn the next move at the Dance Club's workshop. Stermer and four other Dance Club members learned a hip-hop routine choreographed by mathematics junior Stephanie Donelko.

Fisheries and wildlife junior Casey Koleski organizes volunteers into cleaning zone groups at the Fisheries and Wildlife Club's River Cleanup. Although the event took place on the same weekend as the football game against the University of Michigan, Koleski said he was pleasently surprised by the turnout of students and Lansing residents.



Megan Roney



Reviving
the River

Volunteers remove bicycles, tires and more

On Oct. 25, members of the Fisheries and Wildlife Club (FW), along with students and other members of the community, excavated a treasure trove of junk from the Red Cedar River. The FW has held the biannual Red Cedar River Cleanup since 2005 in an attempt to change people's perspectives of the river, said fisheries and wildlife senior and FW president Justin Miller.

"Many people assume the river is filthy, but not many people have interacted with the river firsthand," Miller said.

Volunteers were divided into four different groups. Each group was assigned a different section of the river within campus boundaries. Equipment such as waders, canoes, garbage pickers and gloves were supplied by Ingham County Parks and through a grant given to the Ingham Conservation District.

"This event is a great way to encourage environmental stewardship and community service," said watershed technician Michelle Beloskur. "We were very happy we were available to get the grant."

Volunteers on canoes skimmed the river with rakes finding bigger items while others picked up litter alongside the banks of the river.

Bicycles, pillows, aluminum cans and even a shopping cart were among the items removed from the river. Most of the trash found was disposed of in dumpsters, but bicycle parts were salvaged for use at the university bike store, according to fisheries and wildlife junior and Red Cedar River cleanup coordinator, Casey Koleski.

"We can get more people interested in protecting the river," said Koleski. "This allows us to show people we care about the university."

The purpose of the FW is to enhance the learning process and provide field experience opportunities for students interested in the environment. The club is also a great networking tool for students interested in careers related to natural resources, Koleski said.

Aaron Miller



Megan Roney

Fisheries and wildlife junior Jim Michling combs the Red Cedar River with a rake, looking for litter during the Fisheries and Wildlife Club's River Cleanup. Michling had to remove excess water from his canoe after he pulled a trash receptacle and a waterlogged sleeping bag from the water.



Josh Radtke

A perfomer from the Indonesian Consulate in Chicago dances to music during PERMIAS Indonesian Culture Night. This was one of several performances that displayed the unique style of Indonesian dance.

Performers from the Indonesian Consulate in Chicago dance during PERMIAS Indonesian Culture Night. There were several performances during the night, each with a different theme within Indonesian culture.



Josh Radtke



Josh Radtke

Rama Widyowicaksono of East Jordan, Mich. performs a unique dance during PERMIAS Indonesian Culture Night. Widyowicaksono came to the United States as an exchange student and lives in East Jordan with a host family.

Cultural

Enlightenment

Students embrace Indonesian culture

The true richness of the Indonesian culture was on display at the Hannah Community Center during the Indonesian Student Association's Culture Night held Oct. 25.

"Many people I have encountered are clueless about not only the Indonesian culture, but even where Indonesia is geographically located," Indonesian teaching assistant Antonina Suryantari said.

With this in mind, the Indonesian Student Association hoped to address the common ignorance regarding Indonesia. The organization's primary goal has been to spread knowledge about the culture of the country.

Although the association emphasizes Indonesian culture, its membership is open to anyone who is interested.

"I do not believe people are that interested in Indonesian traditions, but we will welcome and accommodate anyone," said Harsa Hermantoro, finance junior and president of the Indonesian Student Association.

Authentic foods and dress provided individuals of non-Indonesian descent with vivid representations of the culture. People with no prior knowledge about Indonesian culture had an opportunity to see performances and become acquainted with Indonesian customs.

"This is a huge outcome of people," Hermantoro said. "I had expected about 100 people to show up. Well over 160 people came. A lot of hard work went into the planning. It took over a half a year."

Anthony Harvey

Political science junior Kristal Foster and English freshman Kaitlyn Anderson participate in an icebreaker at the Phi Alpha Delta Halloween party. Anderson dressed up as Super Mario Brothers' heroine Princess Peach, and won the Halloween costume contest.

Party on

Pre-law students take a break from studies

On Oct. 24, Phi Alpha Delta turned Case Hall's Club Spartan into a spooky and festive environment perfect for a Halloween party.

"I think these parties are a great way to get out and break up the monotony of studies," said first-year Phi Alpha Delta member and chemistry sophomore Caitlin Anderson.

Phi Alpha Delta, based out of Case Hall, is a co-ed undergraduate pre-law fraternity that accepts all majors. The fraternity started in 1902 at Chicago-Kent College of Law, and has now expanded nationwide. Founded in 2002, the university's chapter has more than 50 active members.

The fraternity's overall objective is to assist undergraduate students in making an informed choice in deciding which law school to attend and ultimately pursuing law as a career.

"I feel like not only have I met a lot of people, but I have also been given a lot of ideas for law school," Anderson said.

Along with hosting several social parties for its members, the fraternity participated in several community projects. In the fall, they assisted Big Brothers Big Sisters with a holiday appreciation dinner and participated in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk. And each spring, the fraternity participates in the Race for the Place, benefiting MSU Safe Place.

Most importantly, Phi Alpha Delta provides its students with a break from their everyday studies.

"Most organizations can be very serious, but I think that Phi Alpha Delta does a good job of breaking things up," said comparative cultures and politics junior Chen Wang.

Colby Berthume



Megan Roney

Candy lines the tables of Club Spartan in Case Hall during the Phi Alpha Delta Halloween party. Members of the co-ed pre-law fraternity ate pizza, watched scary movies and played Halloween games.



Megan Roney



Physiology sophomore Reema Sheth spins while dancing in the Raas performance at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Raas dancing has recently become very popular among Indian students in the United States.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Captivating

Choreography

Team shares Indian culture and spartan spirit

Traditional Indian rhythm and dance filled the Detroit Institute of Art's (DIA) Film Theatre Auditorium during the museum's Oct. 26 invitational exhibition competition.

The team from the university, as well as teams from the University of Michigan and Case Reserve University were invited to perform as part of the DIA's exhibition "The Private World of India's Mughal Emperors."

"Raas is a brilliant example of the trans-culturation of cultures," said DIA senior interpreter specialist Swarupa Anila.

Anila said that Raas has created its own identity by fusing different cultural aspects. Economics junior and team choreographer Nisarg Mehta said Raas is the featured dance of Navrati evenings in western India.

"A group of eight guys and eight girls dance with dandia traditional sticks - to fulfill their passion of dancing," Mehta said. "In doing so, they represent their Indian culture and can continue their passion for dancing."

The theme of the Raas team's routine was Sparta 300. The routine featured the classical Indian Raas dance form and sets that depicted battle scenes from the movie "300." In the middle of the routine, Spartan Raas team members moved from sets spelling out MSU. Despite the Spartans' creative efforts, the Raas team from the University of Michigan took first place in the competition.

"The point of the Raas team is to tie generations of Indian culture with the spirit of MSU," said psychology senior and Raas team dance member Lisette Desouza.

The university's Raas team was first formed in 2001 by students and has continued competing every year since.

Aaron Miller



Benjamin Lindstrom

Physiology junior Neel Patel ties his costume together in the dressing room. The costumes were handmade for the team by an Indian seamstress.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Members of the Case Western Reserve University Raas team rehearse on stage prior to their competition at the Detroit Institute of Arts. The dance competition was timed to coincide with an exhibit on India's Mughal Emperors.

A crowd gathers at the Gone Wired Café for the opening reception of their annual gallery show. The Photography Club displayed some of their best student work alongside other local photography clubs.



Alissa Lane

Eye-opening Experience

Members of all ages gain knowledge and fresh ideas

Over coffee, snacks and cake, members of the Mid-Michigan, St. John's and university photography clubs joined together to put on a show at the Gone Wired Café of East Lansing.

Although the club was founded only two years ago by geology senior and club president Allison Pluda, this autumn marked the first time club members had the chance to display their work in a professional setting.

Pluda said that the goal of the club is not just about learning to take good photographs, but also teaching aspiring photographers what photography what it is all about.

"It's a great experience for those who are interested in photography, but maybe don't have a camera, because they can come and learn," Pluda said. "Also, it's great for experienced photographers, too, because we have opportunities such as the show with the Mid-Michigan Photography Club, where students can display their work with professional photographers work. No one gets turned down from the show and the photographs are displayed all year in the café."

Alan Jones, an East Lansing resident and member of the Mid-Michigan Photo Club, agreed that it was a great experience for all three clubs that participated.

"It's a win-win situation," Jones said. "We get exposed to the digital experience and fresh ideas that MSU club members bring to photography. In turn, older members of the more experienced photo clubs expose the MSU Photography Club members to the traditional side of photography, the side that is film based rather than digital based."

Jones said he found the interaction with other clubs to be a stimulating experience and hopes they can work together soon. However, Pluda expressed concern that the club may not exist after she graduates, due to lack of leadership.

"It's weird to me for a university of this size to not have a photo[graphy] club," Pluda said. "I hope that someone will step up and take over the club so it can continue next year."

Leslie Tilson



Alissa Lane

East Lansing resident Alan Jones observes a fellow photographer's work. Jones is a member of the Mid-Michigan Photography Club.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Biochemistry and microbiology senior Mike Greendonner submits as Detroit area resident and club member Danielle Clinton demonstrates a move at Judo Club practice. The club practiced in I.M. West in an I.M. West room that had a padded floor to help participants.

Biochemistry and microbiology sophomore Mike Greendonner and arts and humanities sophomore Zoe Zuidveld stretch their arms during a Judo Club practice. Zuidveld said she's always had an interest in Japanese martial arts and joined the club to learn more about the sport.



Benjamin Lindstrom

The Gentle Way

Club helps students perfect technique

Walking through the halls of I.M. West at night, students can hear the sound of bodies hitting the floor, but there is no cause for alarm – chances are, it was just the Judo Club practicing.

"Judo" translates into "gentle way" in Japanese and the main object of the sport is to throw the opponent to the ground. Three times a week, 15 to 20 students met in 150 I.M. West to spar and practice their techniques.

"Our only requirement for the club is consideration for your partner, so no one gets hurt," biochemistry sophomore Michael Greendonner said.

A typical practice for the club consists of running and stretching to warm up, then each member matched up with a partner to practice techniques.

The club is an alternative option to the judo class offered on campus. Greendonner said that the club and class go hand-in-hand, and if a student missed a class, he could make the time up through the club.

Members also work with the club to train for tournaments throughout the year and many members placed in their divisions.

Every year, the university hosts the Michigan Judo Championships, which Greendonner said is by far the biggest event the club participates in.

Whether it is just for fun or for serious competition, the club is open to all. As long as an individual comes willing to cooperate, they are welcome to learn the "gentle way."

Colby Berthume



Benjamin Lindstrom

Mechanical engineering sophomore Matt Pawlicki stretches at the start of Judo Club's practice. Judo originated in Japan in the nineteenth century and became an Olympic sport in 1964.

Education junior Sarah Pylar strikes a move during a routine. Pylar and her teammates were practicing for the team's Winter Mini-Clinic, designed to expose high school students to the pompon program.

Marketing junior Danielle DeBiasi flashes a smile during a team practice. Showmanship is a key element of a successful pompon team.



Alissa Lane



Kicking to

the Top

Pommers compete for championship

On Nov. 2, the pompon team stepped out of their normal uniforms and set down their pompons to compete in the annual Mid-American High Kick Championships.

The team beat out five other Michigan collegiate teams at Eastern Michigan University to take the championship.

"We walked in knowing that we had a great routine and walked out knowing that everyone else believed the same," said team co-captain and human biology senior Elise Simpson.

The competition differed from others that the team had participated in because it was based on dance and high kicks rather than the traditional mid-American style of dancing. The team used a DJ theme using a compellation of various hip-hop songs. Their routine mimicked spinning records and popular urban dance moves.

Throughout the year, the team raised money for uniforms and competition fees by fundraising and independent sponsorships. They also gave back to the community by participating in events like Extreme Makeover: Home Edition in Lansing.

"My goal has always been to keep the team well-rounded and involved in the community, while still setting the standard for collegiate pompon," coach Lauren Conradi said.

During practices, the team focused on flexibility and stamina, which was essential to their perfected routines.

"The amount of stamina you need could be compared to sprinting for three minutes straight, but with a smile on your face," said co-captain and finance senior Amanda Burchfield.

The team agreed that pompon is a misunderstood sport because it is a unique blend of both dance and cheerleading.

"The stiffness and sharp moves of the cheerleading team, with the precision and unison of the dance team - we are our own sport," communication junior Erika Weadock said.

The tightly bonded team used their goals as motivation to earn titles, including Collegiate Champions.

"Pompon is about unity and being able to perform as one," physiology junior Stacy Luther said. "We don't have starters and we don't have star players. Every girl is essential to the team."

Jessica Dupnack



Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane

Computer science senior Chris Monosmith, media arts and tehnology freshman Jordan Ajlouni and computer science sophomore Adam Starks discuss some last minute details before presenting their game to other Spartasoft members. Their team's game was called "Save Your Brains."



Alissa Lane

After 48 hours of hard work, members of Spartasoft are ready to present their game designs. The Game Jam event was a good opportunity for freshmen to learn skills and techniques from older students.

Gamers

Compete

Saving the world, one game at a time

On Nov. 16, judging for the second Spartasoft Game Jam took place in the Communication Arts and Sciences Building. Professors of the college critiqued teams of student game programmers on whether or not their games were functional and operational.

Throughout the competition, the teams remained composed and cheerful as they showcased the talents of their members.

Spartasoft is a student organization created in 2000 to give students interested in game design a sense of belonging.

"People who are interested in video game design had no organization on campus that they could relate to," public relations junior Nicole Genaw said.

The competition's uniquely created games included "Ballz to the Wallz" and "Save your Brains. " The teams had roughly two days to completely design a game, complete with an interface, instructions and credits.

The Game Jam's theme was "saving," and teams could interpret the theme as they chose.

"The entire purpose of the competition was to bring people from different backgrounds to work collectively – just like a game is created," video game design senior Andrea Pollitt said.

Some of the participants planned to continue to develop their games to make them more advanced and to fix any issues they had during the competition.

"People from the video game design field do not create the most popular games we know alone," Pollitt said. "They need help from more than one discipline."

Anthony Harvey



JT Trejo sits still as Eric Bird and T Trejo help him put on his ceremonial porcupine roach at the North American Indigenous Student Organization Powwow. Members of the Cherokee tribe in N.C. came to the Pow Wow with their group the Awohali Singers.

Boys from the Ho-Chunk Nation play their drum and sing at NAISO's Pow Wow of Love. The boys competed with other groups during the event.

Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

Seasons

# of Love

Community shares its history and culture

Competitors danced in intricate feathered dresses to the sounds of deer hooves clattering and mallets striking drums at the 26th annual Pow Wow of Love.

Native Americans from around the state gathered to celebrate and share their culture, in an effort to "show people we are still here," criminal justice sophomore Garrett Faulk said.

"We just want to show our culture, and help to break the stereotype," Faulk said.

The pow wow featured vendors selling authentic Native American crafts, including Petoskey stone jewelry, bow and arrows and arrowhead necklaces. There were also information booths displaying facts about Native American awareness in the community, as well as singing and dancing competitions.

"For many, this is an opportunity to show people what we are," said comparative cultures and political science sophomore Marcus Winchester.

Winchester is a member of the North American Indigenous Student Organization (NAISO), the student organization that hosted the event. Created in 1972, the organization's goal is to help provide support for Native American students. According to co-founder Arnie Parish, NAISO strives for socialization and recognition.

"We wanted a place for Native [American] students to feel at home," said Parish.

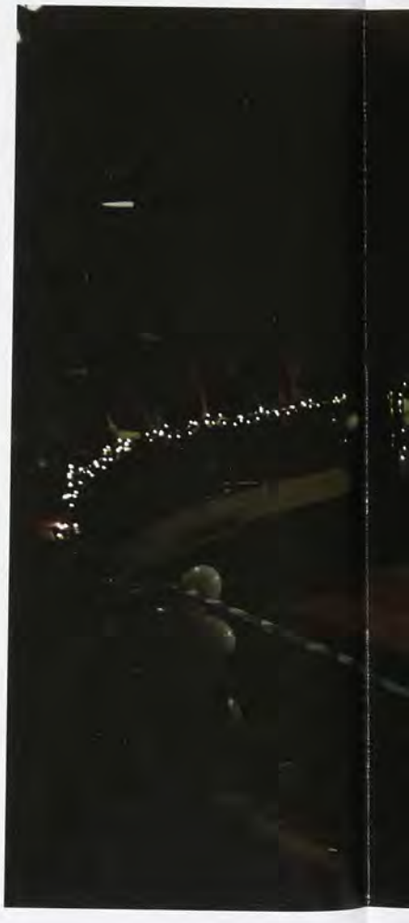
NAISO hosted monthly meetings and provided Sunday meals for the organizations members. The organization has also given scholarships, including the John R. Winchester Memorial Scholarship, to Native American students who provide outstanding help to the community.

"Sometimes it seems like people forget that we are still here," Faulk said. "It's nice when we can reward someone for helping the community, and letting the community know about us."

NAISO continues to work toward its goal of helping Native Americans, but according to the organization's advisor Pat Dyer-Deckrow, there is more.

"All you have to do is look at our mission statement," said Dyer-Deckrow. "We strive to promote education and motivate the Native [American] student community."

Aaron Miller



Molecular genetics senior Aleksandra Vilkova performs with several other women in a traditional Kazakhstani dance. There were several other group performances during the night that highlighted different cultural dances, such as those from Malaysia and Japan.



Josh Radtke

Talent from

Abroad

Students explore cultural traditions

Under the spotlights, six women dressed in ruffled gowns of velvet and white lace spun in perfect unison to traditional beats from Kazakhstan.

This was only one of the many acts performed on Nov. 14 at the McGlobe Club's International Talent Show in McDonel Hall. The show gave students the opportunity to experience different cultures and performances included Japanese rap, Malaysian dance and Chinese calligraphy.

Iqra Hussain was the first performer of the evening. Dressed in a bright green skirt and matching hijab adorned with gold sequins, she danced to a Bollywood song. Hussain wanted to convey the message of bringing people together through dance and music.

Born in Pakistan and but raised in Michigan, Hussain became involved with McGlobe because of its involvement with international students living at McDonel Hall.

"The events and programs that they hold are educational and bring people of different faiths, nationalities and cultures together," she said.

Most of the show's performances were deeply rooted in tradition, which was the foundation of the McGlobe Club. The McGlobe forum was erected to provide a place where students with a passion for learning about the international community can come together.

The seven-member executive board met once a week to plan events for students, which included weekly dinners, root beer pong games and movie nights.

"It helps to break down stereotypes because you interact with people who are different from yourself and you realize that there are many misconceptions about other countries and cultures," said Eric Dobbrastine, McGlobe Club president and park, recreation and tourism resources junior.

The McGlobe Club provided a non-threatening environment for students to interact and form new friendships with students from diverse cultural backgrounds.

Jessica Dupnack



Josh Radtke

Biology engineering junior Andy Sommerlot and English senior Alex Gregory perform at the McGlobe Talent Show. The band performed without their drummer, but still managed to amuse the crowd.



Advertising junior Nicole Rincke works to create the Jamaica trip's food sculpture. Members of the various Alternative Spring Break trips used non-perishable food items to build their towering sculptures.

South Dakota trip participants created a spider as their food sculpture. The students will travel to South Dakota to work on the Rosebud Reservation to fix up houses and work in local schools.



Eric MacKinnon

Eric MacKinnon

Collecting for a Cause

Students gather food and prepare for upcoming trips

Teams of students gathered with posters and non-perishable foods in hand for the first-ever Alternative Spring Break (ASB) Pound Party. Students who were going on an ASB trip over Spring Break were asked to bring a pound of non-perishable food to the kick-off event.

"We wanted to get people excited for the month of service that we do that leads up to spring break," elementary education senior and ASB co-chair Colleen Gitter said.

The participants were split into teams based on the location of their trip. Each team had to create a poster explaining the volunteer work they would be doing in their city, along with some of the problems the area faced. Teams had to build a sculpture symbolizing the city they'd be traveling to out of the food they brought.

ASB raised 1,364 lbs. of non-perishable food, all of which was donated to the Lansing City Rescue Mission.

"I think we were hugely successful," Gitter said. "We got people to meet with their groups, and as a giant ASB group, we got so many food donations."

ASB has historically been a group of students who dedicated their Spring Breaks to helping those in need.

"Our goal is to help create active citizens - people who make it a priority to help their community," Gitter said.

Mathematics senior and executive board member Liz Trexler said ASB looks for students who really wanted to make a difference in the world, not just over one Spring Break, but continuing on in the rest of their lives.

"We really spend an entire year preparing for these trips, [and] we start by doing activities such as the Pound Party to help out locally," Trexler said. "Then we move on to other places over Spring Break."

Trexler and Gitter agreed that ASB is a special experience that teaches lifelong lessons about giving back to your community and helping others.

"I truly believe it's a life changing experience," Gitter said. "You really see a different side of cultures and of all the issues going on in the world."

Leslie Tilson



Eric MacKinnon

The Alternative Spring Break's Pound Party challenged trip participants to bring a minimum of one pound of food to donate to the Lansing City Rescue Mission. The event generated more donations than could fit in the bins provided by the organization.

Journalism senior Jordan Barnes and apparel and textile design senior Emma Zwissler improvised during a shortage of sleds. Instead of a typical bar crawl, the Big Green decided to go on a sledding crawl as a team building activity.



Alissa Lane

Brain Freeze

Organization breaks from creative process to play in the snow

In the middle of the Frandor Shopping Center, between the superstores and chain restaurants, there was a large hill covered with fresh powder. And on Jan. 18, a group of students took advantage of this winter wonderland.

Staff members and editors of The Big Green, an online student magazine, took the day off from writing and editing to come together and have a little fun in the snow.

"We don't do a lot as a group, except our bi-weekly meetings," said Katie Sulau, social relations policy and journalism senior and editor-in-chief. "We do a lot of work via e-mail, so it is nice when we can get together."

The group published a new issue of The Big Green online at the start of every month. Each issue included four sections: Sex and Health, Arts and Culture, Global News and Campus News.

"I used to be an Arts and Culture writer," said Nicole Nguyen, an English and professional writing senior and associate editor. "I really like that The Big Green is a publication that allows you to write more creatively than other campus publications."

The Big Green covers everything from condoms to concerts, and presents the stories online with student-designed graphics and images. At staff meetings, writers come prepared with story ideas for the next issue and are usually granted the freedom to run with their ideas.

"Most of the time, you can pick your own stories," journalism sophomore Kaleigh Robiachuad said. "You write about your own topic and the stories aren't normal news. We come at campus issues with good angles."

Marissa Cumbers



Alissa Lane

Journalism and social relations and policy senior Katie Sulau and some of her fellow Big Green staff members get ready to take on the hill next to Frandor Shopping Center. Sulau is the Big Green's editor-in-chief.



Alissa Lane

Journalism senior Laura Martin, journalism junior Emily Lawler and hospitality business senior Jen Lada sit atop a hill during a sledding crawl with the Big Green. The Big Green is a student-run online magazine.



Alissa Lane

Candles are lit in memory of the lives lost in 2008 and in years past due to hatred towards the Transgender community. The emotional night was "not only to memoralize their death, but to remember why they lived," said comparitive cultures sophomore Andrea Norton.



Walking out of the

Darkness

Organization looks ahead to brighter future

The darkness could have swallowed up the members of TransAction outside the administration building on Nov. 20, but each individual held a small candle.

On this particular night, the candles did more than keep members out of the darkness; they symbolized these students' hope for transgender awareness.

TransAction organized a candlelight vigil in memory of those who have passed away due to gender-based violence and hate crimes against the transgender community. With the first heavy snow drifting from the black sky, students marched from the Union to the Administration Building to begin the ceremony.

"The LBGT [lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender] community is currently the community that comes under the most legal discrimination," said Rebecca Farnum, interdisciplinary humanities and microbiology and molecular genetics freshman. Of the LBGT groups, transgender are still the most misunderstood."

At the vigil, the group remembered the names of the 30 known transgender victims since Nov. 20, 2007, and TransAction leader and pre-veterinary senior Uri Donnett, read short descriptions of their lives.

"The list we read is by no means complete. It is only the ones that were reported," Farnum said. "We are still at the point where this is blatant hate."

After the vigil, students met for hot beverages and a discussion where students expressed sadness and pain for the victims, and stated their own fears.

"Beyond remembering, I try to remind myself that things are getting better. We're not alone," accounting senior Adison Purchase said. "But this vigil serves as a reminder of the possible outcomes. I try to take it and build courage off it."

The students in attendance expressed their belief in the importance of educating students and community members about the LBGT community.

"It's important to educate gays and straights alike," dietetics junior Justin Ford said. "We are teaching others how to be OK with themselves. I want people see us as normal members of society. I am just a guy that happens to be gay, not a gay guy."

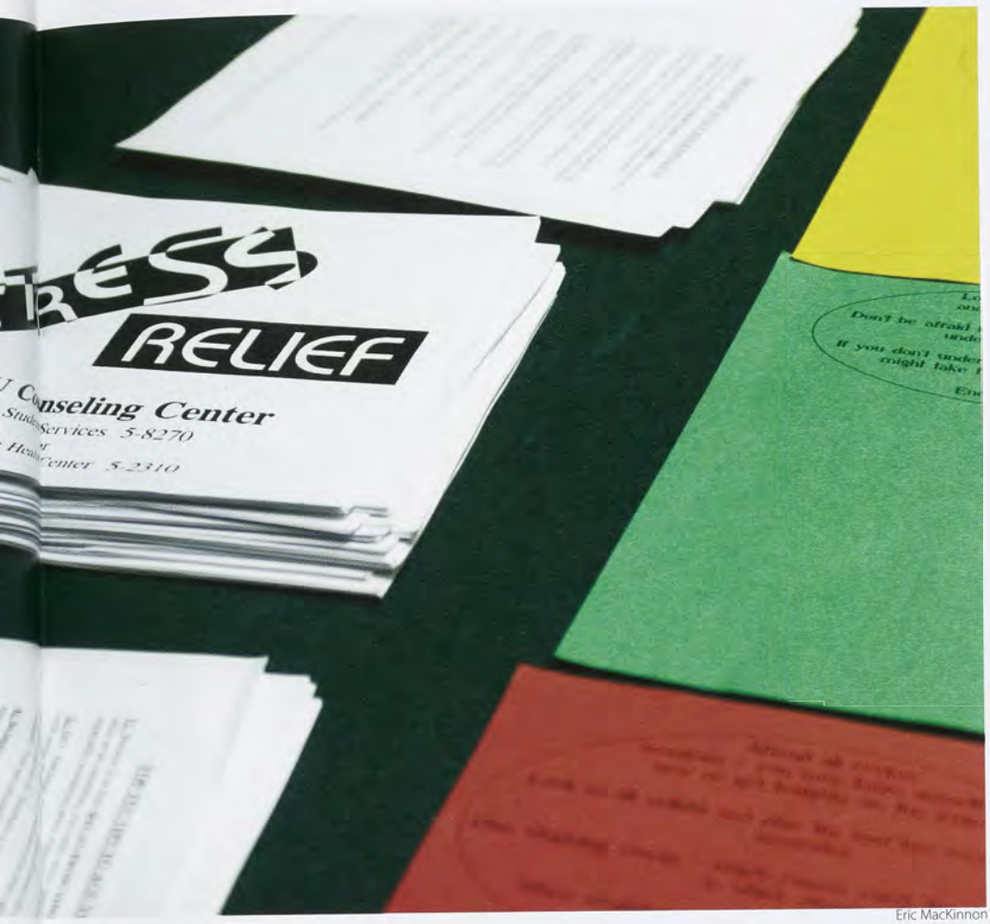
The vigil was part of TransAction's Days of Remembrance, which took place Nov. 11-20 and also included various group discussions and a guest speaker, Sylvia Guerreo, an ally of the transgender community. Throughout the year, TransAction worked with other groups in the Alliance of LGBTA Students as a safe haven for comfort and discussion.

Marissa Cumbers



Alissa Lane

Communication senior David Jaques stands in silence as a list of victims of crimes of violence, ignorance and hate is read. The candlelight vigil was sponsored by TransAction and held on the 10th Annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.



Eric MacKinnon

Stress relief packets and other flyers rest on a pool table in East Akers Hall. Students were able to attend "Melt Away The Madness," an event designed to relieve the stress of studying for finals.

Microbiology senior Kun Xing Guo gives marketing junior Jin Young Han a back massage. The Cultural and Academic Transitions Aides in Akers Hall hosted "Melt Away The Madness" during finals week as a way for students to take a break from studying.



Eric MacKinnon



Eric MacKinnon

Kinesiology junior Konrad Hsueh practices his kickboxing skills. Sheila Kelly, a kinesiology graduate student, gave lessons to students at the "Melt Away The Madness" event during finals week.

Stressful Times for
Students

Fraternity provides an outlet of relief

During finals week, students once again felt the nasty pangs of exhaustion and worry. To alleviate the anxiety that was building among those busy hitting the books, the brothers of Lambda Phi Epsilon lent a hand.

On Dec. 4, the gentlemen of Lambda Phi Epsilon, along with aides from the Office of Academic and Cultural Transition (OCAT), gave back massages and provided comfort foods to fellow students to loosen their anxieties about the approaching week of tests.

This mid-year stress reliever for students wasn't the only outreach the brothers took part in, however. Over the year, Lambda Phi Epsilon regularly made community involvement a responsibility.

"Our philanthropy organization is the Bone Marrow Association. We work hand-in-hand with them to organize a biannual bone marrow registry drive," brother and finance junior Jack Lin said.

The fraternity was established at University of California, Los Angeles, in 1981. The university chapter, however, was created in 2002 and was chartered by the chapter at the University of Michigan.

"This is an Asian interest organization. Our chapter was created on that basis," packaging junior Tony Phetdara said.

The backbone of the organization is based on brotherhood and they have crossed 10 classes of full brothers since the fraternity's beginning. The brothers pride themselves on continuously working to keep the East Lansing community in the foreground of their minds, while maintaining academic success.

"We have won awards for overall high grade point averages and we have a place on the Greek Council," Lin said.

Anthony Harvey



Journalism senior Pavel Kofman waits for his cue to start his news report on sports at the university. Besides doing the sports, Kofman was the associate producer of Focal Point.

Journalism graduate student Sarah Jaeger and journalism senior Shelly Childers tape an episode of Focal Point inside the Communication Arts and Sciences Building. Five students from Focal Point taped the episode while many others worked in supporting roles.



Eric MacKinnon

Eric MacKinnon

Lights, Camera,
Focal Point

Television news show provides hands on experience

"Quiet on set!" boomed the director as the crew scrambled to take their positions. "And five, four, three, two." At the one mark, journalism senior and anchor Shelley Childers flashed a toothy grin into the camera and said with relative ease, "This is Focal Point."

A student-run broadcast group, Focal Point consists of both Broadcasting News III students and volunteers. While students take their place in front of the camera, the younger, less experienced volunteers find themselves behind the scenes participating in the show's production.

"Focal Point gives underclassmen a head start and a chance to gain hands-on experience," group advisor Bob Gould said. "They become primed and ready to take the class later on."

Students of any major are welcome, as long as he or she has a desire to become an active crew member and the willingness to learn various tasks. Members of the group are able to try their hand at miscellaneous broadcast related skills, from running the camera, teleprompter and graphics, to switch video.

"I'm interested in broadcast and saw Focal Point as a great opportunity to get involved and gain experience behind the scenes," journalism sophomore Andrea Nelson said. "I'm able to learn how the program operates."

Members met weekly in the DMAT lab of the Communication Arts and Sciences Building and had the ability to tape shows and partake in guest lectures while in attendance.

Every two weeks, countless hours were contributed by the crew in order to produce a live newscast. According to journalism senior and producer of Focal Point Pavel Kofman, on-air personalities learn to meet deadlines and edit video footage. Students must also shoot video around campus and conduct interviews, then return to the studio to edit and begin writing scripts.

Viewers of Focal Point can choose to catch the broadcast live on Spartan TV or later on WKAR TV, after it has been edited.

"Spartan TV is still a little of an experiment," said course instructor Troy Hale. "Initially, we had no output. Now at any point, we can do a live show."

With only one other television broadcast related group on campus, Focal Point recognizes its ability to provide students with a real-life simulation of what a career in broadcasting entails.

"It fully tries to prepare the students for what a newsroom feels like and the kinds of issues and problems that arise, and what time commitments have to be made," said Kofman.

As members of Focal Point, individuals not only gain hands-on experience, but they have the capacity to test their comfort level in front of the camera.

"What I love most is the camaraderie and family atmosphere," said Kofman. "Once the camera starts rolling, it takes every single person, from the talent to the crew, to make the show successful."

Rachel Sylvester



Family community services senior Dywaine Betts Jr. takes the stage. His Omega Delta Phi brothers later joined him to perform a step.



Alissa Lane

Historic

Xplosion

Chicano community voices diversity

An array of colorful costumes flooded the stage Jan. 23. Beautifully-dressed young men and women danced the salsa, stepped and educated the audience to embrace their Latino heritage at the Latin Xplosion talent show.

Culturas de las Razas Unidas (CRU) and other organizations like Omega Delta Phi, Sigma Lambda Beta, Sigma Lambda Gamma and Native American and Hispanic Business Students (NAHBS) hosted the show to entertain as well as inform.

"I was surprised to see all the interest in the Latin community," said NAHBS secretary and accounting junior Adrian Altamira.

Señores spun señoritas in perfect circles, executing harmonious salsa moves across the stage. After each performance, the hosts briefly intervened to drop a little bit of Latino history on the audience.

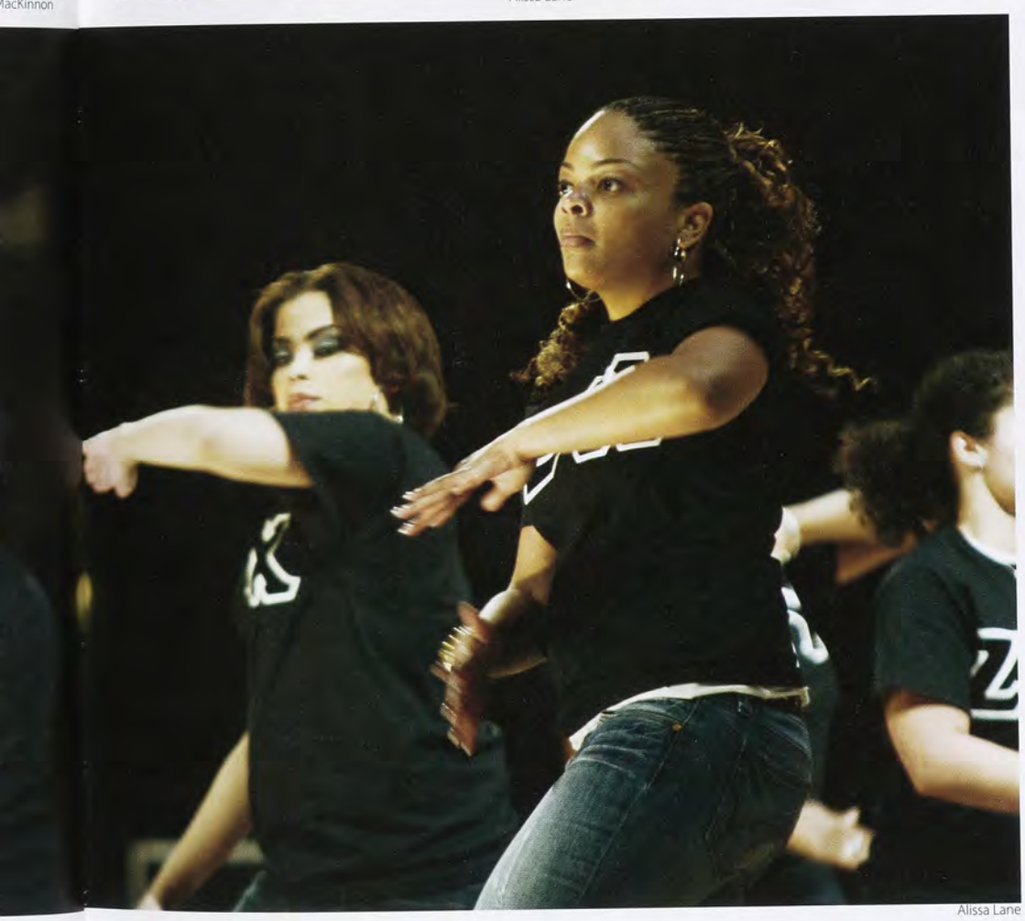
Aside from promoting the Latino community, CRU is a strong advocate for diversity on campus. Since the early 1960s, CRU has been through many transformations.

However, in 1993, CRU officially adopted its current name. It was previously known as Chicano Students for Progressive Action.

"CRU really promotes Chicano community," said NAHBS president and finance junior Nicole Herrington. "At the same time, they encourage different ethnicities to become a part of a much larger community."

At the end of the day, CRU's main objective is making students' realize they share more commonalities than they may think.

Anthony Harvey



Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane

Interdisciplinary studies in social science junior Micaela Flores steps and strolls with the phenomenol women of Delta Tau Lambda. The event, the Latin Star Awards, was a showcase of Chicano and Latino talent.

Psychology senior Cynthia Cotton performs a step with other members of her sorority. Zeta Sigma Chi was one of the many Greek organizations represented at the Latin Star Awards.



Physiology and French sophomore Katelyn Regan tries to cut tape with her teeth while setting up for Tarang 2009. Tarang 2009 was a large fundraiser for Asha for Education, and featured the dancing of the university Bangra and Raas teams.

Health studies senior Nithin Natwa dances with other attendees of Asha for Education's Tarang 2009. Natwa and the others dancing in a circle were performing a Garba dance, a traditional dance from the Gujarat region of India.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Dancing for Dollars

Students support improving children's literacy in India

Students grooved to a combination of hip-hop beats and authentic Indian music while attending the Asha Education dance Jan. 24. For one night, all students were able to become a part of the Indian community.

"Curiosity is the main thing that brought me here," public relations sophomore Weslie Iza said. "I would like to know a little more about the Indian culture while having a good time."

People donated $5 to cover their entrance fee. All the proceeds from the dance went toward funding a school in India. Each academic year, Asha for Education sponsors a school to assist with any aspect needed to boost literacy in India.

"One hundred percent of all profit made by us at all events go toward a particular school in India," said chapter president and physiology junior Sameer Bhagwan.

Even though this may appear as the main objective of Asha for Education, they have a much larger goal in mind: helping increase the literacy of underprivileged children and women, though this is only one step in aiding the socio-economic struggles in India.

Multiple times a year, Asha for Education threw similar interest-catching activities. Since its origination in 2001, Asha for Education has demonstrated selfless acts toward their cultural homeland.

"We also hold a lock-in, but our main event is a charity dinner given every April," physiology junior Sita Mohey said. "We have influential speakers that come. People from the surrounding East Lansing community come too."

Participants in the dance benefit were more than willing to learn new dances and immerse themselves in Indian culture for a night.

Anthony Harvey



Benjamin Lindstrom

Zoology sophomore Sweety Bhavsar and physiology sophomore Sharmila Kulkarni dance to contemporary Indian Bhangra music. This music combined elements of traditional Indian music and the modern influence from western artists.

Milk Money

Student artists sell for schools

A group of students dance to the song "Cotton Eye Joe" at the La Leche Winter Formal in McDonel Kiva. La Leche, led by medical technology senior Eduardo Dominguez, held the event to help nourish impoverished children in Venezuela.



Lauren Wood

Students in evening gowns and suits mingled for a good cause on Feb. 2 at McDonel Kiva to bid on donated artwork for the La Leche Fundraising Ball.

La Leche, meaning "the milk," was founded by medical technology senior Eduardo Dominguez two years ago in response to a milk scarcity in Venezuela. Their government had increased tax on some imports, bringing 50 percent of their milk supply to a halt, leading to a shortage. Since then, the shortages have been addressed by the Venezuelan government, and now La Leche pays for milk for a pre-school there.

Dominguez, a Venezuelan native, and his crew held various events throughout the year relying on the generosity of students. At the Fundraising Ball, guests were dressed formally and enjoyed a variety of food and music while bidding on artwork donated by professional and student artists.

"A lot of time people in college are going to school to learn how to make a difference in the future, but we need to make a difference now," said Jason Smith, biosystems engineering senior.

By the end of the Fundraising Ball, La Leche had raised $1,600, and by spring 2009, they hoped to be ready to give the money to the A.I.C.D. pre-school, which depends on donations to be self-sustainable.

"Ideally, we would like to take the check to the preschool in Venezuela and present it to them in person, but we are still working things out," said Skylar VanSteenis, interdisciplinary-public policy and economics senior.

Dominguez said La Leche's most profound impact is that "it will encourage the community we are helping to educate themselves about the international world and it will help create connections between institutions and people from different parts of the world."

Jessica Dupnack



Lauren Wood

Students chat over dinner during the first part of La Leche's Winter Formal Gala. The event was donation only, and all of the money raised was sent to a preschool in Venezuela to buy milk for the students.



Lauren Wood

Telecommunications sophomore Nicholas Kipa mixes a song while deejaying the Winter Formal Gala. Kipa played a variety of music with different international influences for the event, which was held by La Leche.

Boogie into Love

Red Valentine's Day Dance

Love and friendship filled the air on Feb. 8 at the eighth-annual Red Valentine's Day Dance as adults with special needs from the Lansing area came together at the Union.

Secretary of the General Management Association, Fan Yu Lin, spearheaded the dance. Volunteers from the Eli Broad College of Business organized games and icebreakers, hired a DJ and laid out Valentine's treats for everyone to enjoy.

"It is a great opportunity to get out of our business attire and get the special needs people of Lansing to interact with the students," Lin said.

The dance had about 40 volunteers and more than 30 adults with special needs in attendance. Ashley Kruger, a supply chain management junior and the community service director of the Supply Chain Management Association, was in charge of sending out invitations to local churches, community centers and schools. Kruger said she became involved because she wanted to help the special needs community of Lansing enjoy their Valentine's Day.

Some of the guests' parents accompanied them to the dance. Others came to dance and exchange gifts with their significant others. Angie Carpenter, dressed in a red satin gown, attended with her boyfriend of two weeks.

"He gave me Reese's and a really pretty rose," Carpenter said, beaming. "I love the dancing with him, so I want them to play Madonna."

The General Management Association aids students interested in business, strategic issues and people management. In addition to its academic aspects, members of the association orchestrate several philanthropy events throughout the year.

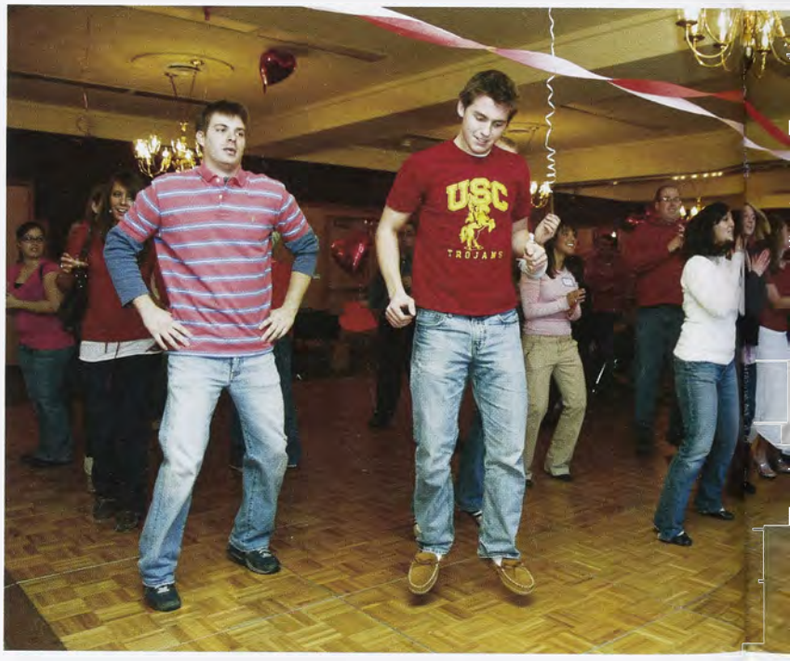
"It is really important to do community service," marketing junior Erin Boukuniewicz said. "Not only are we getting together with other groups but we are making a difference and it's fun."

Jessica Dupnack



Benjamin Lindstrom

General management senior Lindsey Baumberger dances with Lansing resident Danny Chubb. The General Management Association helped organize the Red Valentine's Day Dance to allow locals with special needs to socialize with students.



Business students dance to the Macarena at the Red Valentine's Day Dance. The students and special needs locals seemed to have enjoyed dancing together.



Megan Peters

Eastern Michigan University sophomore P.J. Ferenczjust pauses between heavy weapon fighting during the Society for Creative Anachronism's practice at the Pavilion on Feb. 4. "Everything I wear, I have to wear. It's easy to get hurt in this sport," he said about his medieval garb.

Lansing resident Jason Ealy blocks a strike from Chippewa Middle School student Elizabeth Baschal with a giant stuffed dolphin. Ealy was using the dolphin as a soft parry to deflect incoming attacks.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Revisited

Art

Group helps students learn history



Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

A member of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) puts on a glove prior to engaging in combat. Moments later, SCA members fought in a heated melee battle, pitting two teams of fencers against each other.

Every Thursday night during the academic year, one could walk into the Pavilion off of Farm Lane and see students clad in medieval armor locked in epic sword fights.

The Society for Creative Anachronism, otherwise known as the SCA, is a nationally recognized organization that is dedicated to researching and re-creating the arts and skills of pre-17th century Europe. The East Lansing chapter gathered at the Pavilion and the Union once a week to practice for upcoming events.

"We are an educational program that targets student groups to become part of a larger mix of groups and personas," said top honors and fencing instructor Jason Ely.

Ely, also known as Lucin Featherstone to the SCA, stressed that members chose their own roles based on their interests, and a main focus of the SCA was to teach the medieval virtues of chivalry and courtesy.

The group gathered at the Pavilion was broken into two groups: heavy-weaponry or fencing. Heavy-weaponry participants practiced duals using large weapons and shields, while fencing participants practiced basic Olympic style fencing techniques.

"During our duals, we hit with only enough force to make contact," Ely said. "And we participate in tournaments to show our skill and prowess."

Members of the SCA frequently recruited at events, such as Sparticipation during welcome week, trying to get new members. Participation level was at a high this year.

"I just joined this year, but I have already learned a tremendous amount," pre-medical freshman Will Dobberstein said. "I am definitely going to be a part of the society for as long as I can."

Colby Berthume

Skating

Celebration

New students get off to an slippery start

On Jan. 31, the Freshman Class Council hosted One Down, Seven to Go ice skating at Munn Ice Arena.

"We wanted to help freshmen celebrate the end of their first semester," said pre-law freshman Sydney Hawthorne, director of relations and political science. "Since it's winter, we thought ice skating would be fun. It's not just for freshmen either; everyone could come."

The event featured free open skate and free skate rental courtesy of the Freshman Class Council. The Council is a chapter of ASMSU made up of all freshmen. Their purpose is to get freshmen out on campus and involved in university events.

"At first things were slow, but it was nice to see the rink filling up with people having fun," Hawthorne said. "We had a pretty good turnout, especially since it was our first event."

Although some students came for free skating, others came to check out the ice rink.

"I felt special being able to skate on the rink that the hockey players play on," agricultural communications freshman Elizabeth Krhovsky said. "It was nice because it was free. We had a lot of fun."

Agricultural industries freshman Renee Mattek and animal science freshman Dustin Baker came skating with Krhovsky. All three heard about the event via Facebook and agreed that they had a good time skating.

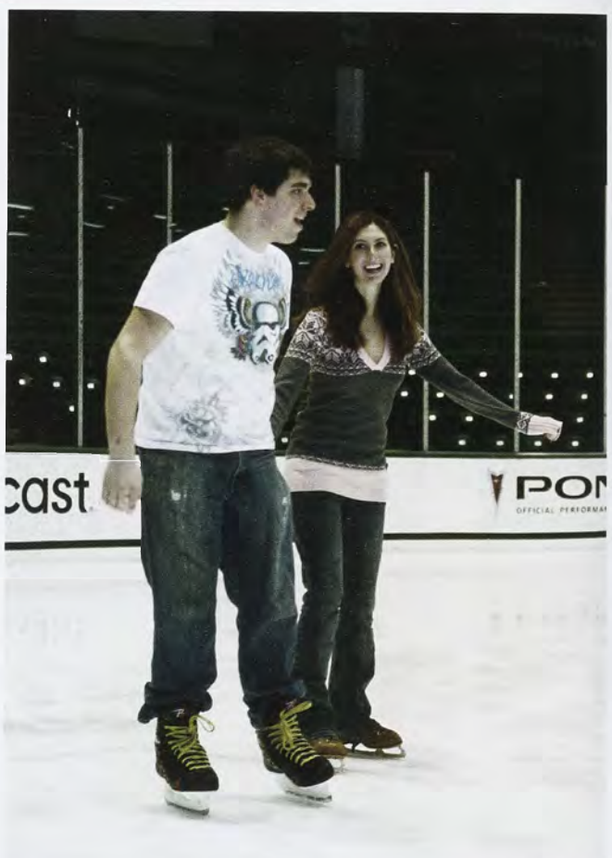
Leslie Tilson





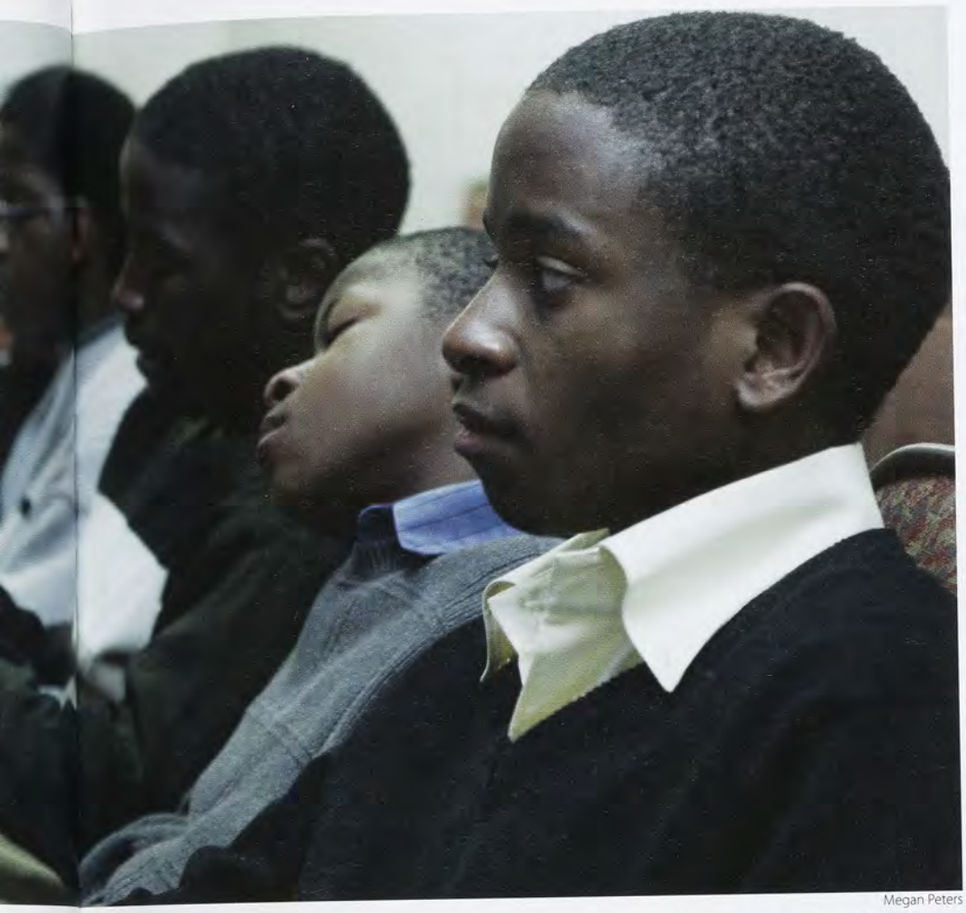
Lauren Wood

Communication freshman Ryan Dixon and packaging freshman Rodney Pease tie their skates before going out onto the ice. The skating event was free for all that attended.



Lauren Wood

Advertising freshman Lindsay Silber and premedical freshman Brandon Achtman ice skate at Munn Ice Arena. Silber and Achtman attended the event, which was held by Freshman Class Council.

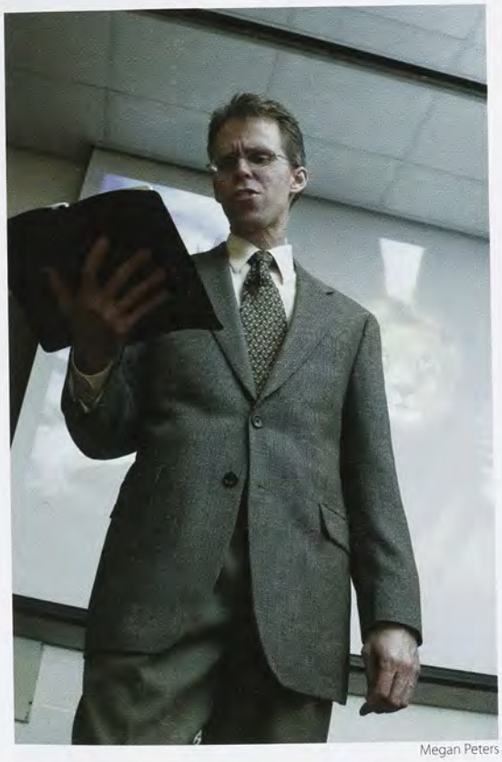


Megan Peters

Lawrence Technology student Alexander Ndovie and his cousin Weslie sit with LCC freshman Wyson Ndovie at the Adventist Student Fellowship seminar: Unlocking Prophecy Lecture. The lecture, lasting over two hours, was given by Pastor Mark Howard at Akers Hall.

Understanding
Beliefs

Organization gathers to examine the Bible



Megan Peters

During a seminar for the Adventist Student Fellowship at Akers Hall, Pastor Mark Howard preaches to the group, "You think the iPhone's the right thing to get? Think about eternity!" Pastor Howard has been with the Coldwater Seventh-Day Adventist Church for 12 years, serving as the pastor for eight of those years.

"Who is the anti-Christ?" a man asked as he flipped through the gold-leafed pages of a Bible and wandered toward the audience seated in Akers Hall.

On Feb. 6, students and community members gathered to listen to guest lecturer Pastor Mark Howard speak on the topic of "The Anti-Christ Unmasked." The lecture was part of a weeklong series hosted by the Adventist Student Fellowship (ASF). Lectures throughout the week were all centered on matters of prophecy.

ASF is a student organization branching from the Seventh Day Adventist Church in East Lansing. Members gather to study the Bible, attend retreats across the Midwest and socialize with fellow followers of their faith.

"There are a lot of misconceptions with Christ," mechanical engineering senior Marcus Peters said. "What this does is provide biblical evidence. The Bible is not just any regular book. It should be given serious consideration."

In their regular Bible studies, including Wednesdays with Jesus and Friday Night Vespers, members attempt to understand the written words in the Bible and interpret how they were meant to be carried out.

ASF members attended the Adventist General Youth Conference in San Jose, Calif. and various retreats with students from colleges across the nation, including retreats in Grayling and Detroit, Mich.

"We learn more about what we believe," said Michelle Odinma, ASF president and elementary education junior. "Many Christians believe that Jesus is coming again, and we all want to be prepared."

Since 2006, ASF has hosted a weeklong lecture series every semester on difficult topics dealing with faith. In past semesters, students have brought in speakers to speak on topics including difficult questions about God, living without fear and answering the "why" questions.

"I realized that one day all of this will fade away," said Renee Edwards, ASF secretary and interior design junior. "But something will be there for eternity."

Marissa Cumbers

Hitting the High Notes

A cappella group makes more than music

They cleared their throats and the beat dropped. German senior Claudia Molter stepped to the front of the tiny room and counted to four. With that, Molter began to belt out the pop oldie "Why Do Fools Fall In Love?" with her friends on back-up vocals.

"It is really a great experience to perform with a group of women with strong voices," international relations senior Lillian Collins said. "Music is a really important part of all the girls in the group, and we really bond."

Ladies First is the only all-female a cappella group on campus. The women performed various gigs throughout the year, including their biannual Ladies First concerts. The group also performed in Acapalooza and Acatoberfest; shows that featured all the campus a cappella groups together. Along with their main performances, the group performed in numerous charity shows for student organizations.

"Male groups dominate a cappella," said Laura Grindem, Ladies First vice president and history and secondary education junior. "We are holding down the power with our low notes."

During the academic year, Ladies First released its first studio-recorded album in about 10 years, according to Claire Gibbons, Ladies First president and music education senior.

The album was recorded throughout the year and sold at the Ladies First spring concert. The album included a variety of pop hits such as "Torn" by Natalie Imbruglia and "Love Song" by Sara Bareilles.

"I don't think a lot of people get the experience to be in the recording studio," Gibbons said. "You can really, really hear the music in the studio, which has really helped our performances."

Ladies First met three times a week to exercise their vocals and prepare for upcoming gigs, but don't be fooled - these women were not all business. They were all close friends and before starting each practice, they discussed the week's events in their personal lives.

"It's my stress reliever," Grindem said. "It is feeding my soul. If I didn't have music, my life wouldn't be complete."

Marissa Cumbers





Lauren Wood

Pre-medical freshman Jennifer Thielen and studio art senior Shelly Banaszak concentrate on their music while singing at their practice for the Ladies First a capella group. Ladies First remains the only all-women a cappella group on campus.



Lauren Wood

Music education senior and Ladies First president Claire Gibbons leads practice by playing the piano to each song. Gibbons helped choose the songs the groups practiced, which included songs like "Happy Ending" by Mika and "God Only Knows" by The Beach Boys.



Matthew Mikus

Sigma Alpha sisters gather at their house on Michigan Avenue for their hot cocoa social. The sorority was founded in 1978 at Ohio State University as an alternative to the social greek sorority system.

Animal sciences junior Jessica Leyser tastes a few marshmallows at the Sigma Alpha hot cocoa social. Sisters met new recruits and played ice-breaker games, where participants divided into groups based on group preferences.



Matthew Mikus



Matthew Mikus

Horticulture senior Erica Rinder, parks, recreation and tourism resources senior Kristin Glovac and crop and soil sciences senior Alyson Wielfaert mix a cup of hot cocoa at the Sigma Alpha hot cocoa social. Pledges spent time meeting members of Sigma Alpha, the women's agriculture sorority.

A Foundation of

Professionalism

Women learn more about one another

Sigma Alpha, the university's professional agricultural sorority, hosted a meet-and-greet during spring rush for interested women to catch a glimpse of what the sorority had to offer.

"We want these girls (rushes) to see we are unique," said Sigma Alpha's public relations chair and agribusiness management junior Megan Ross. "We are professional, [and] besides, the social aspect helps us gain real life experience."

According to chapter president and park, recreation and tourism resources senior Kristin Glovac, the sorority was founded on professionalism.

"We are looking for extra curricular activities to get involved in, and to give the girls more opportunities," she said.

One of those activities is the sorority's monthly professional development day. During that day, the sorority holds a meeting that includes contacting companies in the women's field of interest and discussing how to properly dress for the job.

At the meet-and-greet, Glovac started an ice-breaker game called "sort and mingle." The goal of the game was to have rushes interact with the sorority's members and learn about one another.

After the meet-and-greet, the chapter held an informational session and a preference night in order to find out more about the pledges.

Sigma Alpha was originally founded in 1979. In the 1980s, the university's chapter closed until 1990 when it regained its chartership. Throughout the sorority's history, it has maintained its founding principles: scholarship, leadership, sisterhood and fellowship.

Aaron Miller

Dinner is Served,

Ladies

Appreciating the community, one woman at a time

Chilled salads with cherries, wheat rolls with butter and a choice of three entrées were on the dinner menu Feb. 12 at the Kellogg Center. The Women's Appreciation Dinner was hosted by Sigma Lambda Beta in honor of the women that support their organization.

Women from their sister sorority, Sigma Lambda Gamma, as well as others from Latino and minority organizations, attended the dinner to get recognized for their accomplishments throughout the year. Gift cards were raffled off and carnations were given out to each woman in the room, along with a short explanation of what each woman represented.

"I believe it is a way for them as a fraternity to get the word out about their organization and to show their appreciation to the women they work with," said international relations and social relations in policy junior Gabriela Alcazar.

Many of the people involved in the dinner belonged to Culturas de las Razas Unidas (CRU), an umbrella group that encompasses all the Latino groups on campus. All of these groups were heavily involved with minority awareness and giving back to the community.

"It represents people of distinction who have been able to uphold our five principles of academics: community service, cultural awareness, morals and ethics, and social interaction," Jessica Arias, family community services junior, said.

Sigma Lambda Beta is an unofficial brotherhood that started in 1996 after branching off of the national founding of the largest Latino-based multicultural membership fraternity. Most of the members are Latino, but they embrace other cultures interested in their organization. Sigma Lambda Beta was created in order to address some of the problems facing Latinos, such as the deterioration of college organizations that were supposed to help the Latino community.

Their mission is to ensure the opportunities available for all people and their members must be ready to grow not only as a person, but also as a brother of the fraternity and a member of their community.

Jessica Dupnack



Benjamin Lindstrom

Criminal justice junior Heriberto Martinez draws a ticket for the raffle while physiology and human biology pre-medical alumnus Marcus Laize holds a pitcher containing the tickets at the Sigma Lambda Beta Women's Appreciation Dinner. Laize oversaw the proceedings, reading out the contributions of the women being recognized at the dinner.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Physiology and human biology pre-medical alumnus Marcus Laize congratulates food science senior and Sigma Lambda Gamma chapter president Adrienne Hendrix on winning the raffle at the Sigma Lambda Beta Women's Appreciation Dinner. The carnations were given out to all of the women recognized at the dinner.



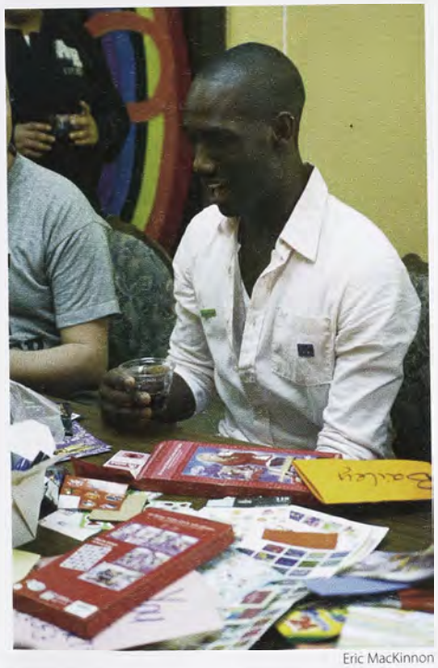
Allyssa Bostick

English senior Patrick Gaulier writes messages on a coo-tie catcher. Members of RING addressed Valentine cards and made paper chains, one displaying the message, "May your day be full of rainbows."

Communication senior David Laques, East Asian history junior Chris Walsh and sociology junior Caleb Loomis construct Valentine's Day cards for other RING members. RING members also played board games and mingled with each other.



Eric MacKinnon



Eric MacKinnon

Dietetics junior Justin Ford talks with other RING members while they create Valentine's Day cards for other members. RING stands for Respecting Individuals on Neutral Grounds.

Identity and

Camaraderie

Students find acceptance within LGBT community

People of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community sometimes feel like they have a hard time finding somewhere that they can feel comfortable. Fortunately for these people, the university makes this search a little easier.

One such place is the group Representing Individuals on Neutral Grounds (RING).

"People can just be themselves," studio art junior Chad Powell said of RING. "People who are not a part of the LGBT community sometimes join the weekly meeting too."

"We have discussions about gay rights, politics, parenting and domestic violence in the LBGT community," Powell said.

Some LGBT students say they feel they are denied basic rights, and RING also seeks to rectify this.

"There are places on campus that try to help students with the issues they may be facing," said social work freshman Hannah Cohen. "But it's not the same. Students who are a part of the LBGT specifically have groups on campus that can relate more with the struggles they may be facing."

Though RING is geared more toward members of the LGBT community, it welcomes anyone form any walk of life.

"I am not even a part of the LGBT community, but I am still willing to give my perspective about some of the issues that are brought up during discussions," Residential College of Arts and Humanities freshman Amanda Sherman said.

Students who may be struggling with their sexual identity and who may feel uncomfortable with expressing their issues with someone outside of the LBGT community have a place that is more than willing to help them out.

Anthony Harvey



Interdisciplinary studies in social science and human resources senior Kyle Hurtt poses while models Demetrius Muriel and Joshua McDuffie walk down the runway. The models were part of the Red Alert fashion show, which raised money for the Lansing Area AIDS Network.

Lauren Wood

Anthropology senior Caitlin Bauer poses after strutting down the runway for her first modeling experience. She said that walking the stage was like a little girl playing dress up because she could be anyone she wanted to be.



Megan Peters

Dream,

Think, Do

Organization looks ahead to brighter future

Lights dimmed and audience anticipation rose as Radiating Excellence in All Areas of Life (REAAL) hosted its second annual AIDS benefit fashion show, Red Alert.

After a short informational video, the show's 20 models attempted their best strut down the multi-colored catwalk. Located in the RCAH theater, the benefit show aimed to raise both money and awareness for the disease, with all proceeds donated to the Lansing Area AIDS Network. With the show's level of organization and attention to detail, it was evident that plenty of effort was necessary for the final production.

"This week alone I've put in over 30 hours," said elementary education sophomore and model Shawntel Williams.

REAAL is a professional development group for on-campus minority women created by senior Kristian Grant in October 2006. According to REAAL's creative director Megan Garret, the motivational women's group addresses real issues and focuses on providing members with beneficial tools for future use.

"REAAL pushes them to become critical thinkers and compassionate people," said Garret, a chemistry and anthropology senior. "All women participating in REAAL benefit through being able to find the support they need in order to succeed and be a heavy hitter in any area they choose."

With the organization's primary goal of creating a strong network of women, the group hopes to build members' resumes through both social activities and community involvement. Through women's symposiums, mentoring programs, monthly employment mixers and question and answer sessions at the counseling center, the women have the capability to actively strive towards their goal.

"Our tag line is 'Dream. Think. Do.' So we have had programs on the importance of dreaming and making those dreams a reality as well," Garrett said. "If you name it, we've done it and added our own twist."

With an assortment of other women's groups on campus, REAAL distinguishes itself from others with their focus on developing social and professional individuals. With roughly 25 members, the progressive group is active both on and off campus and prides itself with the ability of its members to think outside of the box.

"We believe strongly in the importance of giving back to the communities that helped form us and in having a hand in the formation of those coming after us," Grant said. "Self-empowerment, political awareness and upholding a standard driven by excellence are all goals we as faculty and members continuously pursue."

Rachel Sylvester

Fundraising for the

Future

Team looks ahead at competition

Each year the Triathlon Club hosts races and triathlons to fundraise for the team.

On Feb. 15, the team hosted the Heart Throb 5K to raise money to send 14 team members to Texas for Nationals.

The team competes in the Mid-West Collegiate Triathlon Conference.

Although the conference has only been around for two years, the Spartans have already left their mark.

"We won our first year in the conference," mechanical engineering and journalism senior Eric Tingwall said. "We have not gotten results for last season yet, but we will find out at Nationals in April."

The club consists of about 65 members who compete in the triathlons of their choice. A typical triathlon consists of a 1.5 km swim, 40 km bike ride, and a 10 km run.

"We practice five days a week," media arts and technology freshman Eric Musser said. "We practice one event each practice. Most of our competitions are not until the summer, so we just train until it gets closer."

The club has only been around for less than a decade, but is one of the largest co-ed triathlon teams in the conference.

"We are always trying to find out when the club got started," Tingwall said. "We know it has been around for about eight years, and before that there were small groups of students who competed under MSU's name."

However, members say the large number of team members does not compromise the closeness of the team.

"There's a ton of camaraderie," said mathematics sophomore Erica Shugart. "We are all really close. There is always someone to work out with. Fourteen of us even live together."

Leslie Tilson



Eric MacKinnon

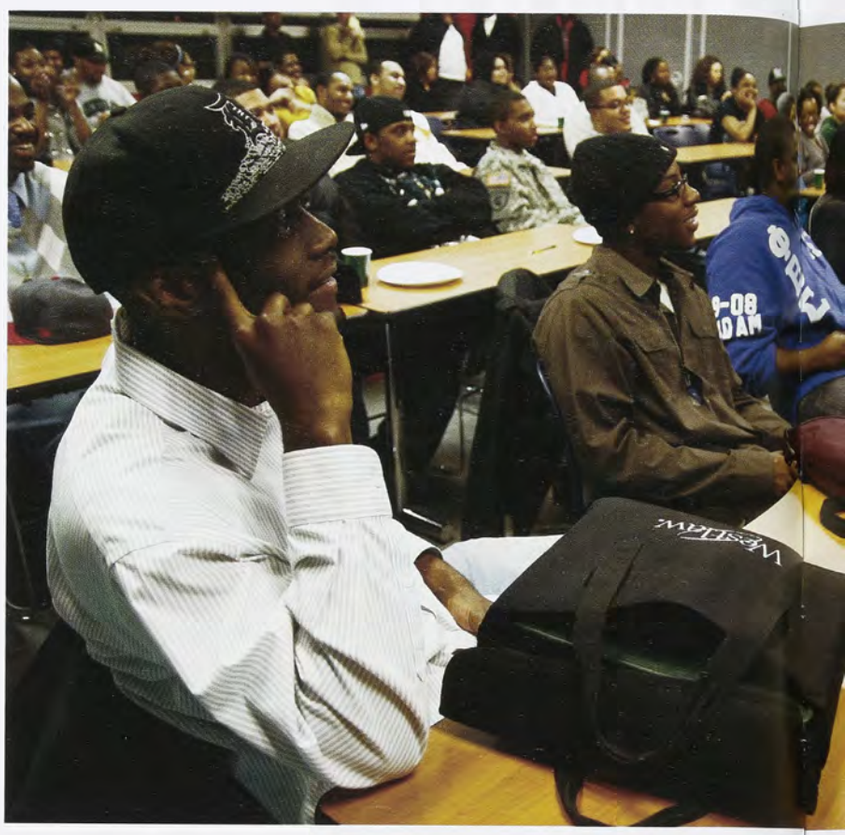
East Lansing resident BJ Pankow (137) and Haslett resident Kyle Johnson (62) run along the Red Cedar River near Bessey Hall. The 5K race started on Farm Lane and took runners on a tour of campus from Bogue Street to Harrison Avenue.



Megan Peters

Sarah Riley from Mears, Mich., and older sister Jessica Sowulewski of Blissfield, Mich., stretch their muscles before the Heart Throb 5K, a fundraising race for the Triathalon Team. The sisters ran on a two-person team and tried to train together, despite the distance in locality.

Law student Maurice Davis watches the Scarification presentation that was held by members of the fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha. The event talked about different types of scarification, like gauging, branding and tattooing.



Brand of Brothers

Fraternity helps community through service

Acting as more than just a close-knit group of guys, the members of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity actively involved themselves with the local community.

The fraternity hosted weekly informational seminars open to the general public throughout the year.

"I feel like [the meetings] benefit the MSU community as a whole," said accounting junior and assistant district director of the fraternity Will Sims. "It really broadens peoples' horizons."

On Feb. 17, however, the fraternity held a different type of informational event.

The room was at capacity with people interested in learning about a type of tattooing called scarification.

Scarification is a type of body art that deals with the skin being branded, which results in a scar being left on the body. Many of the brothers showed off their brands of the fraternity's letters to the audience. They chose this form of body art to express their loyalty.

"We don't promote or encourage it, we just think it is another way of people showing their allegiance to a group," Sims said.

Brothers didn't want their involvement with the fraternity defined by a brand, though. They prided themselves on their participation in several community service events throughout the city of Lansing, including working as mentors to teenagers through the Turning Points program.

The fraternity requires all members to hold a GPA of 2.5 and to stay involved with the community.

"We try to keep people informed about the issues in the black community," Sims said. "We like to think of ourselves as an African-American student services."

Colby Berthume



Lauren Wood

Political science and pre-law sophomore Victor Robinson shows his brand to the audience that gathered for his fraternity's event, Scarification. Robsinson and others displayed their brands to demonstrate their loyalty and dedication to their group.

Working Now for the Future

Group holds discussion about diversity and the future of students



Lauren Wood

Students, faculty and corporate executives gathered at the Second Annual Forum: The Need for Diversity in STEM Fields lecture to discuss issues concerning the inclusion of all students in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

"The lecture, held in part by the American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE), aims at determining how to reverse the declining numbers of underrepresented domestic students in STEM majors," said Ricky Caldwell Jr., the university's AABE student chapter president. The event also pointed out that the U.S. is falling behind other nations, like China, in STEM fields and technological advances in those fields.

"The name of this lecture used to be 'Bridging the Gap,' but now we need to call it 'Bridging the Canyon,'" said Director of the Diversity Programs Office Theodore Caldwell.

To start off the lecture, Caldwell presented a video, which stated, "The system has failed you; I have failed you." After the video, the event's panel asked the audience if the system was indeed failing university students. The panel also asked questions dealing with problems in diversity in STEM fields and how to prepare students for professions that are just now being created. The questions dealt with issues that AABE has been working with since it started.

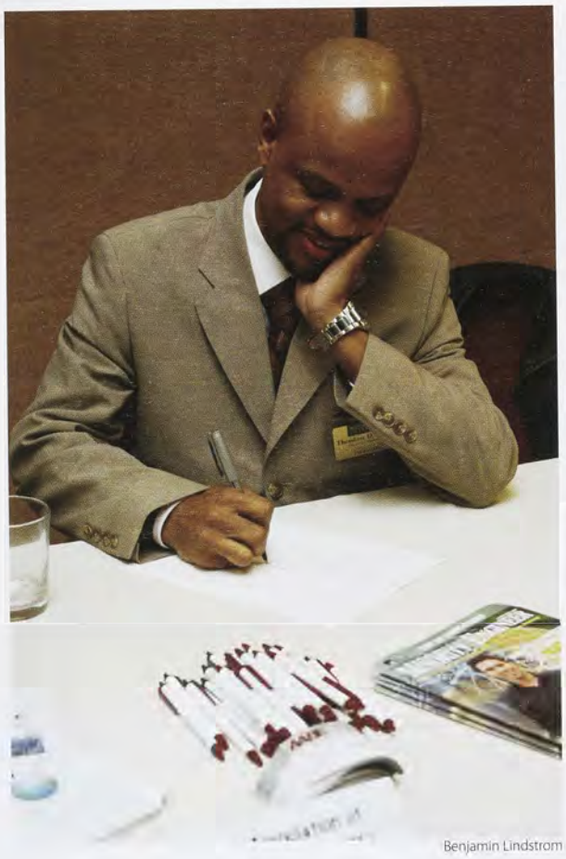
The university's AABE chapter was founded in 2001. The chapter's goals are to educate students about the energy industry and to encourage black students to pursue careers in energy-related fields, as well as provide scholarships and other financial aid for such students.

The AABE is a national association of energy professionals dedicated to ensuring the input of blacks and other minorities into the discussions and developments of energy policies regulations, research and development technologies and environmental issues, according to Caldwell.

"The Michigan State branch is actually only one of four student chapters on campuses in the United States," said Caldwell. AABE specializes in helping black students advance in STEM fields through internships and entry-level job opportunities.

Each year, AABE creates a different topic for the lecture. Next year is expected to focus on women in the STEM fields, according to Caldwell.

Aaron Miller



Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

Agricultural economics graduate student and Program Manager of the Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Marcus Coleman converses with Lyman Briggs Director of Academic Affairs Jonelle Golding. Many different organizations were present at the Second Annual Forum: The Need for Diversity in STEM Fields.

Director of the Diversity Programs Office Theodore D. Caldwell smiles as he takes some final notesbefore the start of the presentation at the Second Annual Forum: The Need for Diversity in STEM Fields. Caldwell opened the proceedings at the forum.

An Arabian Night

Students experience tratitional Arabic culture

Club Rush was transformed into an Arabic dance party Feb. 19, at the Arab Cultural Society's (ACS) fourth-annual Hafla.

The Hafla, meaning "party," featured music and a buffet filled with Arabic delicacies including the dessert baklava, shish kebobs and kafta. Emad and Fransis Batayeh, an authentic Arabic band, got students off their feet to perform an Arabic cultural dance called dabekh.

"The whole night was a great time," general management sophomore John Bazzi said. "It was special to celebrate Arabic culture at MSU."

Although the ACS threw Hafla to entertain university students, its main purpose was to educate and share Arabic culture, according to Arab Cultural Society chairperson Ruba Farah.

"[We threw this] just to share and have everyone experience our culture; the dancing, the food and the passion," Farah said.

Farah arrived at Club Rush at 12:30 p.m. the day of Hafla to decorate the club with cultural idioms. Each table was covered with elegant black and white clothes and a glass vase filled with sand and flags from various Arabic nations on top of them.

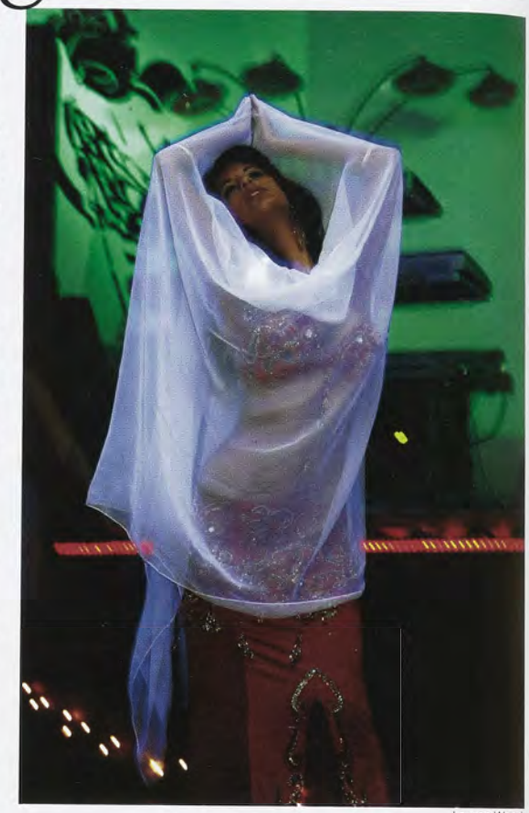
The night was highlighted by a performance from Ameera the Belly Dancer. Ameera's traditional Arabic dance routine enthralled the audience, capturing everyone's attention.

"Ameera [was] definitely the most anticipated part of the night," said Farah.

The ACS was originally founded as an activist group, according to Farah. The organization's original purpose was to push for Arabic language classes at the university. After accomplishing those goals, it gradually faded until passionate students started to make the organization grow throughout the last four years.

As guests entered the club, they were able to purchase raffle tickets for gift bags, including the grand prize of a hookah and a starter kit. All proceeds from the purchase of raffle tickets went to the American Red Cross (ARC) fund for the Gaza Strip. The ARC, in turn, used the money to help injured civilians in the Gaza Strip without taking any political sides.

Aaron Miller



Ameera the Belly Dancer poses during her performance. Ameera performed at the Arab Cultural Society's Hafla event, which included different aspects of Arabic culture.

Lauren Wood



Lauren Wood

A group of people dance along to the live music performed by Emad and Fransis Batayeh at the Hafla held by the Arab Cultural Society. Along with the live band, the Hafla offered traditional food, dancing, a prize raffle and a bellly dancer.



Ameera the Belly Dancer performs a traditional Arabic dance at the Arab Cultural Society's fourth annual Hafla. The crowd watched Ameera during a break from the live music and dancing at the event.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Social work senior Alicia Diebold pauses while eating her food at Pablo's Restaurant for the International Engagement Volunteers (IEV) fundraiser. "The purpose [of the IEV] shall be to faciliate fundraising opportunities to carry out international engagement projects in developing countries," according to its Web site.

Members of the International Engagement Volunteers eat at Pablo's Restaurant for a fundraiser. The fundraiser was held to raise money for community projects in Mexico.



Benjamin Lindstrom



Lauren Wood

Trip for

Charity

Students organize event to help those in need

The International Engagement Volunteers raised money for humanitarian purposes at Pablo's Restaurant in Old Town Lansing, in an effort to help impoverished people in Mexico.

"We want to help out the communities and the children that live in run-down communities," hospitality business freshman Efrain Segovia said.

Segovia and 119 other university students used the proceeds they raised to buy maintenance equipment and other supplies for their Spring Break Study Abroad trip to Mexico. The students went to the cities of Cuernavaca, Puebla and Merida.

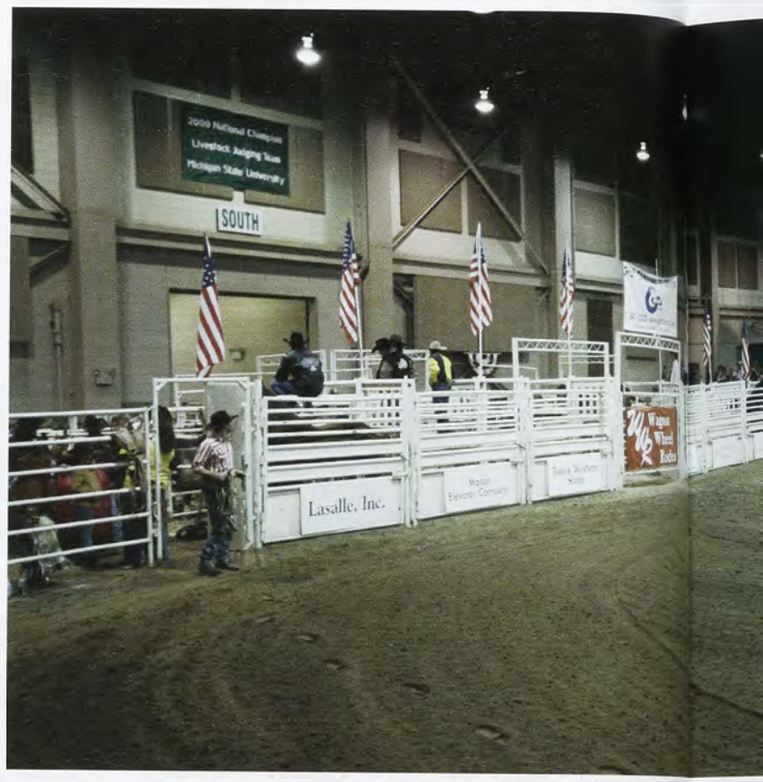
One group of 40 students went to each location to work with a specific agencies .according to Professor of Community Agriculture Recreation Resource Studies Richard Paulsen.

"Each group works with an agency, like the Salvation Army, and does whatever work the agency needs help with," said Paulsen. Students from Paulsen's International Engagement in Mexico class organized the fundraiser, choosing Pablo's Restaurant because of the owner's affiliation with one of the cities the students visited.

"The owner of the restaurant is actually from Puebla, one of the cities we are working in," said Social Work Senior Alicia Diebold. "It just made sense as the perfect location to fundraise."

For every customer that came in Feb. 18, the International Engagement Volunteers received 20 percent of the customer's bill, according to Diebold. The group also held a fundraiser earlier in the year at Marvel Lanes Bowling Alley to help raise money for their trip.

Aaron Miller



The International Professional Rodeo Association hosted its 40th rodeo at the Pavilion. Members of the Rodeo Club help run the rodeo.

Grabbing the Reins

Club puts in a years worth of preparations for 40th anniversary

The Pavilion was filled with people dressed in their cowboy boots and hats on Feb. 20 for the 40th annual Spartan Stampede.

The Rodeo Club has been hosting the rodeo since 1969, when the club was started.

"The biggest thing the club does is the Spartan Stampede," said Nicole Phillips, senior crop and soil sciences and animal science and club vice president. "We prepare for it all year. As soon as we tear down this year, we will start preparing for next year."

The Spartan Stampede is part of the International Professional Rodeo Association (IPRA). In a typical IPRA rodeo, riders participate in bareback riding, team roping, saddle bronc, calf roping, barrel racing, bull riding and steer wrestling.

In addition to the traditional rodeo events, the Spartan Stampede is also where the MSU Rodeo Queen is crowned.

"The rodeo queen has been a part of the sport for years," Phillips said. "She represents who we are and what we stand for. [She is] judged on knowledge of the sport, the way the represent the sport, [her] personality and the way [she] handles [her] horse."

The planning of the events and the coordination of the queen competition are key elements in the planning of the rodeo.

The club's 25 members range from people who compete in rodeos to those who know nothing about the rodeo, but are eager to learn.

"It doesn't take experience to be involved with the rodeo," Phillips said. "It just takes the desire to learn. We have a variety of people and we have lots of fun getting together learning about and teaching the sport of rodeo."

Adviser, Brian Nielson, has been with the club for the past 12 years.

"I'm amazed by our club members," Nielson said. "Not that many of them rodeo, but they are very dedicated. I never fully understood why, but they love the sport."

Although some of the club members are actively involved in rodeo, the club does not have an official rodeo team.

"It varies by year," Nielson said. "There have been many years where we have had a team. Traveling is extensive, so it makes it difficult. We don't push members to rodeo. We have a lot of young members, so next year we will have a competition team."

As the club continues to grow, members say, their involvement in the community will as well. "It's a hardworking bunch of individuals," Nielson said. "I am really proud of them and all the things they do in the community."

Leslie Tilson



Eric MacKinnon

An International Professional Rodeo Association rider competes in the barrel racing event. Riders and horses have to make a clover pattern without hitting any of the three barrels.



Eric MacKinnon

Fun, Love and

Harmony

Air filled with songs and laughter

The Spartan Dischords, like Cupid, shot an arrow through the audience's heart and swayed them to reminiscence about past and present passions.

The Dischords' bow was taughtly drawn back by their powerful voices, and their arsenal of arrows included love songs like Chris Brown's "With You."

"We like to have fun when we perform," said Residential College of Arts and Humanities freshman Peter Root-Wiley. "Our main goal is to entertain, while giving the music its credentials."

To add to the spirit of Valentine's Day, they added a special ingredient to the show, special guest from Indiana University, Ladies First, an all-female a capella group.

The Spartan Dischords have a unique initiation process, making them unlike any other a capella group around campus.

"When guys who are interested in joining the Spartan Dischords are scheduled auditions, we require them to sing a song and tell a joke," Spartan Dischords president Max Schurig said. "Most of the guys who are in the Dischords are in the Honors College, and none of us are music majors."

This group of talented young gentleman are not only musically inclined, but they are also intelligent. Aside from their gut-wrenching humor, they have altruistic concerns as well.

"All of the proceeds from this concert go toward the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life," Schurig said.

Originality is something the Dischords hold important. If they are performing for charities, prominent balls or just for fun, the Dischords make sure they are a fine blend of harmony and humor.

Anthony Harvey



Eric MacKinnon

Bio-engineering senior Michael Wiederoder holds the American flag while arts and humanities freshman Peter Root-Wiley addresses the crowd at Fairchild Theatre. Root-Wiley and Wiederoder successfully got the whole crowd to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.



Eric MacKinnon

The men of the Spartan Dischords perform during their Guns and Roses show. The Indiana University's Ladies First made two guest appearances during the show at Fairchild Theatre.



Finance freshman Michelle Rubio makes her purchase from international studies and special education senior Laura Sologuren-Sanchez. Sologuren-Sanchez is the president of Latinos on the Move and said she was "very impressed and proud to see the progress in [her] group."

Criminal justice junior Paulina Rosorio prepares choclate-filled roses for a Latinos on the Move fundraiser. The fund-raiser helped to raise money to build a playground in Mexico.



Alissa Lane

Money on the Move

Group raises funds to build playground in Mexico

For a relatively new organization, Latinos on the Move isn't short of projects to keep their group on campus busy.

"We have been around since 2007, and have already participated in a great amount of community service," geography junior Elena Rosas said.

Latinos on the Move is an organization which was formed to raise funds to build infrastructures in Latin America.

On Feb. 12 and 13, the group sold Hershey Kiss roses for Valentine's Day, along with Latin American arts and crafts to raise funds for the group.

"We are raising money to go to Mexico on Spring Break," group president Laura Sologuren-Sanchez said. "On our trip to Mexico, we will be building a playground, along with some other community service projects."

Along with the rose sale, Latinos on the Move hosted a salsa dance to raise money for the trip.

The rose sale was the group's third major project since its incarnation. The initial project involved building a soccer field in Cochabamba, Bolivia, and the building of an ecological playground in Agua Prieta, Mexico followed.

Latinos on the Move financial advisor Carmen Rosas said they do their best to make everyone aware of the group.

"It is all about getting our name out there and making people aware of what it is we do," Rosas said.

Colby Berthume



Alissa Lane

Finance freshman Michelle Rubio looks through the items for purchase at the Latinos on the Move Rose sale. The assortment included choclate-filled roses and keepsakes from Bolivia.

Selling Like a Pro



Alissa Lane

Learning from professionals in the field

"I love the ever-changing business world of retail," retail and marketing senior Kathrine Zehnder said. "There is always something interesting and exciting to learn."

Every month, the Retailing Student Association (RSA) meets over pizza and pop to listen to speakers in a plethora of retail fields.

"We try to get a variety of speakers to come speak for us to give us different perspectives of possible careers for our members," said the RSA president Zehnder. "We also try to get speakers that are looking to hire for internships and full-time careers."

On Feb. 17, Kristen Fentner, store manager of the Okemos women's business casual store The Limited, gave RSA a colorful presentation about her career.

"Most people don't like working at the store level, but I do because I am a people person and I like to see all of the work from the allocators down to the store level," Fentner said.

RSA appeals to students who are involved in all aspects of retail - from corporate retail buyers to district managers of retail chains. Retailing freshman Janessa Eadeh said she heard about the club and knew it was the place to be to contact certain stores for internship and career opportunities.

At every meeting and fundraising event, the students were awarded points. They were working toward earning a spot on the New York City and Chicago trips that RSA sponsored throughout the year. To raise money for these trips and their speakers, RSA had frequent fundraisers at restaurants.

"I have really enjoyed my two years of leading the association," Zehnder said. "I hope that others have been given the opportunity to learn from the speakers, narrow down a career path and had the opportunity of networking with retailing professionals."

Jessica Dupnack



Megan Peters

Store manager of The Limited Kristen Pfaendther talks to the Retailing Student Association. "It's a self-sustaining industry to a point, but it's definitely not something that's gonna die out," she said about retailing and the economy.



Megan Peters

Retailing senior Betsy Brochert pays attention to the guest lecturer for the Retailing Student Association (RSA) at Berkey Hall. RSA helps students develop the skills and knowlege to gain executive positions in retailing.

Graduate student Ben Rickert blocks the ball for his goalie, Lansing Community College student Ben Larson. Ricker and Larson created a human wall in defense of their goal at Munn Ice Arena.

Modernizing

Worship

Faith-based group kicks back to have some fun

Broomball, a hockey-like sport played with a ball and broom, united students from Epic at the Munn Ice Arena for some quirky fun on Feb. 25.

A student organization based on religious worship and Bible studies, Epic met each Sunday for worship services in the Erickson Kiva and offered several Bible study sessions throughout the week.

"Definitely being at college there are a lot of outside influences going on," kinesiology freshmen Bryan Murchortow said. "It's good to have a solid group of Christians around to keep you straight."

Pastor Joe Testa, who tailored his weekly readings to relate to college students, led the Sunday services. Epic services did not require its members to dress up or listen to hours of scripture; instead, the students heard 30-minute sermons and gospel music performed by a live band.

"I came to college knowing that I wanted to get involved with a sound group of people," arts and humanities freshman Hanna Burmeister said. "Immediately, I connected with Epic because they are so connected to the youthful image."

Epic is based out of Riverview Church in Holt, Mich., but many of the students involved were from the greater Lansing area. For interior design and marketing senior Katie Hesterberg, Epic was like her second family as everyone was accepting to students from different backgrounds and allowed them to talk freely.

"I am struggling with life," Hesterberg said, "and in most cases I have found that many others are either struggling with the same issues or have already been in my shoes. It gives me the opportunity to ask for advice no matter what the situation is."

Jessica Dupnack



Eric MacKinnon



Eric MacKinnon

Members of Epic play broomball at Munn Ice Arena. University students joined students from Lansing Community College to form the organization.



Eric MacKinnon

Graduate student Ben Rickert battles for posession of the ball. Lansing Community College student Ben Larson tended the goal like a hawk to make sure the ball didn't slip in.



Alissa Lane

Food science senior Adrienne Hendrix pops the next batch of cookies into the oven while Joaquin Delgado looks on. The baking party celebrated one of the sorority's core principles: social intereaction.

International relations sophomore Ariadna Ginez and Spanish alumni Aubrey Devine play around during the Gamma baking party. The sisters picked days to get together and emphasize one of their five core principles.



Alissa Lane

Recipe for

Sisterhood

Sorority hosts social baking night

It was sugar, spice and everything nice. On Feb. 23, the women of Sigma Lambda Gamma multicultural sorority showed off their baking skills by making close to 120 cookies and two dozen cupcakes.

"You can always count on food at our meetings," said Sigma Lambda Gamma advisor Stephanie Gonzales. "We'll use the extras at our upcoming events."

Baking with the Gammas was part of the group's Gamma Week, an annual event, which was most recently held in celebration of the sorority's 11th anniversary as an organization on campus.

"Sigma Lambda Gamma is the only Latino-based sorority on campus," said Adrienne Hendrix, Sigma Lambda Gamma chapter president and food sciences senior.

"Nationally, the membership is composed of women of 110 different nationalities who all believe in the five principles of Gamma."

The five principles include: morals and ethics, cultural awareness, academics, community service and social interaction.

"For Gamma week, we do something based on each principle," Hendrix said. "Friday, we volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club. Saturday, we painted The Rock. We collaborated with another Latino organization for cultural awareness, and created vision boards with moral goals."

Sigma Lambda Gamma participated in service events throughout the year, including the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, regular projects at the Ronald McDonald House and other projects coordinated with the national chapters.

"I never thought I would join a sorority," communication senior Angela Perez said. "But I really think it has give me more substance in my college experience. I got more out of it by being involved with a group of women I could call sisters."

While only about 10 of the current members were able to make it to the baking event, about half in attendance were sorority alumni. All of the women reiterated the strong bonds that the organization has created among them.

"I don't know what I would be doing if I wasn't a Gamma during college," said Aubrey Devine, university alumna and East Lansing resident. "Our sorority is nationwide, but it's small. It's like anywhere you go, you have sisters."

Marissa Cumbers

Seeing is Believing

Students learn the truth of science with live experiments

Lewton Elementary School students witnessed science in action when the university organization Science Theatre gave hands-on demonstrations involving liquid copper, Mentos and Coca-Cola.

"I'm just happy to see kids excited about learning," said the outreach coordinator for the College of Veterinary Medicine, Kari Storm.

Storm said Science Theatre members set up experiment stations in classrooms at Lewton to try and inspire students to enjoy science.

"This allows kids to see cool science experiments and break down the magic behind it," Storm said.

The organization put together four experiment stations for students. The stations involved ripping a soda can open using liquid copper, a demonstration on acids and bases using dry ice, a "polymer with jug" experiment showing a plastic jug melting and seeing an exploding soda bottle with Mentos and Coca-Cola.

"It's just really fun seeing kids learn stuff from you," biochemistry freshman Jingming Chen said.

In February of 1991, a group of graduate students at the university began discussing presenting public shows featuring science demonstrations. In April of that year, about 20 students participated in Science Day at the Meridian Mall which, in four short hours, attracted nearly 1,000 people and sparked the formation of the organization, Science Theatre.

"We generally make one of two types of performances, or a mixture thereof," said Science Theatre Chemistry Director Nathan Sanders. "We either do stage shows consisting of several large-scale demonstrations, or stations where small groups of students can each see a small-scale demonstration up close or even participate in it themselves."

Currently, the organization has about 30 active members and many more that volunteer less frequently. For about 15 years, they have traveled to schools and events throughout Michigan to educate and excite people of all ages about all fields of science, according to Sanders.

Although Science Theatre is a student-run organization, it receives support from the Department of Physics and Astrology.

"Our performances are free of charge," said Sanders. "We just want people to learn and have fun."

Aaron Miller



Alissa Lane

Physics and astronomy junior Nathan Sanders performs an experiment for a group of students at Lewton Elementary School. The students rotated between four stations, each with a different science experiment.



Alissa Lane

Kinesiology junior Amanda Gretka teaches students at Lewton Elementary School about acids, bases and buffers. Performances put on by Science Theatre gave elementary school students a chance to be involved in hands-on experiments and encouraged an interest in science.



Megan Peters

Demonstrating their business egos at the ROIAL dress rehearsal, media and communication technology sophomore Ryan McBride and theatre sophomore Ashley Sullivan rehearse their provocative performance. Both McBride and Sullivan persuaded their parents not to attend the performance.

Interdisciplinary studies junior Dave Porath savors English and advertising junior Sean Patrick Walsh's scent during an improvisational skit at a ROIAL players dress rehearsal. Porath's character was attracted to the stench of human body odor; he was one of three quirky contestants on a comedic copy of "The Dating Game."



Benjamin Lindstrom



Missa Lane

For the Love of Theatre

Troupe provides students with theatrical opportunities

Perched upon various tables and chairs scattered across the small classroom, a group of eight sat as they studied their scripts intently. Deep in concentration, a dark-haired girl boldly stepped forward, delivering her lines flawlessly to the awaiting director. Appearing satisfied, she gave a sigh of relief and waited patiently for a response.

"I want you to try things, be fearless with it," said executive director and telecommunications junior Samantha Hederman, offering words of encouragement.

This young group of performers consisted of actors, directors and comedians, but together they were the ROIAL players.

With roots in the Residential Option in the Arts and Letters (ROIAL) - a two-year living option housed in Abbot Hall - the ROIAL Players originated as a club for students within the option. After a 10-year run, the dissolution of ROIAL in 2007 left the remaining theatrical group in the dust. Not to be forgotten, the players, as they are commonly referred, chose to evolve into an official student organization and theatre troupe for the Residential Center for the Arts and Humanities (RCAH).

"It was a small group of people who shared the same interests and activities. ROIAL sounded comfortable and ridiculously fun," said English junior Chrissy Korytowsky.

Composed of roughly 30 students, the ROIAL Players share a mutual love of theatre and the performing arts. Their passion was exemplified in a number of theatrical productions, including "A Delicate Balance," "Brick" and a series of one-act performances conducted throughout the year.

"The most exciting aspect of ROIAL is the feeling of a product's culmination," said turf grass management sophomore Ben DeGroot.

Once open to only those students housed in ROIAL, the Players now offer opportunities to any students able and willing to take the initiative.

"There are no other groups on campus that are truly similar to Players," said Hederman. "We require no experience to join. All we ask is dedication and enthusiasm from our cast and crew."

And dedication was evident as the group worked well into the early hours of the morning rehearsing lines for their upcoming production, "The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer."

"While I love acting, when it comes to ROIAL Players, that passion is trumped by my love for the people I am working with," said English and film junior Chris Stauffer. "We're like a family. A slightly crazy, but close, family."

Rachel Sylvester

Students participate in a dance with Sparty at the Dance Marathon. Over the night, students learned parts of the musical montage line dance until they were ready to perform in the morning.



Dancing the Night
Away
Benefit for sick children

Dance Marathon, a newly formed dance organization on campus, cared about nothing on March 28 but raising money for sick children while, of course, dancing.

For 12 hours, participants, consisting mostly of dance team and dance club members as well as dance majors, remained on their feet while raising money for the Children's Health Initiative.

"We want everyone to stand for 12 hours to represent the struggle that the children who are sick are going through," pre-dental sophomore Addi Manley said. "Each team is expected to get creative and raise their own money for the fundraiser."

The organization had tried for three years before becoming recognized as an official organization on campus.

"This is our first year as an official organization and our planning committee consists of around 20 people," zoology senior Jill Estrada said. "We pick a group at the beginning of the year, and our whole planning and fundraising for the year goes towards that group."

At the beginning of the night, the children who would be benefitting from the event's donations came on stage to begin the 12-hour dance marathon. and several campus groups made appearances,.

Not all participants belonged to a team or a club, though. Some simply wanted to volunteer their time.

"I was convinced by my friend who was also coming to the event," chemistry freshman Jaclyn Hirshmann said. "I raised a little over $50 just by asking friends and family for donations."

After a year of planning and fundraising, the organization raised more than $7,000.

"It's really great to have a celebration and get the word out about raising money for children's health care," Estrada said.

Colby Berthume



Anthony Pierce smiles as his son Jace Keith thanks students for their support, while Jace's mother Yvonne Keith watches. From the town of Pickford in the Upper Peninsula, the family traveled over four hours to attend the Dance Marathon.

Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

Bubble Wrap and
Masking Tape

Packaging students compete to avoid a scrambled mess

One hundred and ninety four inches above the gathering of packaging students and industry professionals was an egg waiting to plummet to the ground.

The egg dropped.

The crowd fell silent.

Splat!

This was the fourth-annual Egg Drop Contest of the Institute of Packaging Professionals (IOPP).

Forty-six teams of university packaging students, packaging industry professionals and IOPP members gathered to design shipping containers, which would prevent eggs from cracking when dropped.

"This might be the greatest box I ever made in my life," packaging senior Gordon Fredericks said.

The Egg Drop Contest was one of many events the IOPP held to give students the opportunity to interact with industry professionals, said Mason Biggs, president of the university IOPP student chapter.

"We like to get students outside of the classroom," Biggs said. "It's fun to learn, but seeing other companies do it in the real world is valuable."

IOPP is dedicated to creating networking and educational opportunities that help packaging professionals and students succeed, Biggs said. The organization also hopes to create more economic and environmentally-friendly packaging products.

"The industry is changing, and many companies are looking towards sustainability," he said.

To create networking opportunities, IOPP brought in different companies every two weeks and held meetings regularly, which worked great according to packaging junior Jonnelle Card.

"You don't run into [packaging students] much, so this helps us make friends and network," Card said. "You even end up working with a lot of these people."

IOPP is heavily involved with the university's School of Packaging in order to gather more members and to further professionalize the organization. The one obstacle that stood in their way was that many students did not even know much about packaging as a major, Card said.

"It's not just boxes," he said. "The field is really fun and people should look into it."

Aaron Miller



Eric MacKinnon

Packaging sophomores Jackie Doroshewitz and Laura Dauzy watch as their package drops to the floor. Doroshewitz and Dauzy named their group "Drop It Like It's Hot" and went on to place third in the competition.



Eric MacKinnon

Students and packaging professionals watch as a package falls to the floor during the egg drop competition. Members of IOPP gathered inside the Packaging Building for their annual egg drop competition.



Lauren Wood

Foreign language teaching assistant Shahnoza Abdurahman performs a traditional Uzbek to the song "Nazar-nazar." Abdurahman danced at Nauriz, the Central Asian New Year, which is celebrated on the sping equinox every year.

Proudly stating, "Almata", the city of Kazakhstan she is from, Tessa Zelazny answers to Ruslan Mursalzade, a finance sophomore and co-host of Nawriz. The show intertwined dancing, singing and national pride to showcase the culture of Kazakhstan.



Megan Peters

Celebration of Spring

Kazakh students show traditions from their heritage

Nawriz is a celebration of the arrival spring; it is the mark of the new year in many Central Asian countries such as Russia, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan.

On April 11, the Kazakh Students Association (KSA) hosted a celebration at the Kellogg Center, with performances designed to teach attendees about the holiday. KSA invited other cultural student groups so they could learn about the holiday through traditional dances, songs and outfits the association presented during the event.

"We got to collaborate with students celebrating Nawriz, but also with students who don't celebrate it," finance sophomore Ruslan Murslzade said. "We all got to learn about other countries' cultures."

Murslzade is from Azerbaijan, a country that also celebrates Nawriz.

"I'm really good friends with a lot of the KSA students and they thought I had tremendous energy so they wanted me to emcee," Murslzade said. "I also got to do a dance called Lezginka from my country for the first time."

This was only the second year that KSA put this event on, but they hoped to continue in the future.

"This was my first time at the event, and hopefully I will be here again next year," Murslzade said. "A lot of KSA students are graduating this year, so I'm going to work with them next year to help keep them going, even if they have fewer members."

KSA was founded two years ago with the intention of creating a bond between students from the Republic of Kazakhstan and the university.

"The purpose of the association is to enhance knowledge of American and Kazakh students about Kazakh culture," said Meirgul Alpysbayeva, public administration and public policy senior and vice president of the association.

KSA also serves as a link between Kazakh students and the university before they come to campus.

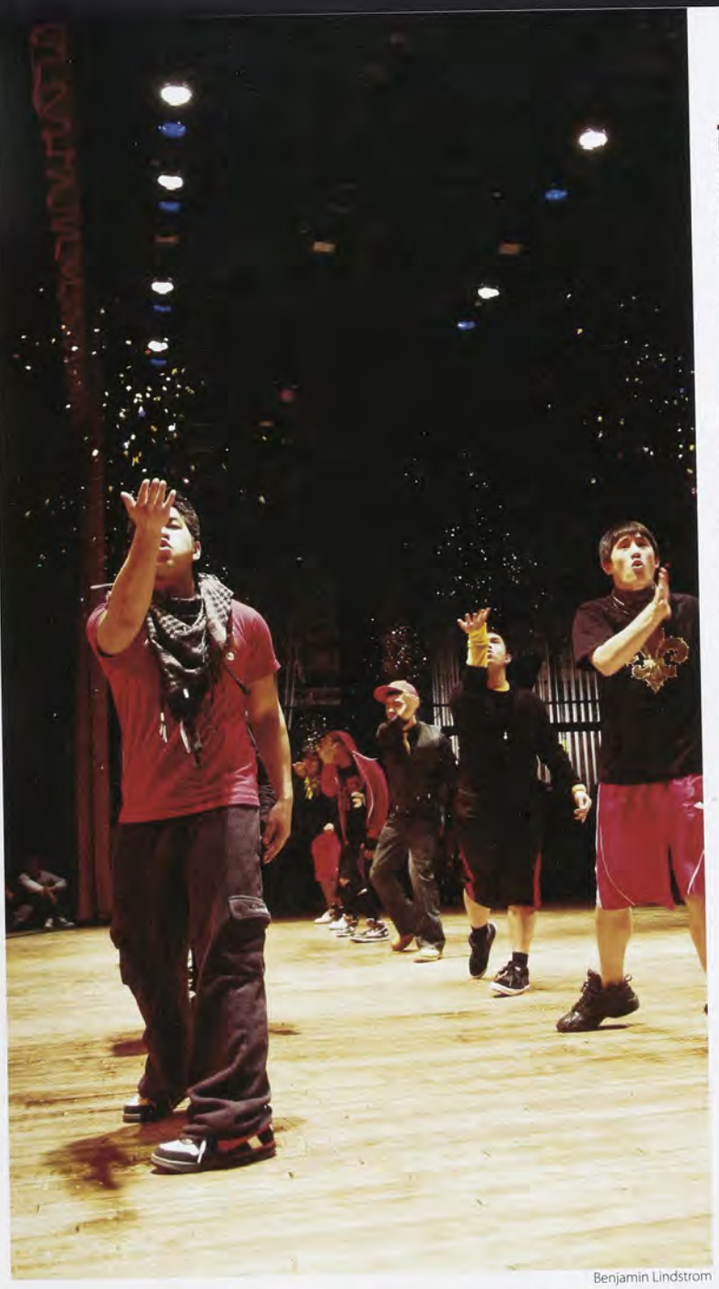
"We actually work with a student adviser and with students from Kazakhstan," Alpysbayeva said. "We e-mail the students before they come to campus, and we meet them at the airport then help them adjust to campus and the university."

The association also hosts events on campus, such as Kazakh movie nights.

"We have a Kazakh dance team that performs on campus," public administration and public policy senior Assem Abzakirova said. "This year we also participated in global festival for the second time."

Abzakirova said the association likes to work with other international clubs to strengthen the relationships between the nations, even if it is on a small scale.

Leslie Tilson



Benjamin Lindstrom

No preference freshman Matthew Nguyen and Lyman Briggs freshman Austin Olano blow confetti on the stage during the Vietnamese Student Organization's modern dance performance. Technical problems stalled the group's performance, but the performers were able to come back and win over the crowd.

Come on and Vogue

Students celebrate heritage through performance

Almost 20 years after its first Cultural Vogue, the Asian Pacific American Student Organization (APASO) continued its biennial tradition to promote awareness, culture and identity among the Asian Pacific American community on campus.

"It's a celebration of who we were and, more importantly, who we are now," said comparative cultures and politics junior and APASO co-programmer Chris Fan.

Cultural Vogue, a variety show consisting of cultural and modern dances, began in 1990 as a fashion show put together by students looking to break cultural stereotypes about Asian Pacific Americans. The name of the event came from the hit song by Madonna released that year.

During the 10th Cultural Vogue, members of APASO's affiliate groups showcased cultural and modern dances, songs, spoken word, music and fashion to an audience of almost 2000 people.

"I really wanted to support the PASS dance crew," Supply chain management senior and Pilipino American Student Society (PASS) member Ileene LaBell said. "I know how hard they worked and it really showed during their performance."

Like PASS, the Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) dance crew also performed both cultural and modern dance routines. Members practiced three nights a week for four months prior to the show to prepare for the big night.

"This show only takes place once every two years," psychology junior and VSA cultural dance choreographer Melissa Hoang said. "All of our time and efforts absolutely paid off in the end, especially because we had the opportunity to showcase our culture to a wide and diverse audience."

The show lasted nearly three hours and hosted more than 25 performances, which each sought to express different aspects of Asian and Asian-American culture.

"We wish to demonstrate our here and now, and that we're here to stay." Fan said. "We are passionate about and dream about everything. We represent an idea, an idea to be whoever it is you want to be and express yourself in whatever way you want to."

Catherine Kelly



Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

Human biology junior Richard Huynh and psychology junior Tina Nguyen perform a traditional Vietnamese fan and hat dance. Huynh and Nguyen performed with the Vietnamese Student Organization, one of the Asian Pacific American Student Organization's affiliate groups.

Art Education junior Maria Kreag and interior design sophomore Erin Weiner perform a traditional Filipino dance, Singkil, with the Filipino American Student Society during the final performance of Cultural Vogue. As part of the dance, Kreag played the role of the princess, accompanied by her slave, portrayed by Weiner.



Biggby Coffee founder Bob Fish talks about the history of his company. Fish advised others not to be afraid to ask other business owners for advice.

Members of the FBLA listen to a speech from Bob Fish, owner and founder of Biggby Coffee. FBLA was a large organization in the South, later gaining popularity in the northern states.

Eric MacKinnon



Eric MacKinnon

Tomorrow's Leaders

Competition brings exposure to second-year organization

In its second year on campus, the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) had already made tremendous strides.

On March 28, FBLA hosted their annual state tournament. Representatives from Michigan Technological University, University of Michigan and West Shore Community College all traveled to East Lansing to compete in the competition.

"The competition is a written exam on different business categories, and the top two schools go on to Anaheim, Calif. for the Nationals," marketing sophomore and President Megan Perecko said. "It's really an honor to have our school host the competition in just its second year."

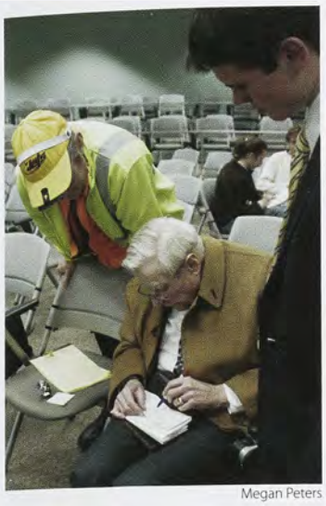
After the competition, during a dinner held in the Multicultural Center, students had the opportunity to listen and interact with alumnus and CEO of Biggby Coffee, Bob Fish. In his speech, Fish spoke of determination and his struggles with becoming a successful businessman.

"We have bi-weekly meetings in the Natural Science Building where we bring in business leaders from around the area to help students with things like their resumes and other business strategies," vice president and finance sophomore Ruslan Mursalzade said. "We usually have an average of 20 people at our meetings, but we are continually growing."

The organization was open to all business majors on campus, with the purpose of developing and preparing future business leaders.

"Getting different colleges together develops communication skills and ultimately gets them ready for the future," Mursalzade said.

Colby Berthume



Megan Peters

Bent over Judge Paul V. Gadola, a district judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, Ron McCoy of Jackson Mich., and high school student David Hoogmoed get contact information at the Young Americans for Liberty speech. Hoping to work for him some day, Hoogmoed recieved Gadola's business card.

By the Students, for the Students

Group provides students with a political perspective

On March 31, students, teachers and community members alike slowly infiltrated the Wonders Kiva with flyers and Constitutions in hand to hear senior economist David L. Littmann speak. The flyers, adorned with a picture of a smiling Ron Paul, showed the congressman saying, "I support Young Americans for Liberty!"

Cleverly dubbed, Littmannomics, the event was hosted by both Young Americans for Liberty (YAL) and Students for a Free Economy, and was aimed at discussing the current economic crisis.

"In order to get speakers, it is a challenge," said political science sophomore and YAL member Kolin Karchon. "It costs money and takes time to plan, which is never easy."

Young Americans for Liberty - a continuation of Students for Ron Paul - is a student-run organization with principles based on personal freedoms and liberties.

"Our mission is to train, educate and resource youth activists committed to winning on principle," said public administration and public policy senior and group President Jessica Stauffer.

"We bring to the table a desire to uphold the United States Constitution and bring back the government to be one of the people. We do not support just any candidate or party, and we certainly don't put a candidate on a pedestal."

Founded in October of 2008, YAL was officially recognized as a student organization in April, 2009. Because the group is still relatively new to campus, they welcome both undergraduate and graduate students.

"If you want to get more involved in politics but you don't know how and you're open to our ideas, then you are welcome to join," physiology sophomore Abbey Wolfe said.

In addition to guest speakers and presentations, YAL also presents films relevant to liberties and freedoms. One such movie is a tentative screening of "Freedom to Facism," a film about income tax and its fraudulent use.

"We hope to continue to bring in relevant liberty-minded speakers to offer their expertise in different areas," said animal science graduate student Jeremy Moore.

Aside from hosting events, members get the word out by distributing pocket Constitutions that include an insert informing people of the time and location of the next YAL meeting.

"I want students to know that YAL is an interactive educational resource," Stauffer said. "At the meetings, we discuss and debate, and because of that, we learn. I want my voice heard and YAL aligns perfectly with my beliefs and serves as a great way to bring people together."

As for future plans, members hope YAL will both gain and maintain a strong presence on campus among both students and the community.

"There are a lot of college students who feel the same way we do, but there has never been a group to feed our thoughts or fuel the fire," Wolfe said.

Now that such a group finally exists, YAL only has room to grow.

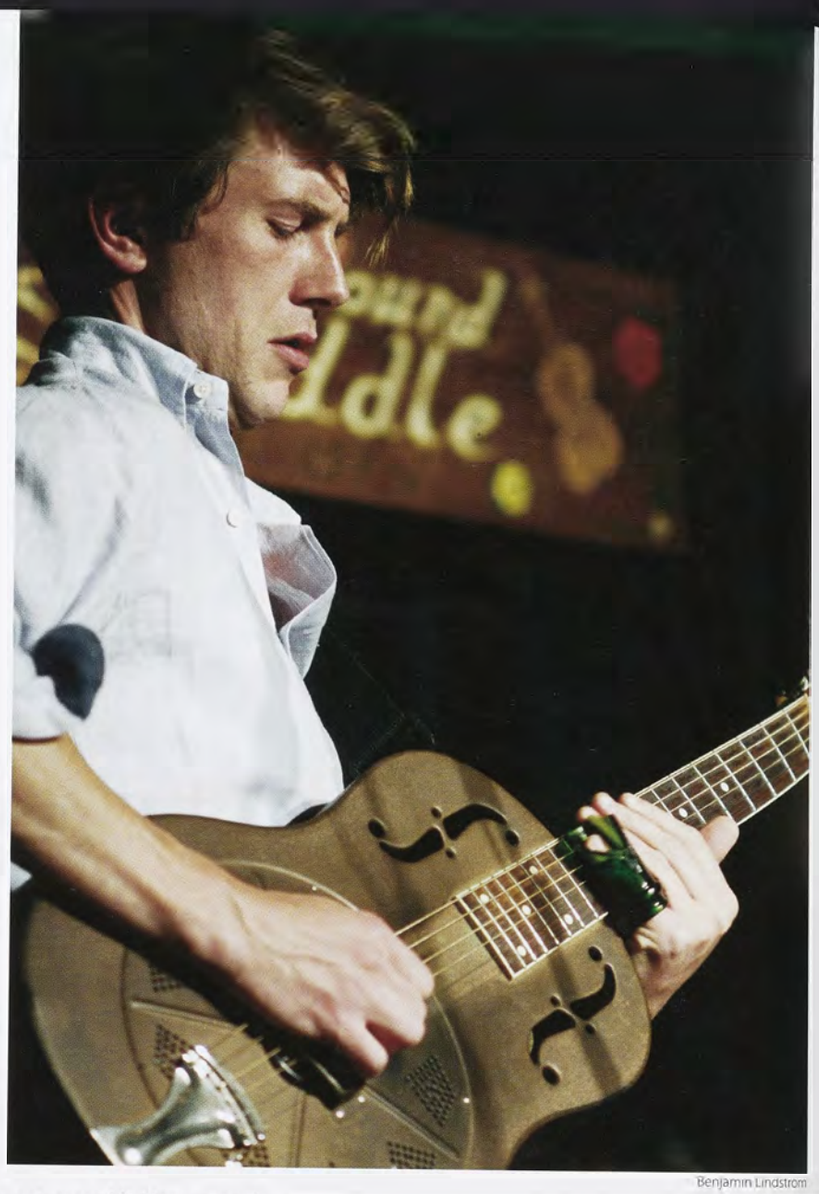
"There are very passionate people involved at the national level and at Michigan State," Moore said. "I feel as if it's going to the strongest freedom movement at the college level for years to come."

Rachel Sylvester



Megan Peters

Speaking for the Young Americans for Liberty, David Littmann, senior economist for the Mackinac Center, talks about the implications of a free economy. "He's not wrong, he's scary right," said Farmington resident Kurt Gaiser, who has been listening to Littman's advice for 30 years.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Cadillac, Mich. native Luke Winslow-King plays guitar with his self-titled trio in a Ten Pound Fiddle concert put on by the Folksong Society. The trio played an assortment of New Orleans-inspired jazzy songs that put a new spin on American roots music.

Celebrating Folk

Original members still active in organization

Toes tapped and heads bobbed as Ruth Bloomquist sang out a local favorite, "Michigan Girl," on March 20 at the weekly Ten Pound Fiddle Coffee House show hosted by the Lansing Area and Michigan State Folksong societies.

"It's great to see people keeping the folk tradition alive in such a technologically-thriving world," arts and humanities freshman Lafe King said. "And it's great to have cultural events for students."

The Ten Pound Fiddle concert series is a long-standing tradition that began in 1975 when a group of folk admirers booked the first show in the Union basement. The Friday night shows were late played at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Grove Street.

"A lot of the people you see here were MSU students," university alumna and Lansing resident Sally Potter said. "We all just forgot to leave."

With the joint effort of the two societies, they hosted approximately 25 shows between September and May and about a dozen dances.

The opening act was Michigan couple Ruth and Max Bloomquist, who sang songs about their home state using a pure folk sound. Cadillac, Mich. native and New Orleans resident Luke Winslow-King followed with a much more jazzy sound.

"I've been coming to these shows since I was a tiny guy," arts and humanities freshman Peter Root-Wiley said. "I grew up with an appreciation for folk music."

Matthew Kelterborn, Folksong Society president and international relations junior, was the only student on the Folksong Society Board.

"It is growing in popular in East Lansing," Kelterborn said. Kelterborn united the Folksong Society and the Universities Activity Board to host the Harvest Harmony concert at the Union.

"It's always been a student-run organization with a student as president," Kelterborn said. "But now if I want to organize a concert, I can do it with Ten Pound Fiddle, and they help me out."

Marissa Cumbers



Strumming for the Ruth and Max Bloomquist band, Ruth Bloomquist and John King performs at the Ten Pound Fiddle concert. The bass, guitar and fiddle band played at the Unitarian Universalist Church.

A pair of dress heels lay just off the dance floor at the Residence Halls Association charity ball. Dancers often take their heels off at such events to make dancing easier, safer and more comfortable.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Letting Their

Hair Down

Organization hosts charity ball for cancer patients

Throughout the year, the Residence Halls Association (RHA) was hard at work providing campus with services such as wireless Internet, free movie previews and concerts, but for one night, the members of RHA rewarded themselves by going dancing.

On March 26, the RHA members attended the third annual charity ball.

"Everyone from the RHA committee, to resident mentors to OCAT members, were invited to the charity ball," advertising specialist and studio art senior Missy Kayko said.

The charity ball featured a silent auction to raise money for the Steadfast Foundation, a charity from East Lansing that supports families dealing with cancer.

"Our main item is a set of floor seats and a set of box seats to Death Cab for Cutie," president-elect and hospitality business sophomore Emma Perot said. "But we also have a lot of other stuff, such as an iPod touch, gift certificates and other sports apparel."

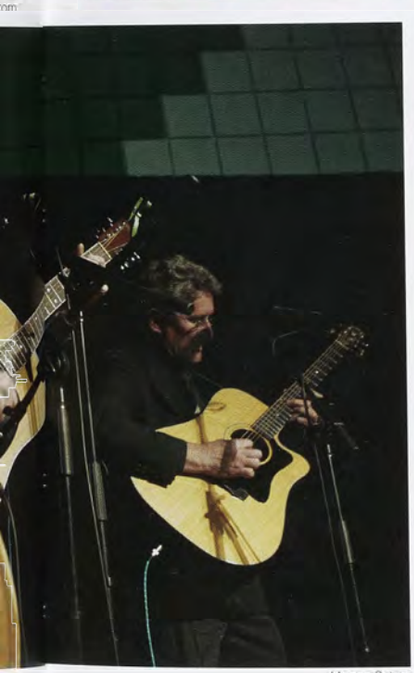
At the beginning of each year, the executive board of RHA narrows the possible recipients of the fundraising down to four candidates and then allows the public to vote for the winner over the Internet. After a winner is decided, the rest of the year is dedicated to raising money for that person' particular cause.

"The executive board splits up the local businesses and sports teams to get donations for our cause," Perot said. "It is a unique way of fundraising because our charities are always changing, so we get a lot of different participation from different people."

Tickets to the dance were donation-based, and whatever amount the attendee wanted to donate would get them a ticket. According to Perot, the charity ball has been a growing success, each year has surpassed the last in attendance.

"It's a great way to bring all RHA members together," interdisciplinary studies in social science senior Cameron Starr said. "It's really a nice fundraiser for a good cause."

Colby Berthume



Megan Peters



Benjamin Lindstrom

A little slap-happy from the helium, linguistics freshman Kate Woelmer, turf grass management sophomore Ben DeGroot and computer science junior Scott Bishop boogy at the RHA Charity Ball. Bishop said he sucks helium "whenever he can."

Hands-On

Experiences

Students provide consulting services in exchange for real world experience

For the past four years, Marketing Mix has been providing free consulting services to businesses in East Lansing and Lansing.

When the club started, it was made up of 15 members who consulted for one business; now the club has about 90 members who consult for 90 different businesses.

"When it started, it was fairly small," said Amy Jackson, marketing and retailing senior and president of Marketing Mix. "It has grown drastically."

Jackson said the club has consulted for businesses such as Moosejaw, Chipotle and Susan G. Komen, all of which are in the Lansing area.

"Students get real world experience and can create relationships with clients," Jackson said. "The students network within the business college and the university, and their resourses can be passed on to their clients. It's a truly beneficial relationship."

The club accepts all majors, not just marketing and business majors.

"We have members who are advertising and communications majors, in addition to those who are in marketing and business," said Jackie Hochstetler, marketing and international business senior and vice president of social relations.

Hochstetler said that the club puts on fundraisers and social events, such as Marketing Mix Bowling Night, for its members throughout the fall and spring semesters.

Bowling Night was held at Marvel Lanes Bowling Alley, and gave club members a chance to socialize with each other.

"We put on social events so the members can meet each other," Hochstetler said. "They may meet during the consulting, but since we have so many different majors, it's nice to get to know each other outside that."

Leslie Tilson





Eric MacKinnon

Marketing and english junior Patrick Mac, marketing senior Julie Moss, marketing senior Jaclyn Hochstetler and animal science sophomore Alexa Dunn talk during the Marketing Mixer. Students enjoyed a night of bowling at Marvel Lanes.



Eric MacKinnon

Animal science sophomore Alexa Dunn grabs a bowling ball at Marvel Lanes during the Marketing Mixer. Dunn and friends joined other members of the Marketing Club for bowling.



Teams hit the track at DeMartin Field during the 24-hour Relay for Life. The relay had the largest number of registered teams ever.



Alissa Lane

Relay for Life chairman and accounting sophomore Nicholas Drew sits in the quiet as his girlfriend, professional writing sophomore Kelly Washburn, leans on him. The mood was somber at the annual fundraiser for the American Cancer Society as the 1,425 participants remembered those lost to cancer.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Fighting Back

Relay raises money for cancer



Alissa Lane

Sweat gathered on pre-nursing freshman Elizabeth Valasek's forehead with each lap she completed during Relay for Life on April 17.

As each bead of sweat fell from her face, it reminded Valasek of the reasons she walked the Ralph Young Track—to fight back against cancer.

"I came here because I get points for being here from the pre-nursing organization, but I think that being here really lets me appreciate the struggle that cancer patients go through," she said.

Valasek participated in the 24-hour relay along with hundreds of others, but a committee had been organizing and fundraising for the event since the beginning of the year.

"A total of 95 teams participated and 66 teams showed up to fundraise on site," said committee member and child development senior Anna-Kristin Daub.

In January, the committee began to recruit organizations to raise money for the cause. Organizations could use the Relay for Life website to donate, and some chose to show up for the celebration to raise money as well.

"We want to promote advocacy to fight back against cancer," Daub said. "And we also go by our motto: Celebrate, Remember and Fight Back."

At 3 p.m. supporters arrived at the track, and many stayed for the full 24 hours. The track became a small campground within just a few hours.

"People are free to come and go whenever they want, and most people just hang out and celebrate for 24 hours," Daub said.

Divided into three categories, the event consisted of a celebratory ceremony for cancer survivors, a luminary ceremony to honor those who have been lost to cancer as well as a ceremony to promote the fight against cancer.

"In between the ceremonies, we had other events such as various relays, root beer pong and a live band," Daub said.

Luke's Rhabdo Blasters, the Spartan Ski Club and Spartans Fighting Cancer were the top three organizations to raise money.

"Everyone did a great job in raising money," Daub said. "We finished with a total of $95,255.51"

Colby Berthume

Political science freshman Andrew Smith, physiology senior Kate Rustem and communication junior Karen Helfrick put together a map of all the places their community service and leadership group visited throughout the year.



Lisa Chapman, a mechanical engineering senior, sits by the raft she built for her rubber duck. Permanent markers were provided to decorate ducks once purchased, but Chapman also opted to construct a floatation device for her rubber duck.

Ducks watch their rubber counterparts leisurely float down the Red Cedar River in a race to the Administration Building. Proceeds from the race and sale of rubber ducks benefitted Camp Kesem, an orginization providing a free summer camp to children whose family members have or have had cancer.



Allyssa Bostick

Bonding Through Hardships

Students fight for kids who need it most

She didn't have long to live, and he knew it.

Two weeks before he planned to go to summer camp, he lost his mother to cancer. His father told the camp counselors what had happened, and that his son still wanted to attend. A month after his son had come back from camp, they went to a reunion with the camp's counselors. With tears falling down his cheeks, all the camper's father could say was, "You made my son happy. He said he doesn't feel alone anymore."

He went to Camp Kesem, a place that provides kids whose parents have or had cancer with a summer camp experience that gives them a chance to be kids, according to co-chair of the university Camp Kesem division, Stephanie Harp.

"[Camp Kesem] is the coolest thing I have ever been a part of," Harp said. "Just seeing the kids happy makes everything worth it."

Harp was one of the counselors that met the boy whose mother had passed two weeks before camp, and she said it was an experience that changed her life.

"To be able to say you helped a child who is dealing with life changing issues, it feels incredible," she said.

Harp joined Camp Kesem when the university student chapter formed during the 2006-07 school year. In conjunction with the University of Michigan, organization members ran fundraisers throughout the school year to raise money for the camp.

"We raise money for the food, a carnival, the messy Olympics and the $500 cost per camper," said human biology senior and co-chair of the university Camp Kesem division Lauren Chronowski.

Camp Kesem also allowed college students a great opportunity to develop real world skills while making a difference, according to Chronowski.

She explained that during the weeklong camp, kids are given the opportunity to talk with other students living with similar household issues, while also being given opportunities to play sports, compete in events and just have good ol' fun.

"Kids can just take time out to have fun and feel connected to each other," Chronowski said.

Currently, there are 22 student-run Camp Kesem organizations around the U.S., working alone or with a sister school to put on their own Camp Kesems.

"This year our goal was to raise $35,000 - just enough to have 50 kids attend our camp," said Chronowski. Eight kids attended Camp Kesem through the university chapter's efforts, while 22 went the second year.

"We're just hoping that each year we will be able to help more kids," Chronowski said.

Aaron Miller



Allyssa Bostick

International relations senior Daniel Kuhn decorates a card during Peace Week. The week of events were hosted by Peace Over Prejudice, an organization whose goal was to promote tolerance and peace on campus.



Lauren Wood



Lauren Wood

Peace sign buttons and stickers wait to be passed out at one of the Peace Over Prejudice's events during Peace Week. The event benefited the St. Vincent's Foster Care Home.

All you Need is Love

Groups join together to fight hate and promote unity

Peace Week, held over two weeks in the spring, combined awareness, service and entertainment promoting the need for peace.

Peace over Prejudice (PoP) hosted various events during the week, which covered topics of diversity, discrimination and knocking down barriers between people, said co-founder and international relations senior Nada Zohdy.

"As college students, we have a unique opportunity to learn and work with people of different backgrounds, and we should take advantage of that," Zohdy said.

One Peace Week event, the Tunnel of Oppression, depicted real-life experiences of various forms of oppression through student performance.

"This really seems like something that could make a difference," said Coalition of Indian Undergraduate Students (CIUS) member Sri Kakulavarapu.

PoP also held a Creative Peace Contest. For the contest, students showed what peace over prejudice meant to them.

"We want everyone to share what peace means to them and, through that, learn from each other," Zohdy said.

Created in the fall of 2007, PoP grew to promote peace among all students on campus, but a former group on campus sparked the idea for the organization.

"We started PoP because there was a group dedicated to hating," advertising major John Ra said. "Luckily, after promoting peace throughout campus, it looks like that group is gone."

The organization's early work focused on bridging the gap between rival fraternities, and later included helping a broader audience.

"We have been looking around and noticing a lot of tension around campus," Zohdy said. "As we develop, we have been trying to become more of a proactive group than a reactionary one, so we can stop the problem before it begins."

Although PoP had been successful, Zohdy believed the priorities of the coalition's members were an obstacle for the organization.

"We have a lot of members involved in different organizations around campus, and it is hard when their allegiance is stronger with their other group instead of us," she said.

Some of these included CIUS, the Korean Student Organization, Safe Place, Women's Council and the Young Democratic Socialists. With the diversity of these groups, Zohdy hoped to show students the mission for peace was not exclusive.

"We want to be a platform for students to learn more about the people around them, and to discover peace between each other," she said.

Aaron Miller

Judging a Book By

Its Cover

Organization shows pain people might not see on the surface

Society's power is stratified by race, religion, sexual orientation and many other personal factors that many people struggle to cope with; but can we help these people?

This was one of the major issues brought to light at the Coalition of Indian Undergraduate Students' (CIUS) second annual Tunnel of Oppression informational event.

"The event's inspiration came right after 9/11," former CIUS President Harlori Tokhie said. "A family friend of mine, an Indian man, was killed in a drive-by while placing American flags outside his gas station. It made me realize that many people judge each other without understanding them, and I wanted that to change."

Actors were placed throughout the tunnel, located inside the Union Gold Rooms, and performed skits which portrayed topics from having gay parents, to being bullied and sexually harassed at work. Racial slurs and statistics on racial prejudice were posted on the tunnel's wall, followed by a note asking "Are we living in a color-blind society?"

"This event helped reflect CIUS's goals to educate people about each others cultures," said CIUS member Sri Kakulavarapu.

CIUS was formed 20 years ago by students looking to unite Indians who wanted to spread their culture. The organization has maintained the same purpose over those years, striving to help Indian and non-Indian students embrace other cultures while understanding their own, according to Kakulava.

"We want people be aware of what's around them, and not be ignorant," said microbiology junior and CIUS president Radhika Menawat.

Throughout the year, the organization held various events highlighting Indian culture and dealing with issues of Asian Pacific and Indian Americans in society today. The group's largest annual event is Satrang - a showcase of different aspects of the Indian cultures classical and modern aspects.

"We are able to show a little bit of the old, with a little bit of the new," Menawat said. "The show features many traditional and fusion style dance performances."

Although CIUS worked hard to make every event enjoyable for students, the group's goals were not forgotten while planning, said Kakulavarapu.

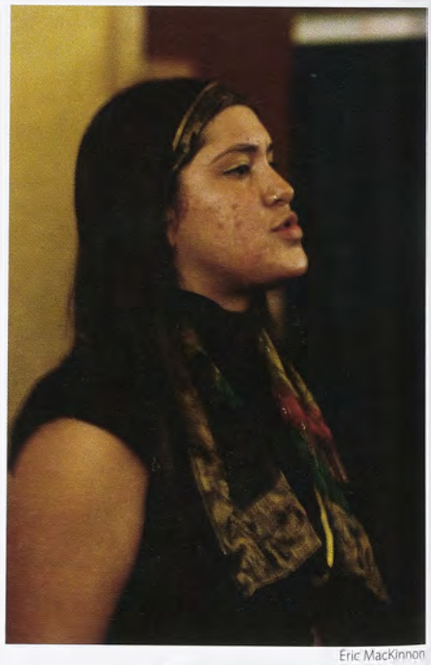
"Don't ignore the factors of difference around you, see the difference," Kakulavarapu said.

Aaron Miller



Eric MacKinnon

The Coalition of Indian Undergraduate Students created a wall of hate speech to bring light to verbal oppression. Students were given an opportunity to reflect on the words and facts enscribed on the wall.



Eric MacKinnon

Family and community services and Chicano and Latino studies senior Sierra Lopez performs in front of a crowd of students at the Union. Lopez highlighted oppression of Latinos on campus as well as around the country.

P.H.I.L.T.H.Y., otherwise known as James Gardin, performs "Voice of the Voiceless," a story of an HIV/AIDS orphan during an MRULE event at Harper's Restaurant and Brew Pub. Proceeds from the event went to support the grassroots organization VVOCF in South Africa.



Allyssa Bostick

Promoting

Diversity

Group hosts talent show fundraiser

Diversity of cultures is one of the key messages at the university, and for several years Multi-Racial Unity Living Experience (MRULE) has been promoting that same message for students living on campus.

"We are a student-led organization that focuses on diversity on campus," education senior Jessica Jones said. "We really want to bring action and not just talk about it."

Throughout the year, MRULE held weekly meetings consisting of roundtable discussions that allowed people to openly talk about race and diversity. The group also donated their time and money to Vumumzuku Bya-Vana Our Children's Future (VVOCF), a children's center that provides psychosocial support to children in South Africa. According to Jones, MRULE has grown each year in their support of VVOCF.

"Our group started out by just being pen pals with kids in need in South Africa, and then we built a place for them to go after school, and now we are building a shelter for them to run away to," Jones said.

MRULE met regularly at three locations on campus: Brody Complex, South Campus and East Campus. Organizations such as SCOUT BANANA donated their earnings from the year toward MRULE's cause.

"We've already raised $13,000 through fundraisers like penny wars," political science sophomore Rob King said.

On April 5, MRULE also held a talent showcase at Harper's Restaurant and Brew Pub, where performers showcased their cultural talent. All the proceeds from the event went to VVOCF.

"I came to the event just to show my support for MRULE South and the VVOCF cause," hospitality business sophomore Alaina Mueller said.

The group has plans to take another trip to South Africa to continue their building project and promote their cause.

Colby Berthume



Lauren Wood

The dance group FreQuency performs their routine on stage for MRULE's Talent Showcase. FreQuency was one of dozens of acts to perform for the event.

A First for Success

Students create opportunities to succeed in hospitality

The Greater Lansing Food Bank (GLFB), in conjunction with local area restaurants and student volunteers, raised money at the GLFB's third annual Empty Plate Dinner and Auction to feed the hungry in Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties.

The Empty Plate Dinner and Auction was a fundraiser that featured silent and live auction segments, as well as prize giveaways from contributing organizations, including the Wharton Center, Red Cedar Grill, university athletics and various other organizations.

"Working for a worthy cause makes all the time I spent on this worth it," said vice president of Capital Fundraising Associates Rebecca Bahar.

Bahar worked with the GLFB by recruiting host committees and soliciting businesses to give money or prizes for the event.

"I love this event because what is raised here stays here, and it helps our community," she said.

To work the event, volunteer coordinator Mike Heberlein recruited two student organizations. One of those organizations was the university Lodging and Gaming Management Association (LGMA).

"We were excited to do this event because it embodies many aspects of what are organization (LGMA) is about," said LGMA president Adam Miller.

In addition to being president, Miller was one of the co-founders of the group in the fall of 2007.

"I was looking around campus, and saw that there was a severe lack of professional preparation for students in the hospitality business major," Miller said. "I wanted an organization that could better prepare me and everyone else involved with hospitality business."

LGMA was the first lodging or gaming student-run organization on any college campus, Miller said. The only other organization in existence was at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas, which Miller and LGMA's fellow members helped form.

"We took 10 students to Las Vegas twice this year to meet gaming professionals, and while we were there, we helped form the organization and created a sister school for it," Miller said.

LGMA members focus on developing hospitality business skills through interactive events, business forums, site tours and industry relations. Throughout the year, industry professionals visited the organization, giving many students an advantage through real world knowledge, LGMA president Andrew Blumberg said.

"I am able to see aspects of my future career, and I plan to take full advantage of that," Blumberg said.

Comprised of 72 members, the organization and the opportunities it provides to students continued to grow.

"I've worked very hard for this organization to succeed," Miller said. "After tonight, we will only have $12.37 left in our federal credit union account, but it's all worth it."

Aaron Miller





Eric MacKinnon

Jackson resident Shauna Wood, Eaton Rapids resident Skip Dowding and Lapeer resident Elizabeth Cope enjoy foods from many prestigous Lansing-area resaurants. Dowding's company, Dowding Industries, supported the Lodging and Gaming Association's event.



A plate painted by the cast of Mamma Mia waits to be auctioned off at the Kellogg Center. Money collected from the live and silent auctions benefited the Lansing Food Bank.

Eric MacKinnon



Benjamin Lindstrom

Criminal justice junior Calshawn Brown listens quietly as a poem is read at the Black Poets Society's Battle of the Sexes. Many of the poems read tackled serious societal issues today such as war, racism and education.

Telecommunications senior Domonique Baul stands with the other women of the Black Poets Society after reading their poems. The event allowed for both the women and men in the organization to participate in some friendly competition.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Members of the Black Poets Society vote for their favorite poem in a head-to-head competition at the society's Battle of the Sexes event. In the competition, one "fella" and one "lady" each read a poem and the audience voted on whose was better.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Raise

Your Voice

Group provides poets with creative outlet

With the eyes of 30 audience members upon her, telecommunications senior Domonique Baul bravely approached the front of the crowd. After a deep breath, she began to recite a poem from memory, as onlookers listened attentively.

This was the Black Poets Society fifth annual Battle of the Sexes event. Held at the Sparty's coffeehouse in Holmes Hall, the night pitted members of the opposite sex against one another, hoping to spark a friendly bout of words.

"We enjoy representing ourselves in an artistic way," said Baul, who was also the president of the organization. "But we're poets, not rappers."

Since its creation in 1998, the Black Poets Society has been dedicated to creativity and the freedom of speech among its members. Serving as a creative outlet for students, the society aims to give an expressive voice to those willing to share their poetry.

"It helped me grow as a person," human resources sophomore Monica Sanders said. "It allowed me to release what was on the inside and put it on paper."

Aside from its own sponsored events, the group lent its voices to other campus happenings, including a black caucus cultural fair and a black power rally held in the fall.

"More recently, we have had more requests to come and perform," said Baul. "It feels good to have your peers request you because it shows they value your talent."

In a setting where even the most assured individual can feel vulnerable, the society showed nothing but support for its poets. During the reading of her poem labeled "Lost," the once-timid speaker Tara Chastine was met with the encouraging snaps from a fellow female member after stating, "A man comes and goes, but forever my poetry stays."

"It improved my poetry skills performance wise," said the food science junior. "I used to be very shy, but I'm now able to stand in front of a crowd."

As the night progressed, it became evident that despite the name, the battle was only a matter of healthy competition.

"I've met both a lot of good poets and people through the society," said vice president and retailing senior Jamar Easley-Daniels. "We're sort of like a family now."

Rachel Sylvester

Swingin' the Night

Away

Organization teaches lessons and offers open dance

Once a week since 1999, The State Swing Society has been teaching its members the Lindy Hop, the Charleston and the East Coast Swing.

"We have eight people who switch on and off teaching lessons," art education sophomore and club president Amy Lambert said. " We have an hour and a half lesson and then two hours of open dancing."

Occasionally, the club holds workshops on the weekends for more intensive lessons.

"We actually are hoping to get a really big instructor to come to a workshop next year," anthropology sophomore and vice president Lori Mallon said. "If we can get that we will probably also have a competition here. It's a lot of work, but we are really hoping for it."

Since the club was started, it has not only grown in size, reaching membership of up to 60 members, it club has also increased the amount of dancing taught and learned.

"The level of dance has escalated significantly," said Ken Mallon, a nine year club member who, even after graduation returns as much as possible to the weekly dances. "When we started it was very basic, but we now have integrated more styles. It's a much more varied scene than it used to be."

Even though the club has grown significantly; they are constantly looking for new members.

"I really want to see more people come out and learn," said Mallon. "It's a great way to get to know people and it's a lot of fun that doesn't require a lot of work."

Leslie Tilson



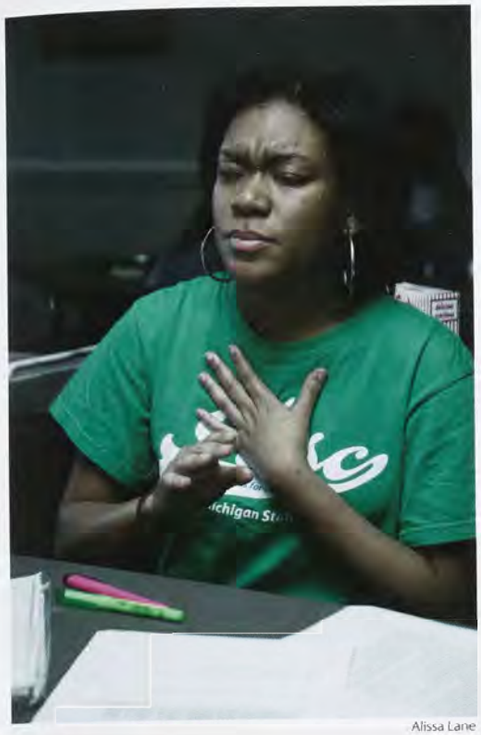
Lauren Wood

Mechanical engineering sophomore Will Seeger dances with anthropology sophomore Lori Mallon, practicing introductory moves. Mallon helped her brother, alumnus Ken Mallon, instruct every Tuesday with the swing dance club.



Lauren Wood

Comparitive cultures and politics freshman Scott Osdras and alumnae Jamie Makayla practice a swing dance move in the Gilchrist Pub. Osdras and Makayla were practicing a set of steps that combine for one swing move.



Alissa Lane

Microbiology and pre-medical sophomore Cutrina Burse and other members of YASC join hands in prayer. Students came together every week for a few hours of praise, worship and Bible study.



Alissa Lane

Everyone in attendance claps along as human resource and public relations junior Jerry Collie sings "I Love Jesus, He's My Savior." Collie was vice president of YASC.

Keeping the Faith

Christian group offers fellowship to students

Some knelt in prayer while others paced the room as the gospel music reverberated overhead. With an abundance of tears and a steady murmur of voices, members of the Young Apostolic Students for Christ (YASC) partook in their weekly Bible practice.

Dedicated to bringing together students and community members, YASC is a Christian fellowship comprised of over 100 supporters campus-wide.

"I met God here," said hospitality business sophomore Ashley Burl. "I knew my relationship wasn't as deep with Him as it should be, but He's on my conscious now."

With hopes of reaching out to both non-believers and other Christians, YASC honors God through Bible studies, community service, cell ministries and social gatherings.

"We hope to spread the gospel and share the experience," adviser Ryan Barr said.

Associated with the Greater Bible Way Temple, YASC was established by Bishop Ira Combs in\1987. During one Bible study session, Bishop Combs entered the room all smiles, eager to preach to a room of supporters.

"His sermons are always on point and always applicable to college students," said math and actuary science senior Oluseyi Akinpelu. "They help me to know at the end of the day I am surrounded by God."

Aside from the sermons and the studies, members also participated in yearly retreats. With three days of the year set aside, participants of the 2009 retreat traveled to Auburn Hills for a weekend comprised of guest speakers, group activities and socialization. Serving as a way for members to rejuvenate spiritually, the retreat also allowed students to escape the daily stresses of college life.

"I've grown academically, naturally and in every way possible," Barr said "I've gained a great deal of leadership qualities, but spiritually I've grown in leaps and bounds."

Welcome to anyone and everyone, YASC encourages those seeking worship and prayer to join in on the outreach ministry.

"My relationship with Christ is now stronger, and I'm finally seeing the fruits of my labor," said president and communication junior Demetria Davis.

Rachel Sylvester

Human biology and psychology sophomore Ella Dolan shovels mulch on the playground at River Point Park. Dolan volunteered as the fundraising chair for the group Into the Streets, which holds volunteer days throughout the year for students to give back to the community.



Lauren Wood

Rakes and shovels wait to be used for mulching at Hunter Park in Lansing. Volunteers from Into the Streets came to the park for their Spring Into Service day in early April.



Lauren Wood

Serving Up

Sunshine

Students welcome spring with community service

Everyone knows about spring cleaning, but on April 4, a group of students did more than organize their clutter. Volunteers from a variety of student organizations came together for the annual Spring Into Service event hosted by the student organization, Into The Streets.

"It's cool to see different students from MSU's different groups and organizations come together," sociology junior and Into The Streets member Marisa Majsak said. "I think it has been a good experience."

Into The Streets hosts three main volunteer days throughout the year, including a service day on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Fall Kick-Off Service Day and the spring event, Spring Into Service.

"This year, we were thinking in the light of Earth Day," sociology junior Brigid Sweeney said. "Just with everything going on with the environment, we thought it was important to get MSU students involved with the environment."

Volunteers from Spartan International Group, MRULE, RHA, International Volunteer Corps, NSSLHA and others headed into Lansing, Bath and Okemos to complete services projects at six different community sites.

"We basically work with hunger, homelessness, children, the elderly and the environment," hospitality business senior Ashley Crandall said. "So we try for events to cover each of those areas throughout the year."

There were eight members of the Into The Streets executive board, and the board members organized all of the service events and encouraged volunteers throughout the year. In addition to the three main events, student volunteers participated in projects at the Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity and other local non-profits throughout the year.

Marissa Cumbers

Come Together

Breaking down barriers through knowledge

National Geographic says it is the place where humankind is believed to have evolved millions of years ago, but do you know what that location is?

Understanding more about Africa, is one of the main goals of the African Student Union (ASU), an organization focused on sharing the culture and tradition, as well as breaking the stereotypes of African people supply chain management senior Baba Koumare said.

"A lot of people just think of Africa as poor and underdeveloped, but that is not the real Africa," Koumare said.

On April 18, ASU held a formal gala in which they introduced the university's new director of African studies, James Pritchett, while bidding farewell to the former director of African studies, David Wiley, who told ASU members that they are "the warriors of today."

"Take action young warriors," Wiley said. "You have to be the voice of today and show the progress that Africa has made."

Wiley helped form ASU 23 years ago, according to Koumare, who also said that Wiley's dedication and passion as a person has inspired him to be the person he is today.

"Dr. Wiley has done so much to help promote Africa and help the students who come here from Africa feel at home – it's truly amazing," Koumare said.

ASU was originally created to prepare future leaders that will serve the African continent and help relieve it from the socio-political and economic crises that ravaged it, but Koumare says that his goal has been to share African culture with people from every background.

"During our fall cultural event, I had students of European and Asian backgrounds help out with our events or sometimes be part of the event, and people in ASU would say, 'Why are you doing this?'" Koumare said. "I just told them that we are all African. Everyone's roots are from Africa and we should share it together."

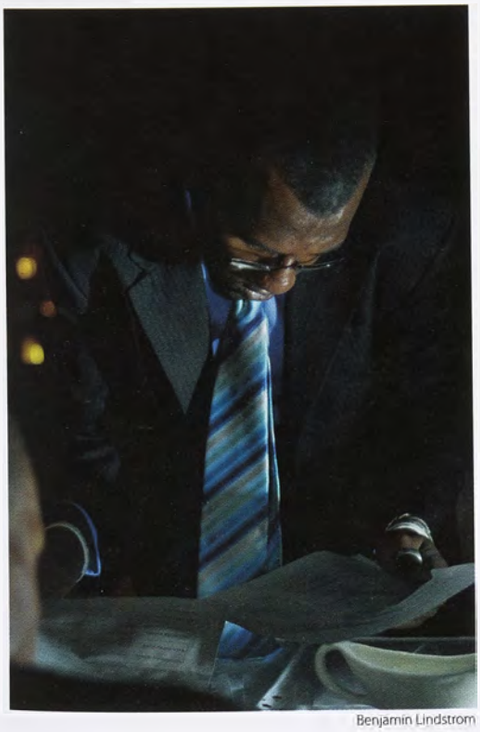
Although the membership of ASU has become more diverse, according to Koumare, many students from Africa see it as a way to celebrate their heritage.

"It has been a home away from home for me," said ASU'S General Secretary, Rainelle Osuji. "Sharing backgrounds with other African students has been a great experience."

Koumare stepped down as ASU's president after the 2008-09 school year, but he said that he knows he will leave feeling like he accomplished what he wanted.

"Being able to share my culture and expand it to the international community has been a dream come true," he said.

Aaron Miller



Benjamin Lindstrom

African Student Union (ASU) president and supply chain management senior Baba Koumare counts votes for mock elections at the ASU Formal Gala. The student-run organization was formed in 1986 with the purpose of preparing future leaders of Africa and educating people about African culture.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Dr. David S. Wiley presents the first annual African Student Union David Wiley Africa Education Award to interdisciplinary studies in social science Dany Masado as supply chain management senior Baba Koumare looks on.

Communication senior Ragina Smith listens to the advice Govenor Grahnolm's Deputy Secretary Megan Brown gives to the enticed group of public relation students. "I think it's something I would get a lot of satisfaction out of. It's not an average day. It provides a variety for you," she said.

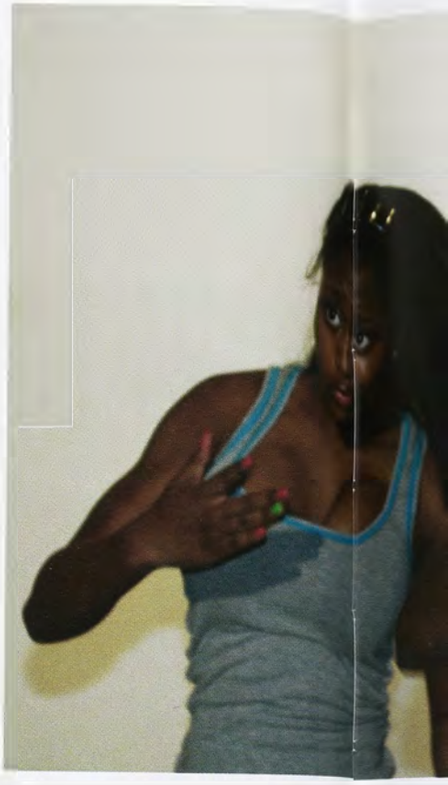


Megan Peters

Deputy Secretary for Govenor Granholm and Michigan State University alumnae Megan Brown gives a presentation on "an average day as Deputy Secretary." She stressed that there is no standard day for her; that she has to be extremely flexible with her schedule.



Megan Peters



Advertising and public relations senior and Bateman case study competition director Monica Fineis addresses the group. PRSSA have meetings every Wednesday at the International Center.



Megan Peters

A Lasting ImPRession

Organization provides members with real life learning opportunities

Perched behind a podium, chapter president and advertising junior Nick Lucido enthusiastically presented his slideshow presentation, recapping the past week's events to 30 peers and PRSSA members.

The Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) is a pre-professional organization aimed at providing learning and leadership opportunities for those students interested in the field of public relations. With approximately 130 paid members, the Ned S. Hubbell Chapter of the association equips members with the tools necessary for successful careers as primed professionals.

"It's not about just being a member, but being an active member," advertising senior Monica Fineis said. "It's about taking advantage of the opportunities PRSSA offers."

Members benefit from PRSSA through access to top public relations professionals, scholarships, internships and networking opportunities.

"PRSSA has given me the opportunity to learn and make different connections. I've gained a better understand of [pubic relations] that would not have been gained in a classroom" said publication director and advertising sophomore Julia Wendzinski.

With meetings once every two weeks and a monthly newsletter called "ImPRessions," group members also participated in workshops and scheduled guest lectures.

"I saw the organization as a great way to hone my talents," said communication sophomore Kristine Kendall. "I've gained both hands-on and real world experience, which in turn has made me more employable."

With marketability as the main focus, members also tried finding additional ways to become actively involved both on-and off -campus. Hubbell Connections, a sub-group of PRSSA, is a student-run firm that provides free public relations counsel to select organizations throughout East Lansing. Offering hands-on, real world experience, Hubbell Connections was able to further PRSSA's intentions by providing talented public relations students with professional partnerships.

"Personally, I have learned everything I know about PR because of this organization," Lucido said. "It's really helped me find out who I am and what I want to do in my career. Each internship I've had is directly because of my involvement with the organization, and I know I'll be prepared for a [public relations] career when I graduate."

Rachel Sylvester

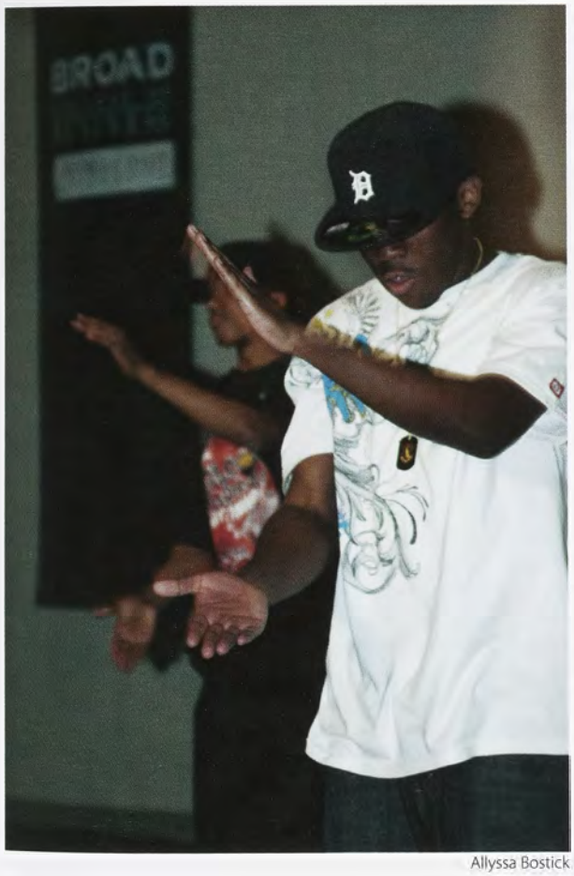


Allyssa Bostick

"It's more than just dance – it's a sisterhood. That's what kept me on the team," says family community service senior and Spartan Soul president Florine Wilson. She and teammates nursing sophomore Ashley Robinson and hospitality business sophomore Alexandria Henderson performed in the final event of the year.

Sisters of Soul and Service

Dancers strive to spread community service and cultural awareness



Allyssa Bostick

In 1997, LaShonda Steele and Scarlett Moore, decided they needed to make an impact on the university, and banded together to form Spartan Soul, the university's first multicultural dance team.

"Spartan Soul was founded and started on the basis of spreading diversity through dance on- and off-campus," communication senior Shana Trammell said.

Trammell joined the team as a freshman after researching all the different dance groups on campus.

"I looked up different dance teams and I really supported the mission of Spartan Soul," Trammell said. "I was also attracted to the fact it was the first hip-hop team."

Not only did the ten members dance at many different events around the community, they also dedicate their time to helping those in need.

"We do community service around the Lansing and East Lansing area," advertising junior Britney Sumpter said. "This year, we have done volunteer work at the Ronald McDonald House and for the Boys and Girls Club."

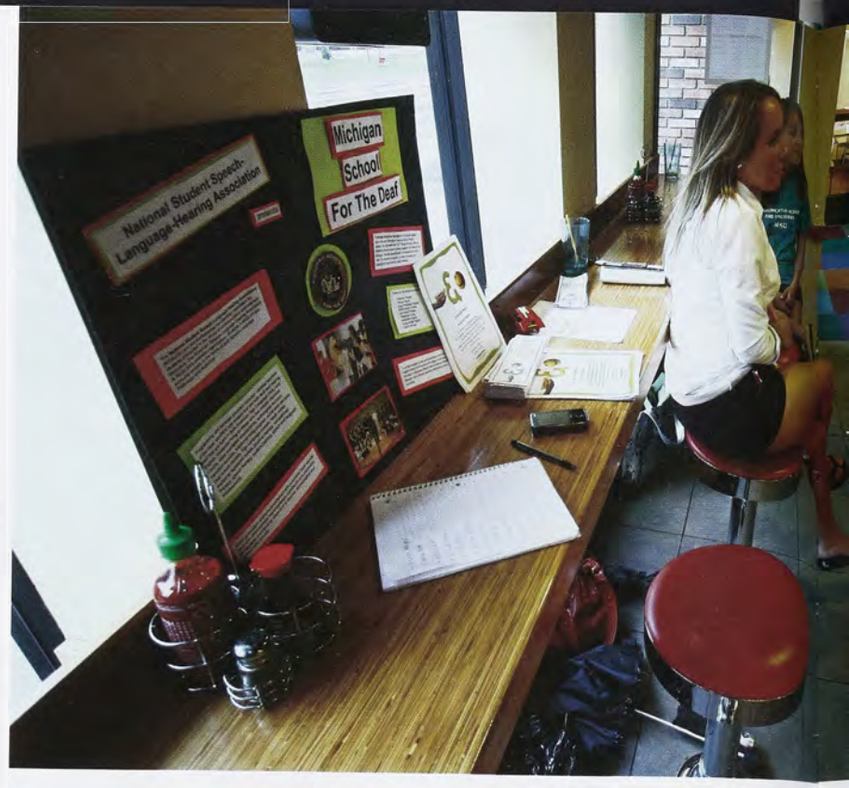
Although the girls perform at competitions and show their support for other dance teams, they also put on a show of their own.

"This year we had our second annual Taking The Stage show," family community service senior and group president Florine Wilson said. "The first one was in 2006, but we are trying really hard to make it an annual event."

The ladies performed their dances alongside numbers from the IQ Dance team, Phi Beta Sigma fraternity and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity.

Leslie Tilson

Food management junior Tyrell Slappey and finance junior Pryde Atanga perform a step dance they choreographed shortly before taking the stage. Four members of Iota Phi Theta performed the step dance between routines by Spartan Soul.



Communicative sciences and disorders juniors Ashley Gutowski, Melissa Kokx and Courtney Gutowski talk to guests eating at Noodles and Co. during their fundraiser. The event was one of many the group held throughout the year, and all the proceeds went to the Michigan School for the Deaf.

A sign for the campus chapter of the National Student-Speech-Language-Hearing Association greets guests as they walk into Noodles and Co. The restaurant hosted the group's fundraiser.



Lauren Wood

Communicative sciences and disorders senior Jenna Hardy orders a meal at Noodles and Co. for a NSSLHA fundraiser. The organization was the largest student group within the College of Communication Arts and Sciences.



Lauren Wood

A good meal raises money for good deeds

Communication is Key

The university chapter of National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA) held a fundraiser for the Michigan School for the Deaf (MSD) at Noodles and Co. on April 27.

Twenty five percent of the sales made benefited the MSD which dedicated itself to providing academic and social excellence, rich in sign language and English literacy, for students from infancy to graduation.

"It's really rewarding being able to help people in need," communicative sciences and disorders (CSD) junior Melissa Kokx said.

Kokx joined NSSLHA her sophomore year because she wanted to help more people in the deaf community.

"People instantly judge the deaf and it makes me mad," Kokx said. "I hope through this organization I am able to work closely with the deaf."

NSSLHA is a student organization for and run by communicative sciences and disorders majors as a pre-professional membership association interested in the study of communication sciences and disorders.

"I love the field," NSSLHA President Jenna Hardy said. "Communicating between people is vital, and sign language is a language to them [members of the deaf community]."

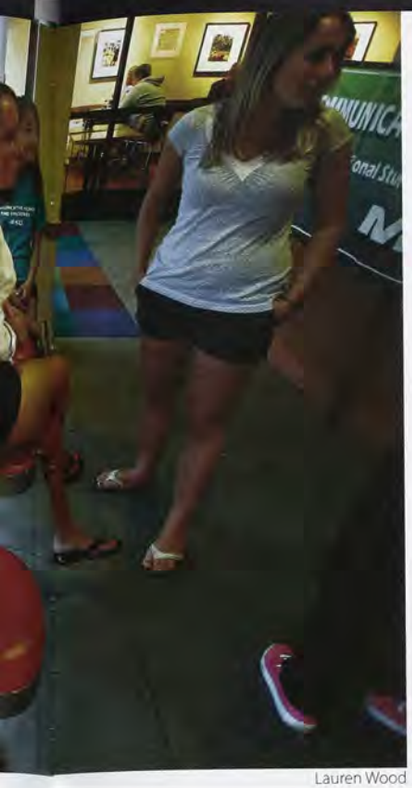
Hardy, elected as the organization's president in fall of 2008, said that the organization was big when she joined, but had been growing very fast these last few years.

"I don't know why, but there is a high demand for pathologists, audiologists and anybody involved in CSD," Hardy said.

Entering the spring semester of 2009, there were approximately 220 students studying CSD at the university, and 176 of them were members of NSSLHA.

"It's a great experience and opportunity to network with other people," said CSD senior Audra Lachman. "Through the events we do and the speakers we get, I get a feel for all aspects of communication."

Aaron Miller



Lauren Wood

Alumnus Jakub Mazur, also known as DJ KUBA, works the tables at a meeting held by the Audio Enthusiasts and Engineers. Music, sunshine and Frisbee made it a great day for the event.



Allyssa Bostick



Allyssa Bostick

Computer science and engineering junior Nick Donohue and electrical engineering senior Brandon Boozer check the board for the wall of speakers the Audio Enthusiasts organization erected near The Rock in April. The group worked on audio projects throughout the year and celebrated the end of the semester with music on a Sunday afternoon.

For the Love of Music

Group teaches the basics of engineering

Watching members of Audio Enthusiasts and Engineers (AEE) run amok in the grass and tossing a Frisbee around while listening to local DJs pump out tunes on the speakers, it was evident people were gathered simply for the love of music.

"We are a group for people who just love everything about music," group president and electrical engineer senior Rachel Bouserhal said.

AAE, which had been on campus since the fall of 2006, held a free event at the Auditorium field on April 26. During the event, they provided free music from local DJs and a place for people to talk about music.

"Since this is only our sixth semester on campus, we want this event to get our name out to people on campus and just let them know what we are all about," Bouserhal said.

Throughout the year, AAE held weekly meetings to hold discussion forums on sound engineering that ranged from basic stereo information to more complex topics. The organization formed when students from the College of Engineering felt it did not offer enough courses that focused on audio design.

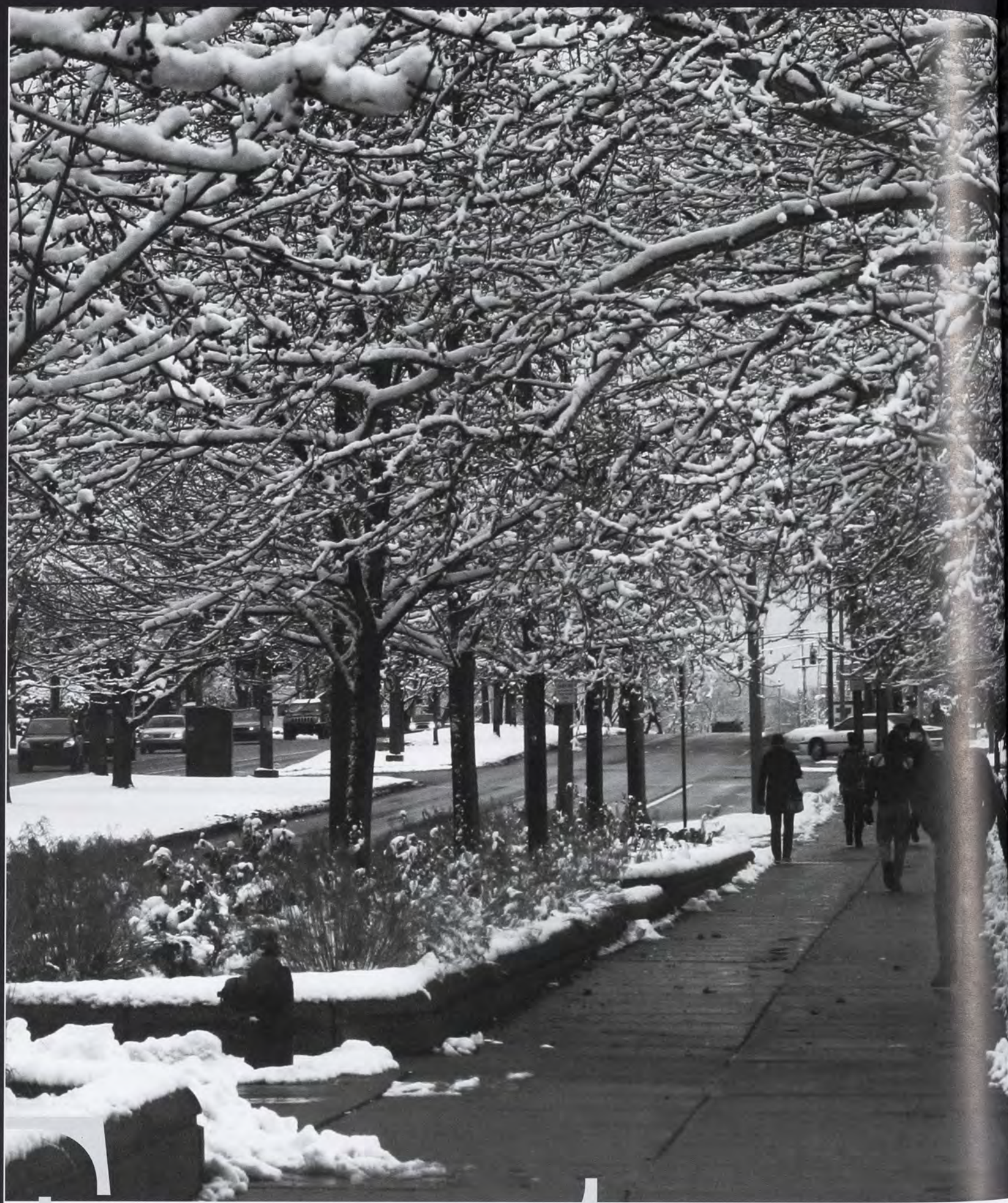
AAE divided into two groups throughout the year and worked on two main projects.

"The two groups are basically split up by what they want to do, and we work on two different projects throughout the year," electrical engineer junior Kyle Schultz said. "One group is working on a theremin, while the other is working on a tubin. You have to like music to know what I am talking about."

In the fall, AAE also hosted a concert at Small Planet in East Lansing for local DJs to play. They were happy to get music out to the public and enjoyed the projects that came along with it.

"Here at AAE we really enjoy everything we do about music," said Schultz. "Everything we learn is hands-on and you learn much more than [you do] in class."

Aaron Miller



feature



12.1.08 | Grand River Ave. | Photo by Eric MacKinnon

Capturing a memorable moment in time, photography has the potential to bring the past to life and give notice to the unseen. A truly powerful photograph is more than a still image; it captivates us, invokes our emotions and brings about curiosity. The pages of the Red Cedar Log are brimming with these photographs, stealing our eyes and stimulating our imaginations.

Photography

Enlighten

Enlighten: to shed light upon a subject or idea. To enlighten can be as simple as turning on a flashlight. To enlighten also means bringing intellectual or spiritual insight. Some consider the definition as providing information; others believe it brings new ideas into view. Either definition lends itself to the idea of searching for unknown knowledge.

If there was one word to describe the work of the Red Cedar Log's photographers, it would be "enlighten." This is the goal of any photographer; they use light, color, shading and imagery to bring understanding to a subject. They combine both definitions of the word enlighten: to use light and to provide insight and knowledge.

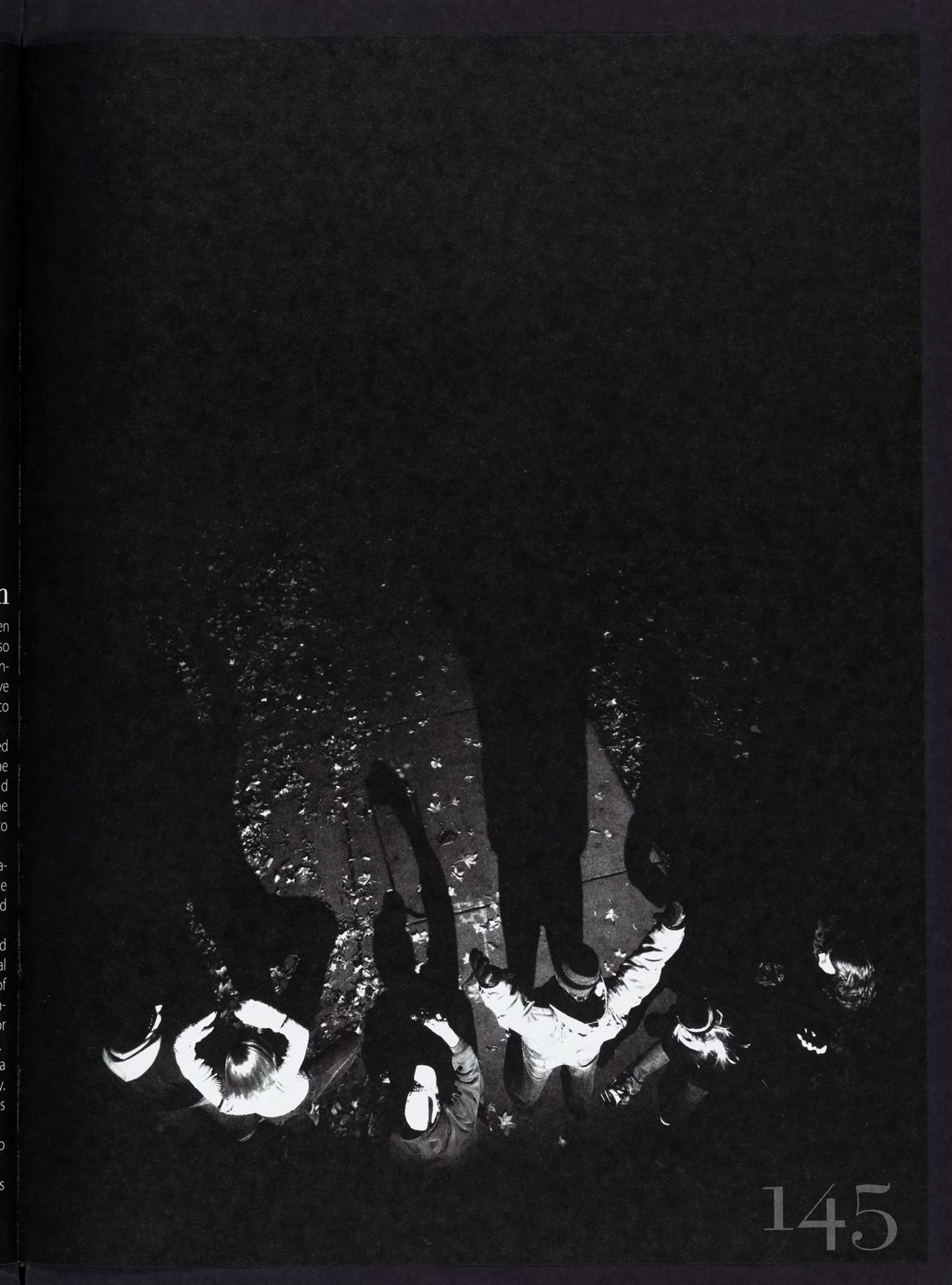
This section of the yearbook is devoted to the photographers, and to their own stories of enlightenment. Each of the photographers created a photo essay; they took light and used it to tell their story or to convey an emotion.

Each photographer developed an individual style, and each has a story to tell. Some decided to share their personal experiences. Others chose to impart some small piece of wisdom. Some simply wanted to bring attention to the mundane. Whether they want to express the history, lifestyle or culture of the university, they used images to tell their story.

These images are painted through the use of light. It's a compelling concept, capturing beams of light to tell a story. But these images tell more than words alone; these images show emotion, concepts, events and sociological patterns.

Enjoy their tales of imagery, color and light and prepare to be enlightened.

Matthew Mikus





Life in *Motion*

Do you remember your first day at Michigan State? Everything about campus seemed new and exciting to you. You didn't know where your first class was and you never left your dorm without your map. You really hoped your new roommate would be at least half-way normal and that you two wouldn't want to kill each other by the end of the semester. No matter what your experience was that first year at Michigan State, one thing is certain: it's something you're going to remember for the rest of your life.

Oddly enough, the idea for my photo essay first came to me while I was sitting in the stands of my little sister's Homecoming football game. Going back and watching her do all the things I remember doing in high school - marching in the parade, watching the game with her friends, getting dressed up for the big dance - it got me thinking about how much the places in our memory stay the same, no matter how much time has gone by.

I hope that something in these photographs reminds you of one of your memories. Do you see the first game of I.M. soccer or football that you played in or the first time you walked to the cafeteria with a group of strangers that would one day become your best friends? Do you see the first day riding your bike to class or that first basketball game you went to? No matter what you see in the images, I hope they remind you to appreciate the time you spend here on the best campus in the world.

Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane

"Life moves fast. If
you don't stop to look
around, you might miss it."
-Ferris Bueller's Day Off










Budweiser





Crossing Grand River

Michigan State University is one of the best colleges in the world, but have you ever wondered why? Although I am only a freshman, it isn't hard to realize that we are surrounded by different cultures and races. We have the largest study abroad program in the country and we have students from all over the globe. The university is a very diverse place, which is why it appeals to so many different people.

In my few short weeks so far, I have begun to notice a subtle aspect that contributes to this university's unique character. In the time a student spends here at Michigan State University, he will at one point cross Grand River Avenue and step into East Lansing. East Lansing and the university reflect on each other; that is, they each own a piece of the other. This is true to the point where an observer could say they are dependent on each other.

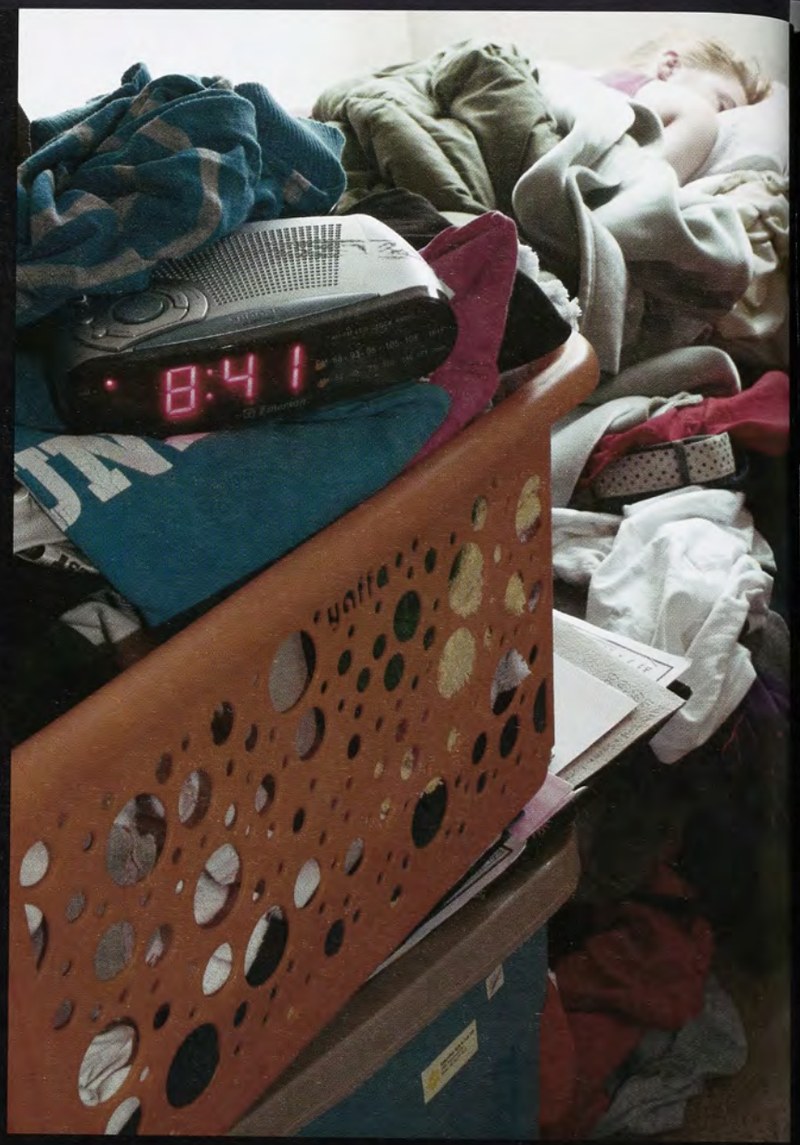
It was the goal of my photo essay to display this unique character that Downtown East Lansing provides for the university and for its students to enjoy. The people, the artwork and the stores all each have a part in this story. The people that you find downtown are just as diverse as the university itself. The diverse community has attracted a wide variety of stores and restaurants each with their own purpose and sense of character.

It is the character of the East Lansing community that I attempt to display in this photo essay. I hope those who read this essay feel that it is an accurate representation of the city they love; a city that I have begun to love.

Josh Radtke

Josh Radtke




8:41


OCTOBER 24TH, 2008
UNION MU LOUNGE 9PM
ANN ARBOR,
COLUMBUS,
DES MOINES,
ANAHEIM, CA







Trust the Mess

Life is messy, and college life is certainly no exception. Although we enter as doe-eyed freshman - our heads filled with visions of studying in ivy-covered lecture halls and laughing with friends over lunch in the gourmet cafeteria - by the end of four, five or even six years in college, we realize life isn't as pristine as the brochures make it appear.

We endure the grueling all-night study sessions with the help of can after can of energy drink to pull off a decent grade. We roll out of bed for that 8 a.m. class, donning whatever smells the cleanest from the dirty laundry. We work in undesirable jobs to earn independence. We sort through the mountains of stressful choices to find that one break-through career opportunity, and we gain insight into ourselves with each messy mistake.

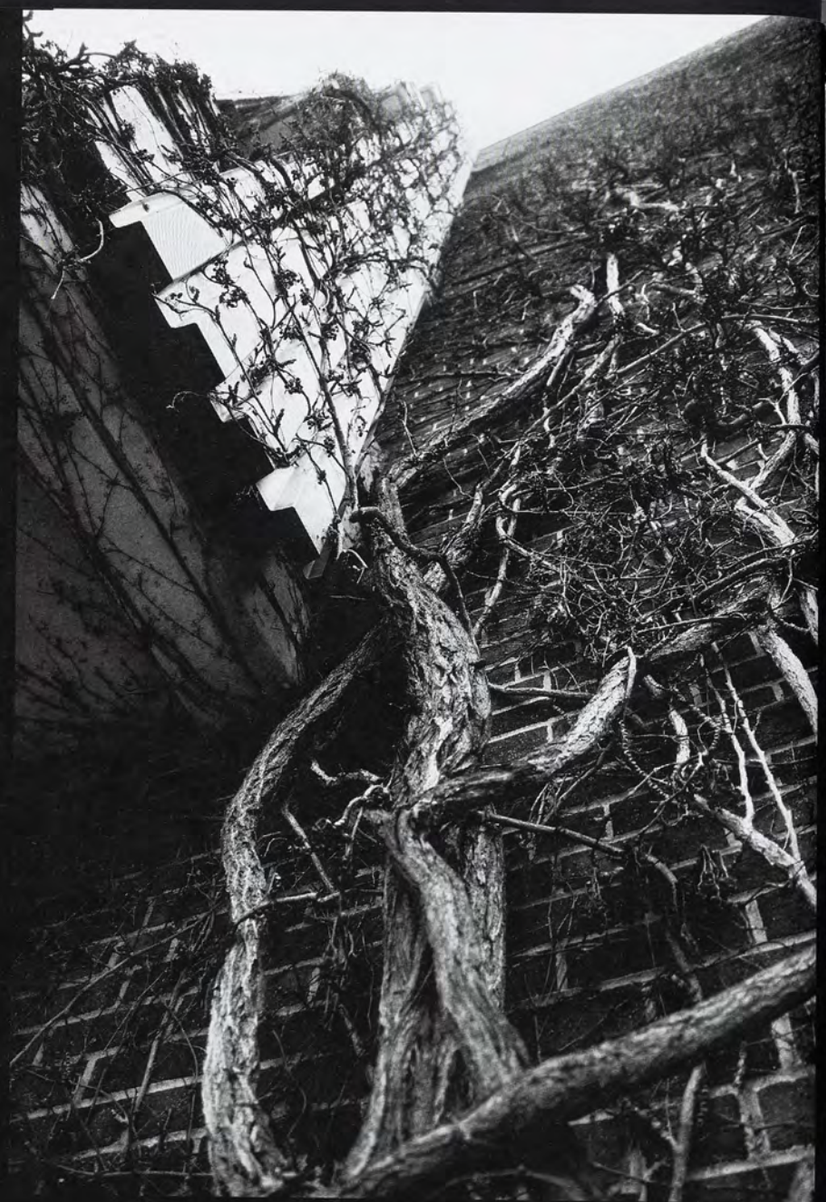
And although the chaos can at times seem endless, I say, trust the mess. Have faith in the unpredictable moments that color our lives. If there were no mistakes, no fear, no moments of uncertainty, then the moments of joy and love would seem like so much less.

So enjoy them,
cherish them,
trust them.

Megan Roney

Megan Roney





Write Your Story





From point A to point B.
From start to finish.
From the front cover to the last page.

What really matters, though, is the part in the middle - the pages we create between the covers. You are the main character in your story called 'Life,' and you get to write it. You get to choose your path, make the decisions and deal with the outcomes.

Sometimes the path is clear and staring you right in the face. But, for the most part, it will take time and thought before you see which decision is right for you.

The journey will not be a straight, easy course. It will steer you in different directions, and maybe even take you back to where you started.

There will be dead ends and missed opportunities. Hopefully, though, you will never look back on something and ask, "Why did I do that?" Learn from your mistakes, big and small.

From all of this learning, frustration and dealing with obstacles comes growth. You become a stronger person who learns from their past to decidedly choose their future. You become someone who is confident in the next step they take, the next path they choose.

As you go further through life, you start to see a reflection of yourself in the paths you've chosen and the decisions you've made. This will persist throughout your whole life, continually molding and shaping what defines you.

Every decision you make influences your path into the future. We all made the decision to cross paths at Michigan State before we venture on to the next step. We will all have a similar chapter in that respect, even though the next steps will lead us to different endings. Everyone is writing their own story, one step at a time.

Lauren Wood



Lauren Wood









2 Wheels Are Better Than None



Exhilaration and excitement, freedom and fear: All of these have one thing in common, you can experience them on two wheels. I'm not talking about motorcycles, just under your own power on something many take for granted: bicycles. They come in all shapes and forms from ultra-lightweight road racing bikes to rugged downhill mountain bikes with eight inches of suspension travel. Most people are best acquainted with the lowly department store contraptions that somehow pass for student transportation. All of them have one thing in common: their purpose is to move us from one point to another, as fast as possible, all under good ol' human power.

Therein lies what lures people to bicycling. There's no engine, only you pushing the pedals 'round and 'round. For some students, it is an essential part of their daily routine. Our campus is huge, one of the largest in the nation. Many students find biking is the easiest way to get around. You don't have to wait for a bus, find parking, or spend half an hour trudging from Brody to Veterinary Medical Center. Unfortunately, not all bicycles are so lucky. With the coming of winter, many bikes are left in the cold, wet snow to rust until the police cut their orange, rusted hulks from bike racks across campus.

Despite the cold weather we experience every year, there are still some hardy souls who ride through Mid-Michigan's worst weather. Rain, snow, sleet or cold do little to stop the bikers that are prepared. With a good set of fenders, all weather clothing, warm gloves and eye protection, it's easy to ride through the worst.

I rode on that frigid Friday afternoon in January when the wind chill dropped below -20 degrees Fahrenheit. Water even froze into little ice crystals on my beard, but that's what it's there for anyway!

Beyond commuting, many people ride bikes for enjoyment. At Michigan State, we have a cycling club, triathlon club, the Bike Project, and numerous other student groups that ride for fun. Nothing else in the world quite compares to riding fast. Crouched down in an aerodynamic position, flying down a hill at 40 miles per hour is a rush you can get nowhere else with such ease and such a sense of accomplishment. Riding at speed is thrilling, and it's made all the better when the views are spectacular mountain or hillside vistas.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, you can take a slow country jaunt with little care for the world – just watch out for cars!

Then there's mountain biking too, where you go flying around hairpin turns at breakneck (and break-leg) speeds. I broke my leg in a race before fall classes started in 2007, and I had to have a plate and screws put in to my fibula. Even with the danger, I started riding as soon as I could the next spring.

Closer to nature and equally close to disaster, there are places to ride all over Michigan. There are fast trails, rocky trails, twisty trails, downhill trails and trails with lots of jumps. Races happen all year long too, including the prestigious "Iceman Cometh Challenge" that takes place in Northern Michigan in November. No matter what kind of thrill you're looking for, mountain biking can deliver.

Whether out of necessity, fitness or enjoyment, bicycling is an essential part of student culture. I enjoy biking in all forms, and I hope that my words and photographs inspire you to ride again whether you put your bike away for the winter or you haven't ridden a bike since you were a kid.

Benjamin Lindstrom



Roots

Founded in 1855 as one of the first agricultural land grant colleges in the country, the university has changed in many ways over the past 154 years. It has grown in size, added many majors and overcome race and gender barriers while staying true to its foundation.

When asked to create a photo essay, I knew I wanted to focus on a major part of the campus, so I chose to focus on the south end of campus. Not the area around Holden Hall but the part of campus just south of the railroad tracks. In my free time, I have spent a good amount of time exploring the beauty of the farms. While I was exploring one afternoon, I met Jason Scramlin, a Michigan State University student who works and lives on the Beef Farm. During a 30 minute conversation with Scramlin, he spilled many years worth of knowledge about the farms. Scramlin was nice enough to send me the following e-mail describing his experiences within the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources:

"We are the Animal Science Department. We come from small towns and city limits. We are the students among you that carry ourselves with quiet dignity, though we don't always have the cleanest clothes from morning chores. We are not strangers to work, and volunteer our time freely. We take classes like genetics, reproduction, nutrition, and management. We study anatomy, physiology and good stewardship.

We are the keepers of the herds and the workers of the land. We are the ones who feed the nation, put clothes on your backs and clean the air.

We too are Spartans, just as MSU students are… but our Spartan green reminds of brighter futures, better tomorrows and greener pastures."

Scramlin's words really highlighted the idea of my photo essay. I wanted to bring awareness back to the farms and let students see the beauty of the university's history. Students like him, work rain or shine carrying on the knowledge of Michigan State University's agricultural background. If you find yourself with some extra free time take a drive or a walk south of the railroad tracks and explore the beauty of our Spartan heritage.

Eric MacKinnon





S













Eric
MacKenzie

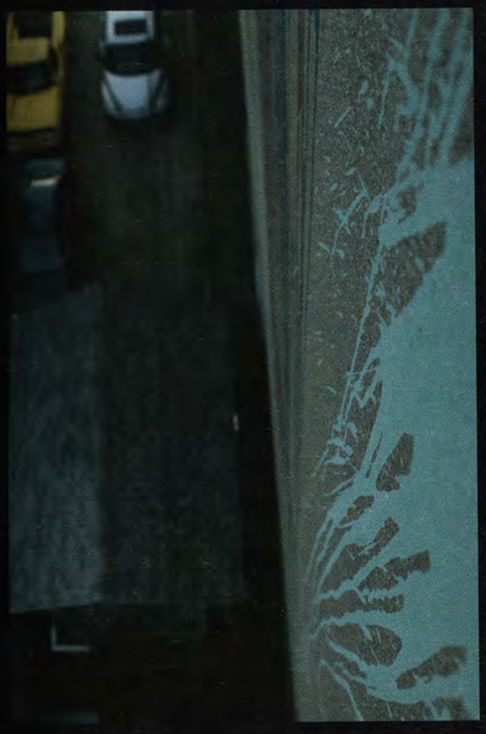
Let's Take a Walk











It could be raining, brilliantly bright, or hazy; there could be adolescents shouting, horns talking, signs blinking; pending classes, pending text messages to be checked, pending observations seeking reflection; and through all of this the eye is constantly switching its focus.

I say, let it all be in focus.

I once read that individual memories of moments do not exist, that each experience attributes to a greater wave of understanding. Your memory of crotched coffee is your neighbor's $10 bill caught in the breeze, the time it took an English major to print off a research paper only to leave it on the desk.

With the same things occurring every day, the same stories sprayed out on the walls, clouds turning, the days turn; you keep procrastinating and monotony becomes existence.

Interrupt. Look at the pattern of vines on brick. Look at the couple demonstrating too much affection adjacent to the yapping chihuahua. Observe how the bell dongs at night, breathing eerie comfort into the darkness. Thinking we know how things are limits the visibility of the eye. Open up.

Look.

Megan Peters


being
GREEN
POWER SHIFT '09
NO COAL




GREEN
JOBS


GREEN
JOBS

green in the face



I've been told by classmates, roommates and that random guy at a tailgate party that they "bleed green". Their parents, grandparents and third cousin's brother's nephew all attended Michigan State University at some point in the past and all follow a varsity sport with vigilance whether stationed in Valencia or on Venus. Their loyalty to Spartan green is unwavering and comparable to a different, or even parallel, dedication to green; environmental awareness.

All across campus there are students passionate about green issues. Students who run ECO packed 50 fellow students onto a bus for a 12-hour trip to D.C. in order to lobby for climate legislation. At the far south reaches of campus students spend their days with dirt and remarkably fresh air to bring organic locally grown greens to campus cafeterias and your refrigerator. There are plenty of amazing students with outstanding projects, but my camera and I have not met them all; yet.

These images show individual students' dedication to a facet of Spartan green. As a land grant university founded on agriculture, MSU is a logical center for awareness and activism and action on environmental issues. The students I have met have taken this advantage and pushed forward knowledge and awareness of climate change or organic farming or environmental economics. Though I've never heard anyone phrase their dedication in such a manner, there is no doubt that they "bleed green".

Allyssa Bostick





Jacob Scussel

First Place





Second Place

Megan Sistachs

Photo Contest



Greek



11.7.08 | Sigma Chi House | Photo by Eric MacKinnon

From the older brothers of Sigma Chi who spent tailgates lounging on the roof of their fraternity house, to the newly inducted sisters of Sigma Kappa, everyone in the Greek community had unique experiences. Proudly displaying their Greek letters on the exterior, each house strived to embody and uphold the principles of their fraternity or sorority. Each Greek organization gave back to the East Lansing community in their own little way, whether they hosted philanthropy fundraisers or raised money through their annual formal, friendships were promoted and causes were given awareness. Like pieces to a puzzle, each member of the Greek community contributed a small part to what we know as Michigan State University.

Greek Life

Making Wishes Come True

Sorority supports foundation through small acts of charity

Most college students are not familiar with the territory that accompanies an early morning; for members of Chi Omega, sacrificing sleep on a Sunday is just another charity to support the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

On Oct. 19, Chi Omega held their 10th annual Karen King Kick-Off fundraiser at Soccer Zone in Lansing. Players from the 16 teams arrived as early as 8 a.m. to warm up for the soccer tournament.

"Just getting to know the girls at this event is a lot of fun," psychology senior Ashley Markowski said. "It's a good time to hang out with other Greeks who support our philanthropy."

Chi Omega recruited players from within the Greek system and for the first time ever, opened the event to all students. The only requirement was a $100 registration fee, which was donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation in memory of Karen King, a friend of Chi Omega.

"This is one of our main fundraisers," said Melanie Dunne, advertising senior and Chi Omega philanthropy chair. "This year, we've opened the fundraiser up to the community, and it is great to see everyone really involved."

While the fraternities and organizations competed in the tournament, sorority members coached the teams and encouraged the players out on the field.

"Teams get really involved," said Jackie Vitale, communications and public relations senior. "The guys are so competitive."

While the event was one of the largest fundraising projects for the sorority, members also spent time raising funds to sponsor a child with the Make-A-Wish sponsorship program.

"We are granting a wish this year," said Dunne. "If our budget allows, we'll be sending someone to Florida to Disney with Make-A-Wish. We kind of want to pick a girl so we can buy her clothes, too."

Marissa Cumbers

Advertising senior and philanthropy chair of the Chi Omega sorority Melanie Dunne fills out the game schedule at the Karen King Kick-Off event. The event was held at Lansing's Soccer Zone and benefited the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

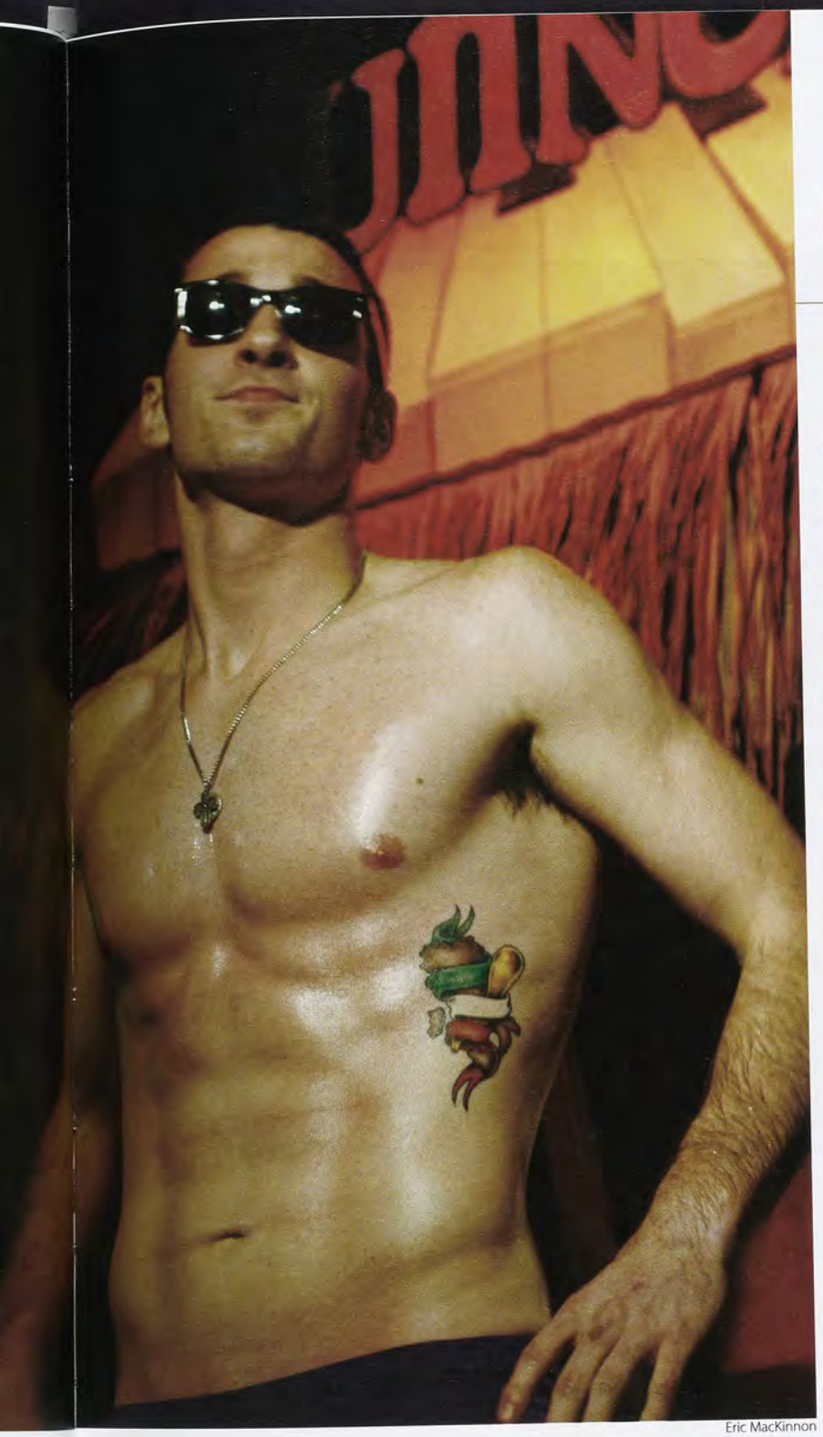


Megan Roney

Chi Omega sisters and supporters watch fraternity teams play soccer at the sorority's Karen King Kick-Off event. Campus fraternities signed up to compete in the tournament that benefited the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Chi Omega's philanthropy.



Megan Roney



Eric MacKinnon

"If our budget allows, we'll be sending someone to Florida to Disney with Make-A-Wish"
-melanie dunne

Marketing junior Mike Scavuzzo poses for the judges in the crowd during the swimwear portion of the Mr. CASAnova charity event. Scavuzzo was crowned Mr. CASAnova and was awarded a Spring Break trip for two.

Biochemistry junior Colin Johnson struts his stuff on stage during the Mr. CASAnova charity event at Rum Runners. Men from a variety of fraternities joined the ladies of Kappa Alpha Theta in raising money for CASA.



Eric MacKinnon

Charity for *Children*

Male beauty pageant provides entertainment, raises money

Since 1926, the women of the Beta Pi chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta have prided themselves on their philanthropic efforts.

"Philanthropy is an important part of being a Theta," human biology senior Ellen Deuparo said. "We only have two events a year that we sponsor, but we try and help out and attend events sponsored by other fraternities and sororities."

Each year the women of Kappa Alpha Theta host two events: Mr. CASAnova and a denim sale. The proceeds of these events go to their charity, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

"CASA began in 1990 by a Seattle judge concerned with making decisions about abused and neglected children's lives without sufficient information," psychology junior and Kappa Alpha Theta philanthropy chair Erin Wolf said. "He conceived the idea of using trained community volunteers to speak for the best interests of these children in court. Both our charity events are for CASA."

On Nov. 11, Kappa Alpha Theta hosted their fourth annual Mr. CASAnova show at Rum Runners in Lansing. The event was a male beauty pageant, where participants vied to win a Spring Break trip if crowned "Mr. CASAnova." The men modeled apparel for categories such as beach wear, formal wear and occupation wear, and were asked questions throughout the rounds.

Although the Kappa Alpha Thetas pride themselves on philanthropy and their annual Mr. CASAnova pageant, the events they hosted were not the only things they are known for.

"We are known to have each and every person to be unique individuals," Wolf said. "We also consistently have one of the highest GPAs on campus."

Leslie Tilson



We try to give people as much incentive as possible to come and donate"

Strike for Sympathy

A night of bowling for philanthropy

With a foundation built on "promoting friendship for a lifetime, inspiring academic excellence and lifelong learning, and developing leadership skills through service to the fraternity and community," Alpha Omicron Pi upheld their standards yet again with the start of a new year and investment in philanthropy with their biggest event, Strike Out Arthritis.

Participants of the event exposed their competitive natures on Nov. 13 as they worked to achieve the highest bowling score at East Lansing's Marve Lanes.

Established in 1934, the Beta Gamma chapter of Alpha Omicron Pi hosted the night of bowling to raise money for the Arthritis Foundation.

"We are the only Greek that is directly affiliated with the Arthritis Foundation," said Teagan Clark, public relations junior and president of the chapter.

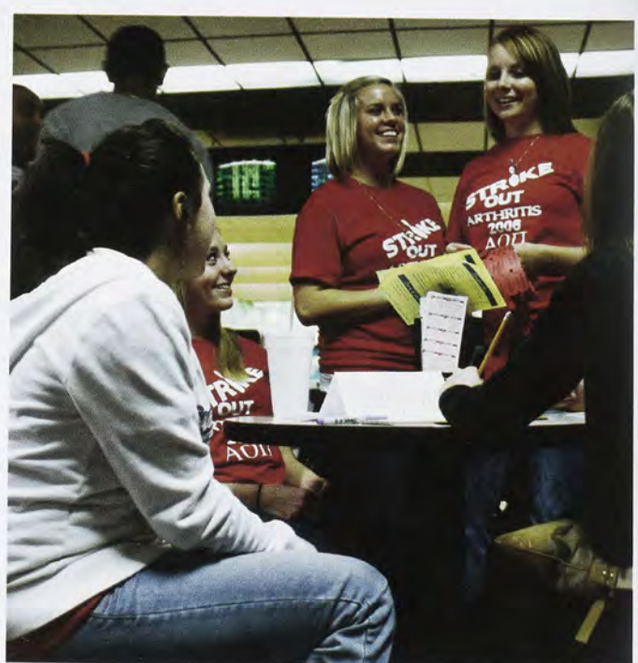
All proceeds from the night were donated to the foundation.

"This is the biggest event we host all year. We put a lot of effort into it and the prizes. We try to give people as much incentive as possible to come and donate," hospitality business senior and philanthropy chair Ashley Bay said.

At the end of the night, Alpha Omicron Pi awarded prizes to the three highest scoring teams and raffled additional prizes for participants. These prizes included gift certificates and coupons.

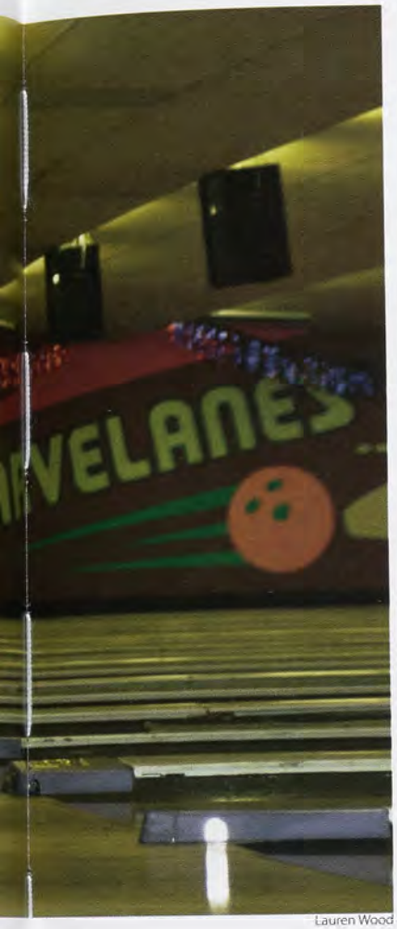
At the end of the night, to the sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi, the real prize was donating to a good cause in order to help those in need. Their volunteer efforts were not just toward those suffering with arthritis, in the past the sorority has volunteered at nursing homes, held food and clothing drives, read to children in area schools and participated in Habitat for Humanity events.

Anthony Harvey



Lauren Wood

Nursing freshman Hailey Benton and journalism junior Alex Henderson ask others if they would like to buy tickets for a raffle. The proceeds from the raffle were donated to the Arthritis Foundation for their sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi.



Lauren Wood

Telecommunication senior Kristin Wild winds up to roll her bowling ball down the lane at the Alpha Omicron Pi Strike Out Arthritis event. The sorority is the only one on campus that raises money for the Arthritis Foundation.

Medallions lay across a table in preperation for the Phi Beta Delta Induction Ceremony. Over 3,000 individuals have been inducted into the honor society since it was founded in 1989.



Alissa Lane

Going International

Group recruits international students



Alissa Lane

Elementary education senior Nahid Husain presents new inductees with their medallions. Members of Phi Beta Delta have demonstrated scholarly acheivement and participated in several international activities.

Phi Beta Delta might sound like any other Greek organization on campus, but the group has no Greek affiliation as one might suspect from its letters, yet it possesses many qualities that make it stand out from the rest.

"Our group is a bunch of amazing people with amazing knowledge," said Phi Beta Delta vice president and logistics graduate Carrie Cargill.

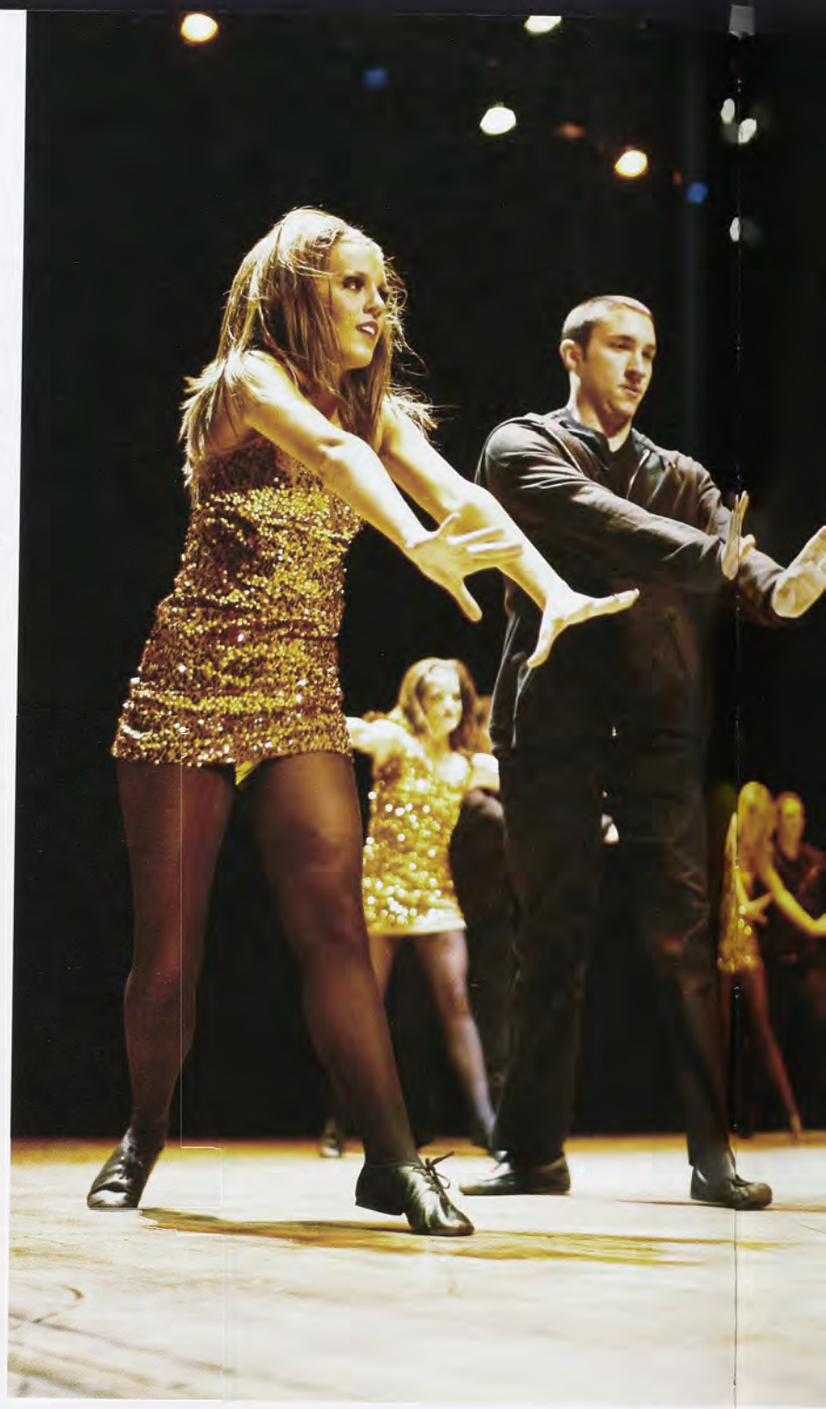
The organization is an international honor society that includes faculty, staff and students who have participated in international research and studies. Graduate and undergraduate students are eligible to join the organization if they are an international student studying in America, or if they have participated in a study abroad program. However, the standards are set fairly high, as all undergraduate members must have a minimum GPA of 3.3, while all graduate members must maintain a 3.7.

Founded in 1989, the purpose of the Alpha Alpha chapter was to address the campus' need to recognize and increase visibility of international experience and to serve as a vehicle for the development of academic-based international programming. Phi Beta Delta provides a network on each campus for faculty, staff and students involved in international endeavors.

Secretary of Phi Beta Delta and forensic science graduate Kim Anderson said the group was involved in many social, academic and volunteer activities throughout the year.

"We have an annual international potluck dinner along with outings to international restaurants and we had a fall picnic," Anderson said. "We also volunteer at events such as the study abroad fairs, the International Opportunities Fair, World Languages Day and other events that aim to internationalize campus."

Colby Berthume



Apparel and textile design junior Claire Pearcy and marketing junior Marc Hanson dance during their sorority and fraternity's performance for MTV Night. The competition was one event during Greek Week in which all sororities and fraternities in the Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils participated.

Lights, Camera, Dance

Houses dance to the death for American Cancer Society

The competitive spirit was ablaze Feb. 24, as fraternities and sororities came together to come out on top in the yearly dance competition, MTV Night.

"MTV Night is just one of the events during Greek Week," marketing junior Mike Scavuzzo said. "Each fraternity pairs up with one sorority. But before that happens, the best dancers of each house are chosen. Houses have auditions for their own house."

"Our main goal of Greek Week is to raise money for the American Cancer Society," Scavuzzo said. "MTV Night lets the houses have fun and raise funds for a good cause. It can get very competitive though."

The audience erupted in standing ovations when the groups finished their performances, a testament to the tremendous effort put forth by the dancers.

"It's amazing to see the talent that is in some of these houses, and students are usually shocked," biology senior Annie Dalby said.

"Each team rehearsed for months ahead of time to prepare," advertising sophomore Christine Ridenour said. "Each team had six minutes to show everyone what they have been practicing for."

The houses that participated in MTV Night and other events of Greek Week weren't particularly looking for fame amongst their peers, though.

"MTV Night is one of the more popular events of Greek Week," said Dalby. "Winners of MTV Night earn their house points. By the end of the week, the team that earns the most points wins. The goal is to raise money for not only the American Cancer Society, but for other local philanthropies."

Anthony Harvey



Lauren Wood

Members of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority dance along to a mix of popular songs at the Auditorium during Greek Week. The group, along with members of Theta Chi and Lambda Chi Alpha fraternities, choreographed their own dances for the event.



Lauren Wood

Lyman Briggs medical technology junior Mike Hresko and retailing senior Hallie Curran lean back on the Auditorium stage during MTV Night. Hresko and Curran competed for Sigma Chi and Kappa Alpha Theta, and won first place at the event.



Lauren Wood

Sorority Sisters and Scouts

Group gives back to community and mentors girls

On Nov. 13, the sisters of Kappa Delta hosted a social event in their basement, but instead of college students with beers in-hand, their guests were Girl Scouts with crafts in-hand.

One of the sorority's goals is to promote friendship amongst college-aged women, but on this night Kappa Delta's 115 sisters offered their friendship to girls half their age.

"I think it is really nice to be able to meet with the younger girls and share our experiences with them," interior design freshman Brittany Bachteal said.

During the evening, the girls of the Red Cedar Elementary Brownie Troop traced their outlines onto large pieces of paper, onto which they wrote about themselves. Ice cream was scooped and passed out for the girls after their art projects were perfected.

Kappa Delta conducted several other events with the girls such as a Dad's Day, when members of the troop bring their fathers to a Spartan hockey game and experience the fun atmosphere on campus. Every other week, several active members of the sorority attend the troop's meeting.

Kappa Delta prided itself on philanthropy and its work with the Girl Scouts, which allowed the sorority to reach out to the community.

"Working with Girl Scouts gets the Kappa Delta name out to not just campus, but the community as well," kinesiology senior Carla Fiorenzo said. "It's a good way to give back to the community, as well as show everyone what the Greek system is really about."

Colby Berthume



Benjamin Lindstrom

"Working with Girl Scouts gets the Kappa Delta name out to not just campus, but the community as well"
-carla fiorenzo



uren Wood



Benjamin Lindstrom

Kappa Delta's Girl Scout chair and kinesiology senior Carla Fiorenzo, helps eight-year-olds Byrnne Luter, Victoria Davis-King, Tess Washburn and Keilani Bailey pick beaded bracelets out. The girls were so eager to try on the bracelets that one of them broke as they were trying them on.

Eight-year-old Tess Washburn spreads her arms and legs as interior design freshman Brittany Bachteal traces her outline. The Red Cedar Elementary School Brownie troop had fun decorating their pictures with the sorority girls before having ice cream.

Brotherly *Bond*

Brothers pride themselves on values

Whether it was organizing fundraisers for their charity, YouthAIDS or playing a game with one of the house's many intramural sports teams, the men of Sigma Phi Epsilon knew what it took to be brothers.

"For the most part, we are a competitive group of guys," said Luis Suarez, a hospitality business freshman and fundraising co-chair. "We have IM hockey, basketball, soccer, football and softball teams. We're a bunch of different guys with a lot of different qualities, but one thing we share is we would do anything for each other. It's so far beyond just friendship."

Although the guys have fun, they base their activities off of the Sigma Phi Epsilon cardinal principles.

"Our house is based on the core values virtue, diligence and brotherly love," said Pat Chargot, human biology freshman and fundraising co-chair. "It is important to us that we always do the right thing, that we have our priorities straight and that we go out of our way to help our brothers out. We are always there for each other."

The university chapter was founded in the 1950s and has grown to more than 70 active members.

"We just organized an alumni board," Suarez said. "They are going to help send us in a direction and serve as mentors and guides."

Suarez said that the brothers wanted to develop a stronger relationship with their alumni.

"We want to get to know where the house came from," he said. "We are going to a Lugnuts game with them next month, and several other outings are being planned."

Every activity put on by the house is used as a bonding experience.

"We see all the brothers at least once a week at the chapter meeting," Chargot said. "In one way or another, everyone is participating in something."

Leslie Tilson

Sigma Phi Epsilon hockey players watch from the bench at Munn Ice Arena. The fraternity won 6-2 after three periods of play.



Eric MacKinnon



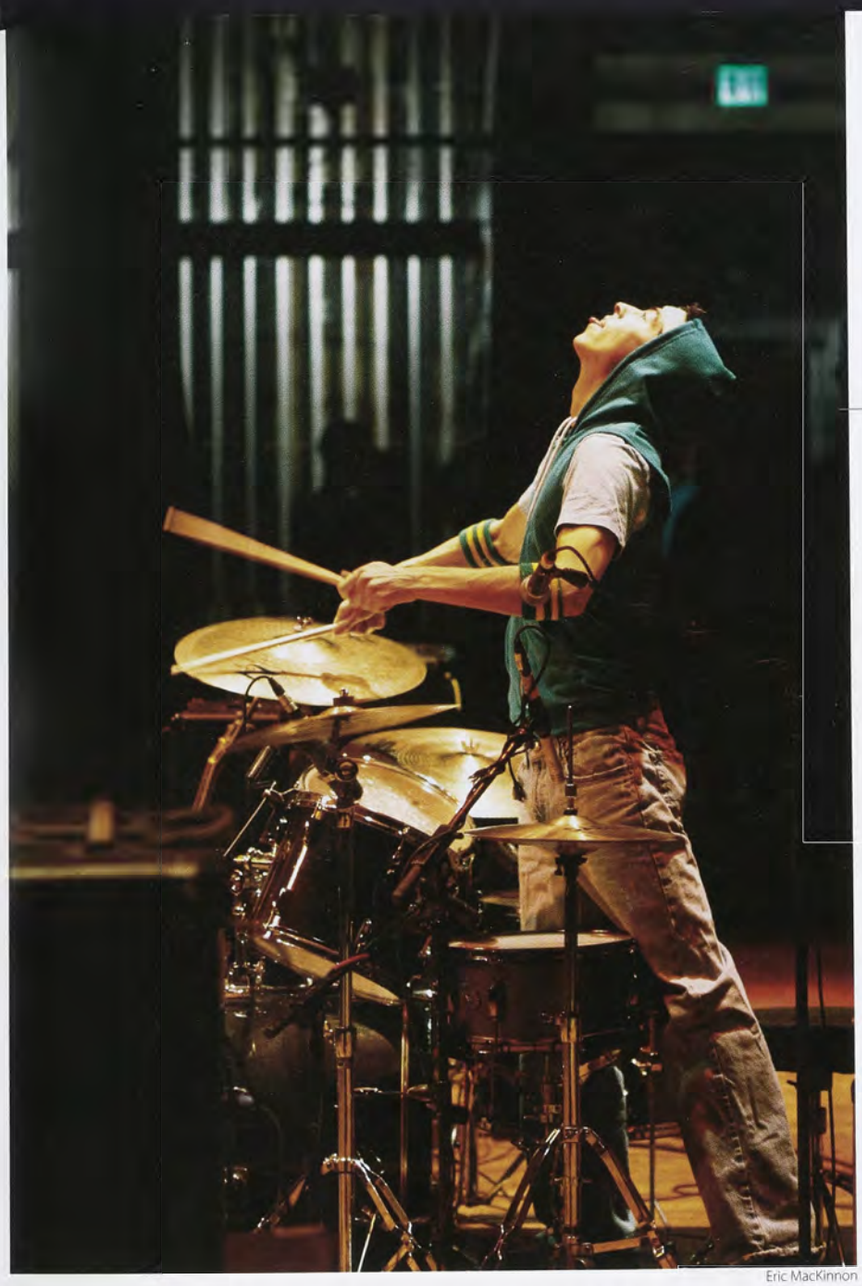
Eric MacKinnon

Between periods, members of Sigma Phi Epsilon gather on the bench at Munn Ice Arena. Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers played a fast-paced, high scoring game.



Eric MacKinnon

Fisheries and wildlife freshman Nick Giannola guards the net during an IM hockey game. Giannola and his brothers dominated with skilled puck control.



Eric MacKinnon

"So if you want to skip the struggle to the top, you can go Greek and play in front of this many people."
-ryan pierson

Political science senior Erik Vanderweyden finishes his set during the Greek Week Battle of the Bands at the Auditorium. Alpha Gamma Rho, Chi Omega and Sigma Phi Epsilon formed one of the teams that competed during Greek Week.

Civil engineering senior Cole Ernsberger strums the bass guitar while members of Alpha Kappa Psi, Delta Chi and Kappa Delta entertain the audience. Students filled the Auditorium during Greek Week's Battle of the Bands competition.



Eric MacKinnon

Rockin' *For a Cause*

Greek community performs musical acts

The Auditorium went dark, the walls pounded, feet were stomped and neon glow sticks shone through against the crowd as the women of Chi Omega began to belt out Outkast's "Hey Ya!"

Battle of the Bands took place at the Auditorium on Feb. 25. One of the annual traditions of Greek Week, the profits from the event benefited the American Cancer Society.

"People really get to showcase their talents at Battle of the Bands," said Lauren Cavner, mathematics junior and member of Pi Beta Phi. "I enjoy the creativity of this event. We raise over $100,000 a year with Greek Week from creative events like this."

Battle of the Bands had a $5 admission and most members of the Greek community were required to attend. Musically-inclined members of the fraternities and sororities organized 12 different teams to compete. Each team created and practiced a musical montage based on their chosen theme.

"It's a lot of fun," said Jonathan Brooks, history junior and member of Lambda Chi. "It's all familiar music and your friends performing, and it's for a good cause."

The nearly three-hour-long show featured 10-minute performances of popular music from artists including Miley Cyrus, The Strokes, Elvis Presley and The Who.

"Hard to not be famous and play on this stage," said Ryan Pierson, accounting sophomore and member of Sigma Pi. "So if you want to skip the struggle to the top, you can go Greek and play in front of this many people."

The fraternities and sororities practiced for weeks in advance to be ready to perform in front of celebrity judges, including East Lansing mayor Victor Loomis Jr. and a panel of music professors.

"It's friendly competition," Delta Gamma house mother Linda Shankland said. "I think it's a shame this community doesn't get more recognition. The amount of money they raise, you never hear anything about it."

The winning musical act was a collaboration between Alpha Omicron Pi, Sigma Nu and Kappa Sigma.

Marissa Cumbers

Nutrition junior Kristin Schradle collects her winnings at the Pi Kappa Alpha Texas Hold 'Em Tournament. The tournament helped raise money for a foundation, which funds cancer research and awareness.



Alissa Lane

Communication freshman Taylor McGrann, pre-medicine freshman Madeline Petcoff and engineering freshman Carly Wilberding wait for the deal. Three sororities and four fraternities attended the Pi Kappa Alpha's first-ever Texas Hold 'Em tournament.



Alissa Lane

Hit *Me!*

Poker tournament raises money for cancer patients

Upon first look around the house on 301 Charles St., the official house of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, you could find beverages scattered around the floor and counter spaces, music playing and the sound of many different conversations blending into one big jumble of a noise.

The scene was like a typical Friday night throughout the school year for a fraternity. Only this time, people gathered at the house not to party, but to raise money for a good cause.

"We try to do at least one philanthropy event a semester," construction management senior Brad Glenn said.

On April 17, the fraternity held a Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament for their winter semester event. The tournament was open to all Greek organizations, with a $20 buy-in. All proceeds of the event went to a foundation, which offers its support to Mesothelioma patients.

"The foundation helps out a sorority girl's – who is a friend of our fraternity – dad," said Glenn. "We choose whatever we feel like giving our money to, but when it's something personal, it makes it a whole lot better."

In the fall, Pi Kappa Alpha raised $650 through Pike Spike, a volleyball tournament which raised funds for the Michigan Parkinson Foundation.

"Unfortunately, weather forced us to move the event inside so it wasn't as successful as we hoped but we still raised some money," Glenn said.

On the night of the tournament, laughter could be heard as brothers mingled between different tables and it became obvious that winning took a backseat to the bigger picture of the poker tournament.

"There is a mixture of competitive people and people who don't care, but for the most part, people are just here to hang out and donate to a good cause," Glenn said. "In the future, we would like to make this an annual competitive event, but for now we are just happy to be raising money."

Human biology junior Carly Wolfe could not agree more that the poker tournament should happen on a regular basis.

"This should be an annual event," Wolfe said in between eating a bag of chips and casually tossing her poker chips on to the table. "It's a really great way to raise money, and the money is going to a great cause, so everybody is relaxed and doesn't care much about winning."

According to Glenn, a total of seven Greek organizations had representatives come, and the tournament raised over $1,000.

"I believe that any time we raise money, it is a success," said Glenn. "But this one turned out to be a huge success."

Colby Berthume



Grilling, Riding *and Dunking*

Fraternity hosts weeklong fundraiser

At the Sigma Chi Fraternity House on East Grand River Avenue, a mechanical bull jerked up and down in the lawn. But the bull, part of Sigma Chi's Derby Days, wasn't some fraternity scheme. It was part of a weeklong philanthropy drive hosted by Sigma Chi.

Derby Days took place at Sigma Chi chapters across the nation and is a tradition that began in the South with the Kentucky Derby. The university chapter planned about four different events for the week and invited members of both the Greek and East Lansing community to participate in the philanthropy.

"We try to get Derby Days to be not only a Greek event, but a campus- and community-wide event," human biology senior Jon Hinz said. "The Greeks and non-Greeks can all get together. It gives you an opportunity to make one of the largest universities a smaller place."

Throughout the Derby Days' week, Sigma Chi hosted a barbecue, penny war, water balloon toss, mechanical bull riding competition, races and a Virginia Coalition concert at the Union.

"The atmosphere is kind of a way to bring in spring," food sciences sophomore Austin Abessinio said. "I don't want to say it is a weeklong party, because there is a lot more to it."

Derby Days is the largest event Sigma Chi plans during the school year. Guests paid to attend and participate, and the proceeds from activities were donated to the Children's Miracle Network and the Huntsman Cancer Institute.

"Derby Days is a great way to meet people in the community," pre-medicine junior Mike Hresko said. "It's all philanthropy, and we do a lot of things for a good cause."

Along with Derby Days, Sigma Chi planned other philanthropy projects throughout the year, including volunteering with Extreme Home Makeover and the United Way.

Marissa Cumbers



Lauren Wood

General management freshman Tatiana Campo, part of Kappa Kappa Gamma, does the limbo as part of Sigma Chi's Derby Days. The event was held indoors because of rainy weather.



Megan Peters

Trying to settle on a size, supply chain management junior Chelsey Mann models a Derby Days fundraising shirt during the barbecue. "This is a hard decision," she said.

> *It's all philanthropy, and we do a lot of things for a good cause.*
> *-mike hresko*

East Lansing resident Soussana Kimbouris shows special education junior Hilary Gorosh her muscles. Many members of the Greek community volunteered to sign in participants, run stations and referee the basketball tournament.



Alissa Lane



Finance junior Keegan Thompson of Pi Kappa Phi officiates Holt resident Jenniffer Spencer's game during the Area 8 basketball tournament. "I'm happy to be here and help. I love to volunteer," Thompson said.

East Lansing resident Yolanda Wiess and her fellow classmates spend the day playing with members of the Greek community at IM West. The Young Athletes Program hosted the day of fun with the help of many campus sororities and fraternities.



Alissa Lane

Outstanding Olympians

Greek community participates in special day

For one fun-filled day, the Greek community came together to host the Special Olympics at I.M. West as part of their annual Greek Week.

Every year, as part of the Greek Week tradition, all the fraternities and sororities on campus play host to the Special Olympics. Each team, which consisted of two fraternities and a sorority, was required to send volunteers to the event.

"I think it definitely shows how the Greek organizations give back to the community," said Erin Hollemans, director of the Special Olympics for Greek Week.

Most of the participants came from Lansing-area special education programs, but participants were of all age groups. Many of the volunteers running the program were from different sororities and fraternities on campus. All participants were registered members of the Special Olympics program.

"Each Greek Week, fraternities and sororities team up with each other and send about three volunteers apiece," Hollemans said.

The activities consisted of a basketball skill competition which took place on the first floor of I.M. West, and on the second floor there was an organized basketball tournament. The skills competition was put on for participants who weren't part of an organized team, while the tournament was more formal and hosted organized school teams from around the Lansing area.

"We have at least 30 teams with different age divisions for the tournament," tournament organizer Merdith DiMaria said. "The refs are all volunteers and most of them are area P.E. teachers or parents who have been a part of the program for a while."

Another event was also available for participants younger than 8 years old. They were able to play in a recreational area set up on the first floor in the turf room consisting of five stations, including volleyball, basketball and hurdles.

"They rotate every seven minutes and it gives them a chance to get to do a lot of different activities," finance freshman A.J. Mestdagh said. "I'm glad we have the opportunity to participate in something like this because it's definitely something special for a lot of people."

Colby Berthume



Alissa Lane

Good Eats

Pancake breakfast raises money for underprivileged children

The fresh smell of pancakes filled the air as people eagerly chowed down their breakfast and enjoyed each others' company at the Gamma Phi Beta house.

Some of those in attendance knew they were raising money for a good cause, but most people attended just to enjoy a steaming hot breakfast.

"I heard of this from the girls in the sorority," event guest Chris Sahagun said. "I just thought it would be a good idea to come out and support."

The pancake breakfast was held to raise money for Camp Fire USA, an organization that Gamma Phi Beta has been giving money to for several years now.

"Camp Fire USA is an organization the helps underprivileged school children by providing them with after school activities and dinners," president Kelly Hauser said.

People paid $5 to attend the event and were treated to an unlimited amount of pancakes, toppings and juice.

"Our breakfast was open to the public, and we let people know about the event through t-shirts and flyers," Hauser said. "We also pre-sold tickets so a lot of girls got their friends and family to come."

Members of Gamma Phi Beta were not able to directly interact with the children because Camp Fire USA was not a local organization, but they did their best to keep in touch.

"At our weekly meetings, we make games and toys to send to the kids," said Hauser.

The sorority also participated in other philanthropy events throughout the Greek community.

"The girls in our house are required to go to at least two other philanthropy events, and we've won Relay for Life the past three years," said Hauser, "We just really take the idea of fundraising to a new level."

Colby Berthume



Megan Peters



Megan Peters

Drizzling Mrs. Buttersworth's syrup on her pancakes, advertising sophomore Stephanie Kastelic dines at the Gamma Phi Beta Pancake Breakfast. The sisters wanted to cook the pancakes themselves, but decided it would be a better idea to leave it to their house mom to cook.

Zoology junior Cassie Bunker, communicative sciences and disorders freshman Kaitlyn McDonald and international relations sophomore Ronnie Hwang replenish the dwindling pile plates for the constant flow of guests in the house.

> *"We just really take the idea of fundraising to a new level"*
> *-kelly hauser*

Can You *Spare a Penny?*

Greeks ask for change at final fundraiser

Twelve large jars were lined up across multiple tables. Hundreds of parents and students filed into the Auditorium and slipped their change into jars as they wandered by. Paul Shkreli, Lambda Chi Alpha brother and psychology senior, flashed a bag of silver change and glanced at the jars.

"Penny Wars," Shkreli said. "Pennies are positive points towards our Greek Week score. If you have cash or silver coins in your team's jar, you lose points. We are about to destroy teams with this bag."

On Feb. 28, Songfest, the final event of Greek Week, was preceded by a fundraiser for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Throughout the week, all performance admissions and projects raised money supporting numerous local and national charities.

"You get to inspire people to [do] community service during Greek Week," Shkreli said. "Our team alone raised over $30,000. All of us together have raised almost $200,000. It brings fraternities and sororities together in a really positive manner."

At Songfest, 12 different teams of sororities and fraternities created dance sequences to popular music and opened the event to the public to raise funds through admission and Penny Wars.

"This is just people trying to dance," said Kelley Groth, Delta Gamma sister and economics sophomore. "It's a lot of time and effort, but we all try really hard because it's all for cancer."

Prior to the show, the Greek Week chairs presented donations to two Michigan foundations: Arts and Scraps and My Team Triumph. The largest portion of Greek Week fundraising is donated to the American Cancer Society.

"Songfest is a great way to end Greek Week," said Alyssa Goodman, Greek Week chair, Gamma Phi Beta sister and journalism senior. "It's a culmination of the week's work because it's when we present all the checks to various organizations."

The Auditorium lit up with a rainbow of glow sticks throughout the performances as students sat with their teams to cheer on the performers.

"Songfest is very exciting," said Jon Birnbaum, Alpha Tau Omega brother and history sophomore, "because it determines how things fall into place. I hope that everyone had a good time and that the best dancers [won]."

Marissa Cumbers



Eric Mackinnon

General management sophomore Brad Anderson hides behind a golden mask on stage at the Auditorium. Anderson and other members of his fraternity, Delta Chi, participated in Greek Week's Songfest.



Eric Mackinnon

Accounting freshman Scott Lee embraces communication junior Alina Blackford during Songfest. Lee and Blackford danced to multiple songs, showing off many different dance moves.



Alissa Lane

Journalism freshman Kelsey Pence and political science junior Ryan Fagin have fun on the court during Delta Gamma's Anchor Slam. Anchor Slam was a three-on-three basketball tournament that raised money for Service for Sight.

The score stands at 3 to 16 during the Delta Gamma Anchor Slam charity tournament. Twelve teams from various sororities and fraternities helped raise money for a foundation that gives support to the blind.



Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane

Political science junior Ryan Fagin plays some tight defense against education junior Stephanie Potash. Potash was a member of the Delta Gamma team and helped her sorority raise money during their second largest philanthropy event of the year.

Slam *Dunk for Sight*

Basketball tournament raises money for the blind

Greeks gathered at IM West on March 28 for Delta Gamma's Anchor Slam basketball tournament.

The event was a fundraiser for Delta Gamma's foundation, Service for Sight, which raises money and awareness for the blind.

"The Delta Gamma foundation was started by the sorority in 1936," Brittany Bremenour, president and kinesiology junior said. "This year, we have raised over $1,600. All of it is going to sight awareness, research and funding for blind schools."

The women of Delta Gamma invited all sororities and fraternities to participate in the event. Journalism freshman Kelsey Pence played on the Delta Gamma team.

"Three of us played basketball in high school," Pence said. "We lost both rounds but it was close and we had fun."

Delta Gamma only sponsored one team in the competition, but the sorority members came to show their support.

"We do a lot of things for charity," Pence said. "It's nice to do things for a good cause with your friends."

The sorority's main event was Anchor Splash in the fall, but the basketball tournament also brought in a lot of people.

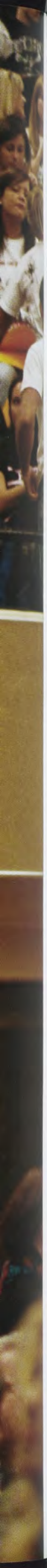
"This is the third year we have done it and it gets better and better every year," child development junior Sara Fortier said.

Marketing junior Sydney Close organized the event, hoping to raise more than their goal of $1,400.

"We are really excited to get more people in the Greek community involved each year," Close said.

Leslie Tilson


ΠΚΦ ΠΒΦ ΣΑΕ
The Rat Pack
RELAY FOR LIFE



***Sorority** members place a banner supporting their Greek Week team. Teams **practiced**, worked and performed together all week hoping to earn the title of Greek Week **champions**.*
photo by Eric MacKinnon

"I think by being members we are bettering the business leaders of tomorrow"
-lindsay wysocki



International relations and economics senior John Bremer tees off on hole five at College Fields golf course. Bremer focused by keeping his head down and his eyes on the ball for a powerful shot off the tee.

Eric MacKinnon



Bettering the Business World

Students golf and connect with alumi

Founded in 1952, Alpha Kappa Psi aimed to help its members network and prepare to enter the business world.

Despite being a co-ed business fraternity, Alpha Kappa Psi participated in the Greek community and even had a chapter house near campus.

"There's professional and social aspects to it," finance junior Allie Matthews said. "Companies will come and speak to us, then we have parties and philanthropy events."

The fraternity's annual philanthropy event was the Alumni Golf Outing.

"This is the third year we have had the golf outing," marketing graduate Eric Haslinger said. "It benefits the Mason Leadership Camps, which sends kids to summer camps, and the James Rainey Scholarship Fund."

In addition to raising money for charity and creating lifelong friends, the members of Alpha Kappa Psi sought to get ahead in the business world.

"I think by being members we are bettering the business leaders of tomorrow," supply chain management senior Lindsay Wysocki said. "It's a great networking opportunity. Since I joined, I've progressed just by talking to alumni and other professionals."

Accounting sophomore Matt Burton said he had already seen the benefits of using Alpha Kappa Psi as a networking opportunity.

"I just got a job this summer working for Broad Ambassadors," Burton said." It definitely helped me go out there and get experience."

Leslie Tilson



Accounting graduate student Joe Hamilton begins his down swing. Hamilton and his group started on hole 16, which they completed on par.

Eric MacKinnon



Eric MacKinnon

Greek presidents and community members enjoy dinner at the Farmhouse fraternity. Fire Marshal Bob Pratt sat with sorority presidents during the dinner.

Communication junior Allie Vukov and international relations and political theory and constitutional democracy junior Alex Fike inform greek presidents of upcoming changes for next school year. Vukov was the acting president of the Panhellenic Council while Fike was the president of the Interfraternity Council, which oversees the 24 active fraternities on campus.



Eric MacKinnon

Not A Mere Barnyard

Farmers seed growth in the community and their fraternity

During its Building Bridges dinner, city officials and university administrators sat down with leaders of university fraternities and sororities to discuss proposals from the Greek community.

Some of the ideas proposed by the Greek leaders included a community outreach initiative which included more alcohol-alternative events for students on campus during the academic year.

"Everything you [the Greek community] do all year long is great. You're doing some outstanding projects," East Lansing Mayor Victor Loomis, Jr. said.

Hosted by the local chapter of FarmHouse Fraternity, Building Bridges provided an opportunity for students to share ideas with city officials and promote the positive contributions the Greek community has made for the city, FarmHouse president Greg Thon said.

"All most people perceive of the Greek community is the stereotypes portrayed in movies," Thon said. "People don't realize the [number] of positive things we do all year round."

Thon became president of FarmHouse in the fall of 2007. Under his leadership, the fraternity's membership increased 23 percent, the brothers became more active in events for the community and there had been numerous renovations made to their home on 151 Bogue St.

One philanthropic project FarmHouse added to its resume was the pedal-pull event. Teams from the Greek community competed by racing a pedal tractor pulling a weighted sled.

"We raised over $2,000 in this year's pedal-pull," said FarmHouse member Eric Chase. All of the proceeds from the pedal-pull went to the American Diabetes Association.

FarmHouse has established itself as the campus's agricultural fraternity, but the house's only member without an agriculture-related major said that he couldn't be happier than living with the farm boys.

"Well, it helps that I'm a redneck at heart," history, philosophy and sociology of science junior Christian Benvin said. "These guys are loyal, down to earth and will always be there for you. You will never find anything like this."

As a member of FarmHouse, Benvin learned a lot about being a leader, dealing with diversity as well as aspects of business and farming.

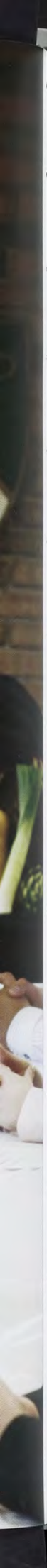
"We are basically a group of 18 to 22 year-olds running a small business," he said.

In the 1960s, FarmHouse boasted the top grade point average of any fraternity on campus, and Thon said he was trying to get the house back to that elite status.

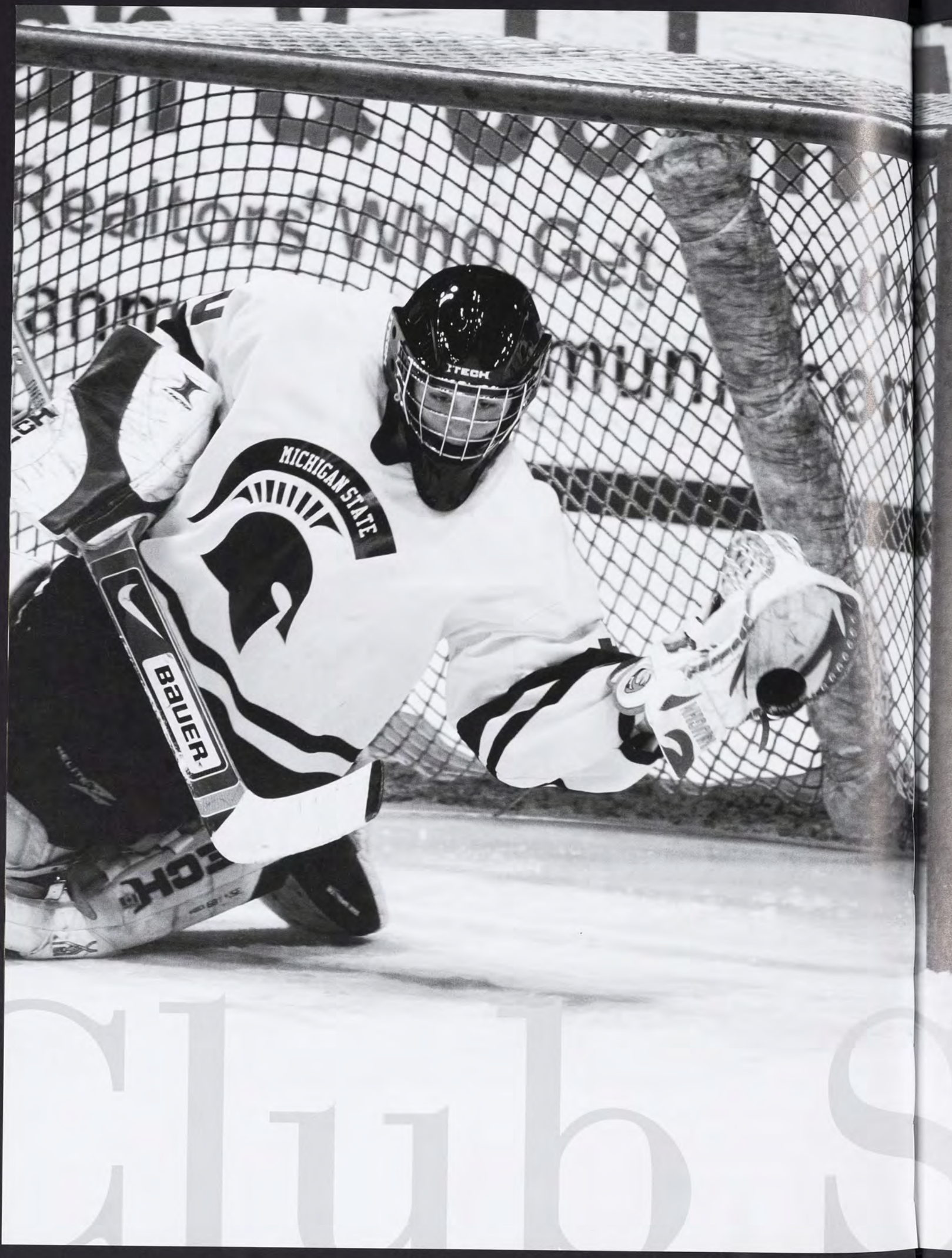
"I have been working hard for the house and it is great to see the decisions I have made have succeeded," he said. "We have been succeeding because we have been focusing on philanthropy and using our skills to help society, and I hope people realize that."

Aaron Miller


AEII
AKV



Fraternity and sorority presidents socialize before ***presentations*** *get under way at the FarmHouse fraternity. The presidents listened to speakers from the* ***community*** *as well as governing organizations.*
photo by Eric Mackinnon


MICHIGAN STATE
BAUER



01.17.09 | Women's Ice Hockey | Photo by Benjamin Lindstrom

Providing students with an outlet for releasing stress and as a way to keep fit, club sports were a necessary part of life on campus. Sports not officially classified as varsity sports, like women's hockey, gained recognition as club sports, allowing students a chance to participate in a wider variety of recreation. Some sports competing on the varsity level, such as soccer and tennis, also offered club teams, giving more athletes opportunities to play. In addition to showcasing student athletes' talents, these teams also helped them to develop discipline and determination that would stay with them long after graduation.

Club Sports



Human biology freshman Trey Sommers keeps the ball away from a defender at the Spartan Invite. This match against an all-star team from Illinois was one of the only games the national championship water polo team lost.

Human biology senior Evan Perry winds up for a shot at the Spartan Invite. Perry was one of the top players on the water polo club team, playing in the utility position.

Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

Dominating the Waves

Men make a splash on the national scene

Led by co-captain Evan Perry with three goals, the men's water polo team clenched the National Championship after winning the game against California Polytechnic State University on Nov. 16.

The water polo team made a name for itself during the season with a record of 34-2. They dominated the national scene over the previous four seasons with two first place and two second place wins.

The team was a tight group of friends, as many of them played together in high school and throughout college, and they attribute much of their success to team bonding.

"Out of the pool, we hang out all of the time and in the pool it shows," human biology senior Evan Perry said. "You know exactly what they are going to do."

During almost every weekend since the start of the season, the team traveled by car or plane to tournaments in Tennessee and California. On top of paying for all of their expenses, engineering senior Kenneth Eschbach said it was difficult for them to get their school work done while traveling.

And new coach Laszlo Hruza, who hails from Hungary, became not only a coach but a great friend to the team.

"He's a crazy Hungarian that likes to torture us, but he can whip anyone into shape and knows a lot about water polo," pre-medical sophomore Nick Talaski said.

Perry, who has been playing since he was 7-years-old, recalled one of the most memorable moments of the season during tournament in California.

"We came up to the pool and we were all bigger and whiter than the California tan, long-haired guys," Perry said. "It was 50 degrees and they were wearing UGG boots and jackets. We had on shorts. It didn't matter though because when we got into the pool we kicked their ass."

Jessica Dupnack

Pre-law freshman Maureen O'Brien drives down the ice during a game against the University of Massachusetts. Ranked fourth, the Spartans defeated then third ranked Minutewomen 4-1 and 4-2 in a two game series during the weekend of Jan. 17.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Ponytail Power on Ice

Team showcases talent in male-dominated sport

Underneath their masks and gear, the only thing to distinguish members of the women's club hockey from their male counterparts as they skated were the ponytails swishing across the back of their jerseys.

Each of the women had different reasons to play- like marketing freshman Mika Corrigan whose father played for the Detroit Red Wings or psychology senior Sarah Parker whose inspiration came from "The Mighty Ducks." Together, though, they came from across the country with the common goal: to pursue their passion for ice hockey at the collegiate level.

"After a stressful day of classes, it's a relief to come to the rink and see all of my best friends in the locker room," said journalism junior and team captain Michelle Crechiolo. "Playing here lets me have time to enjoy the entire college experience, while still playing competitively and experiencing the unity of a team."

The American Collegiate Hockey Association ranked the team in the top five. Eager to win their first championship since 2003, the women looked most forward to playing hockey powerhouses like Lindenwood and Robert Morris.

Even during their dreaded 6 a.m. practices, the players showed great respect for their coach, Jeff Wilson, who used his time to encourage the women's intensity on the rink. And the ladies had no problem showing their love for the typically male-dominated sport.

"People would say that it's a man's game or that women's hockey isn't a sport, and not very good because there's no hitting or fighting allowed," Corrigan said. "But, the acceptance of women in uncharacteristic places is becoming more widespread across society."

Jessica Dupnack



Benjamin Lindstrom

The women's club hockey team shake hands with the University of Massachusetts team after beating them 4-2 on Jan. 18. The Spartans exhibited excellent teamwork in their two games against the University of Massachusetts allowing them to dominate the ice against the Minutewomen.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Before the women's club hockey team begins its game against the University of Massachusetts on Jan. 17, the women get together for their pre-game cheer. The team was founded in 1995 and in 2003 won the American Collegiate Hockey Association championship.

Team Competes at High Level

Members stay sharp physically and mentally

Fencing may be an afterthought on campus compared to other sports, but members of the team are as dedicated as anyone to their sport.

Every night the team practiced until10:30 p.m. for their tournaments on the weekends, and although Mondays practices were laid back, all other practices were filled with great intensity.

"Mondays are usually a relaxed day because the tournaments on the weekends kill our legs," political science senior Jason Shaudt said.

Their competitive season started a month into school and went all the way until Nationals in May. The club also partcipated in the highly competitive Midwest Fencing League.

"We face a lot of tough teams," Shaudt said. "One of our biggest competitors is Notre Dame, which is known for having multiple Olympic fencers."

The team finished in the top third of most of their tournaments this year.

A typical fencing tournament can result in each participant competing in up to 30 bouts, with each bout lasting up to three minutes.

Many of the club members felt that fencing helped them not only physically, but mentally as well.

"Unlike most sports, fencing isn't purely physical," computer science sophomore Will Bonner said. "It is just as much mental. You have to be able to outsmart your opponent in only 30 or 40 seconds."

With the attitude the members portray, it is obvious that anyone can join, but not just anyone can compete.

Colby Berthume



Benjamin Lindstrom

Advertising sophomore Chris McMahon goes for a touch on James Madison freshman Mike Richards during a fencing practice at IM West. The club team practices all year long Monday through Thursday in the evening.



Benjamin Lindstrom

History sophomore Cameron Paxton lunges forward at computer science senior Ryan Wagoner at fencing practice on a Thursday evening. The two were warming up as practice began in the basement gym at IM West.

Kinesiology freshman Jonathan Mccoy exits a slalom gate at Crystal Mountain. The racers faced warm weather Saturday and icy conditions Sunday.



Eric MacKinnon

Members of colligate ski teams inspect the race course. The Spartan team members was among those who traveled to Crystal Mountain to race.



Eric MacKinnon



Eric MacKinnon

Jane and Dave Ledebuhr of Okemos talk with their son, mathematics senior Wes Ledebuhr, while University of Michigan student Gregory Wagner races. The Ledebuhrs traveled to Crystal Mountain for Parent's Weekend to support their son.

Snowy Spartans

Team fuses fun and competition

The Alpine Ski and Snowboarding team allows expert and novice snow lovers to practice and compete in their downhill sport of choice. The team attended five meets throughout Michigan, competing against teams from all over the Midwest.

"The highlight this year has been our girls' alpine team dominating the races every weekend," advertising senior Kate Hornbogen said. "For me, this organization has made MSU feel smaller, despite its massive size."

The team traveled to all of the competitions together but members competed individually at the races. They skied at Crystal Mountain, the Otsego Ski Club and Marquette. Skiers participated in slalom events on the first day of a competition and giant slalom on the second. The snowboarders compete separately in giant slalom.

"I don't do it for the competitive aspect," said Rebbeca Daiek, Alpine Ski and Snowboarding president and kinesiology senior. "It becomes like a family. It is good way for people growing up racing to still be competitive. But it isn't just serious - you have fun too."

The team has a strong partnership with Western Michigan University's Ski and Snowboarding team, and the teams take many of their trips together. While the Spartans travel mostly to compete, they did enjoy a free social ski weekend at Boyne Ski Resort along with Western Michigan University's team.

"This organization is great," English junior Leah Williams said. "It gives you the chance to meet a bunch of people with the same interests and talents as yourself. It's like gaining 50 instant friends just by joining the team."

The team held dry-land practices throughout the fall semester at the IM West practice field. Members gathered outdoors twice a week for an opportunity to get to know one another before the season began in causal team sports scrimmages.

Marissa Cumbers

Bouncing Back

Sport grows more popular on campus

Ka-chunk, ka-chunk, ka-chunk. It's the sound of a plastic ball whizzing through the air, being knocked back-and-forth by students wielding wooden paddles.

Ka-chunk, ka-chunk, ka-chunk. It's a sound that was replicated hundreds of times at the university's Table Tennis Club's practices, on the racquetball courts in I.M. West.

"I love the game," said president of Table Tennis Club, Ziru Li. "The speed, the skill; I just like everything about it."

Li and about 30 other students and faculty met every Monday and Wednesday at I.M. West to improve their playing ability and have a good time.

"It had been a while since I played [table tennis] before joining the club," biosystems engineering junior Nancy Maschke said. "I can still remember playing with my brothers in our basement at home. It's just really fun."

According to the club's faculty advisor, Jie Huang, the club was originally formed in 2001. Membership and interest in the club dropped throughout the next four years, causing the club to disband. The club was reorganized in 2006, and membership numbers have been gradually increasing ever since.

"The problem was that the club wasn't well organized at first," Huang said. "Now, we have students who are taking great responsibility." Huang said that the three key ingredients to the club's success are responsible students, players who are interested and university support.

"Currently, our biggest problem is limited space," Li said. "We have only four [table tennis] tables and usually around 20 students who want to play at once."

"We have players of varying skill levels," Huang said. "We want more room so everybody will be able to get more playing time and play with people of their current skill level."

Since 2006, the club has participated in tournaments through the National Collegiate Table Tennis Association, playing against schools such as Ferris State, Ohio State University and the University of Michigan. The club's membership has also become very diverse over those years, now having members from Russia, Romania, Korea, Thailand and China.

"I fell in love with the sport when I played in China," said accounting freshman Tianhang Zhang, "and I continue to love it here."

Aaron Miller



Club faculty advisor Jie Huang keeps on his toes as no preferance freshman Panyavit Chattanrassamee fires a shot back at him. As far as new members go, Chattanrassamee said, "We want anyone to play, beginner or professional."

Finance junior Venora Wong prepares to serve during a table tennis team practice at I.M. West. After a long break from the sport, Wong had just recently started playing again in the table tennis club.

Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane



Biochemistry graduate student Ziru Li sizes up his opponent before serving. Li was the president of the table tennis club.



Lauren Wood

English senior Alex Hayner and pre-medical sophomore Andrew Worden watch their team practice from the sidelines at Soccer Zone in Lansing. The men's club soccer team played schools throughout the Midwest, including Purdue University and the University of Michigan.

The men's club soccer team has had a winning season with a record of 8-1-0, making them the leaders of the Central Divison in the Midwest Alliance Soccer Conference. After the regular season, they competed in regionals then went on to the Collegiate Club Soccer Nationals.



Lauren Wood

Coming Back Together

New and old players merge

Rambunctious and energetic when they were together, the men's club soccer team became a group of close friends throughout the year, making practice fun by cracking jokes as they kicked around the ball.

However, the practice environment on Nov. 17 was a little different. This was the team's last practice before heading to the National Intramural-Recreation Sports Association's National Tournament in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

After losing 11 seniors, the team had a year to adjust and sought many new team members to fill the vacant spots.

"We had approximately 100 players come out to try out in August," said coach Scott Dane. "We only pick 22 and, once we settle on those 22, we get right into the season. It is a very short turn around so meshing the guys' personalities and talents can be hard."

Of the 60 club soccer teams in Michigan, only four make it to the National Tournament. After the regular season, the Spartans placed second in the national Midwest division and first in the Michigan division.

"Last year, we were pretty much a point away from going to nationals," said education senior Alex Hayner. "We came in with the goal to make nationals. Returning players have matured, and the younger guys are taking on bigger roles."

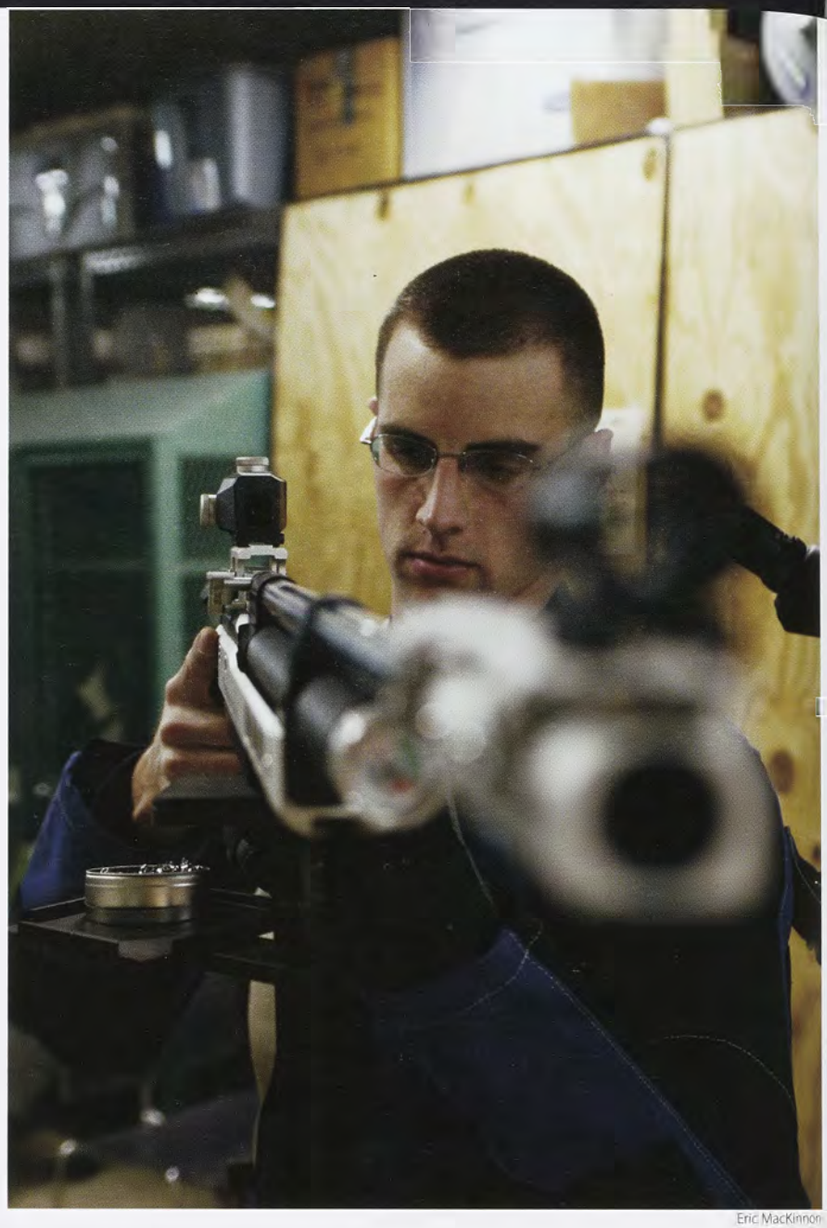
The team's members sought nothing but victory through their efforts, practicing twice a week and playing in various tournaments on the weekends. With a record of 11-2-1 and an automatic bid to Nationals, the team achieved their goal.

"The challenge with a lot new players was getting everybody else to incorporate into our style," pre-law senior David Poole said. "It was the point where we needed to win two games to go to nationals, and we won. It was a great feeling."

At the tournament in Tuscaloosa, the team won their first two games against Texas A&M and Pennsylvania to advance to the Sweet Sixteen. They lost their third game in overtime to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee 1-0 to be eliminated.

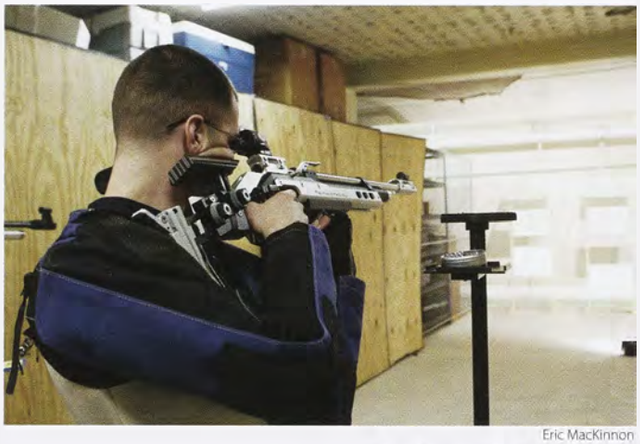
"We played really well and did our best to represent MSU," Poole said. "Really the best way to represent MSU was to win as many games as possible."

Marissa Cumbers



Finance senior Scott Goss practices monitoring his heart rate and breathing patterns to maximize his accuracy while shooting. Shooters stand for upward of 40 minutes while in competition.

Finance senior Scott Goss stands motionless waiting to shoot between heart beats. Equipment like stiff leather coats, pants and flat shoes help to keep club members as still as possible while shooting.



Eric MacKinnon

Aim! Fire!

Their bull's-eye perception pierced adversity

The black dot marked the spot.

The members of the Marksmanship Club sharpened their skills after a long season of trying to reach the NCAA level of competing.

"The Rifle Team is the competitive side of the Marksmanship Club," coach Keith Hein said. "Any member of the Marksmanship Club is welcome to train and compete with the Rifle Team. After the competition, we were the highest collegiate ranked club team."

Despite some bumps in the road in the past, the Marksmanship Club has not let the past hinder their performance or their love for such a disciplined sport.

"In the 1980s, the Marksmanship Club was banned because we were practicing in an enclosed area that gave off asbestos," Hein said.

The club was newly established in 2001 and set out to overcome other obstacles.

"After we are settled into our newly constructed facility, we plan to win the NCAA championship," said Marksmanship Club president and physics sophomore Angelina Taylor. "Not overnight of course."

The Marksmanship Club does capture the competitive side of its members and there are personal incentives for the members, as they are students too, not just shooters.

"Since we still are students, we get stressed with exams, papers, and other stuff," computer engineering senior Kevin Bishop said. "Being a part of the Marksmanship Club helps with me with aspects of school like multitasking, mental discipline, and overall concentration."

Marksmanship members utilize the skills gained when competing and practice and make them applicable to student life.

With this season behind them, their reach for the championship lies in their ability to use their new facility to their advantage and practice until perfect.

Anthony Harvey



Eric MacKinnon

Air rifle pellets sit in rows waiting to be fired by members of the Marksmanship Club. In competition, club members have the option of using air pistols, though most prefer the air rifle.

Hooting with team emotion, the men's club lacrosse come together after the Green and White scrimmage at the Duffy Daugherty Football Building. Being the fifth straight day of practice at 10:00 p.m., the team was also excited for Spring Break.



Megan Peters

United On and Off the Field

Team plays as one

Adrenaline ran high and a 90 mph lacrosse ball flew past as a pair of metal sticks clashed together.

This was just another practice for the men's lacrosse team.

"The sport just looked like way too much fun," communication sophomore and defenseman Ben Daiek said.

In addition to being fun, finance senior and third-year captain Derek Baynton referred to lacrosse as a truly social sport.

"It's great because everybody hangs out with each other and is cool with each other," Baynton said.

Although the sport has not become as nationally recognized as football, it is a very popular and time-consuming sport within certain communities.

"Lacrosse is a very small athletic community, which makes it social," head coach Dwayne Hicks said. "The Northeast is a hotbed for high school lacrosse teams."

Hicks was the head coach for the university team during the 2008-09 season, after spending five years at Oakland University and three at Eastern Michigan University.

"He is an awesome coach and an awesome guy," Daiek said. "We have been really good over the past seasons, but, with Coach, we believe in ourselves more."

The team had been consistently ranked in the top 20 over the last 10 seasons, and was ranked No. 15 in the nation among NCAA Division I schools at the start of the 2008-09 season.

"This is one of the premiere clubs in the country," Hicks said. "A player could leave here and play for any [professional] club."

In the early 1960s, the university created a varsity lacrosse program, which developed into one of the top varsity Division I teams In 1996, the university eliminated the lacrosse program in order to comply with Title IX, a requisite of universities to ensure gender equality in athletics.

A lack of financial support caused the varsity program to become a club-level sport.

"The players pay for and organize everything," said Hicks. "These are dedicated students who love the sport."

Aaron Miller



Benjamin Lindstrom

Psychology sophomore Tony Maccio makes a save during the Green vs. White game. Lacrosse goalies like Maccio wear a helmet, chest protector, gloves and an athletic cup to protect them from shots that can top more than 90 mph.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Men's lacrosse players put in their hands, sticks and helmets for a cheer after the post-game huddle. The Green vs. White game tested the team against itself to prepare for the long season ahead.

Mastering the Shinai

Club combines culture with athletics

The momentary silence was broken by a high-pitched squeal as two people dressed in dark robes circled around each other on the wooden floor. A quiet moment was a rare occurrence at the Kendo Club Tournament on March 1.

"The yelling is just another part of the activity," said Evan Hanson, Kendo Club vice president and marketing junior. "But it's hard to yell the entire time."

Kendo is the Japanese form of fencing, and those who practice the sport are called kenshis. Categorized as a martial art, Kendo requires athletes to master both mind and body skills.

"It's a good way to improve myself," alumnus Matt Palmer said. "Kendo isn't about beating others up. It is about beating yourself up. Humbling yourself to recognize your faults and trying to overcome them."

The Kendo Club's 30 undergraduate, graduate and alumni members held optional practices four times a week. At each practice, kenshis practiced basic motion technique skills and general sparring.

"Kendo is more heavily weighted on discipline and self improvement," Hanson said. "You really have to focus on mastering specific techniques. There are four different points to hit in a match: top of the head, throat, side and wrist. You get one point for each clean hit to one of those spots."

For a hit to be considered clean by the referee, or shinpan, it must be performed and executed correctly. The attacker must move his feet and arms in the correct, simultaneous motion.

"I don't win, but I still enjoy it," human resources freshman Wenxin Zhang said. "I'm still learning the basic posture and technique. Through Kendo, you can also really learn a lot about Japanese culture."

Kenshis wear armor, known as bōgu, to protect these four main points from the sword-like weapon called a shinai. Each match is three minutes long, with three shinpans awarding points for clean hits.

"This was something I had never had the opportunity to do before," zoology freshman Megan Niner said. "I never would have thought I would have joined the Kendo team."

Marissa Cumbers



Benjamin Lindstrom

A strike by business junior Hikaru Takeushi is blocked by his opponent. During the competition, kendoka - practicioners of kendo - often yelled out "Kiai," a form of battle cry intended to startle opponents and prepare the body for a strike.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Business junior Hikaru Takeushi touches the tip of his shinai against his opponent's at the start of a match during the Midwest Kendo Federation Student Tournament. Developed by Japanese swordsmen, the bamboo shinai is a weapon used in Kendo to reduce injuries caused by wooden swords.

Pre-nursing sophomore Casey Benedetti soars across the ice in perfect motion with her teammates. The Synchronized Skating Team held one last practice at Munn Ice Arena before heading to competition.



Alissa Lane

Ice Princesses

Skaters share passion on the ice

Thirty-two ice skates sliced through the ice of Munn Ice Arena Monday mornings, but instead of individual routines, the skaters of the university synchronized skating team move as one.

"You have to love the friends that come out of skating," said kinesiology sophomore and vice-president of the university synchronized skating team Laura Sienkowski. "They are my best friends and it is a relationship only people who skate could understand."

Sienkowski was one of 20 students who was on the team, which is in its 14th season as a club sport. Besides enjoying the company of her teammates, Sienkowski says that she loves being on the team because of its accomplishments.

"We have a very talented team this year and I am extremely proud with the way we have done," Sienkowski said.

The team captured first place at the 2009 Midwestern Sectional Championships in Broomfield, Colo., and received the bronze medal at the U.S. Synchronized Skating National's competition in Portland, Maine.

The team also placed second at the Dr. Porter Classic in Ann Arbor, and first place at the Mid-America Synchronized Skating Competition in Fraser, Mich.

For the 2009 season, the team's theme was "Bollywood," particularly the movie "Ohm Shanti Ohm." In previous years, the team has skated to James Bond, The Dukes of Hazard, classic rock and disco music, according to journalism senior and team treasurer Lauren Schaal.

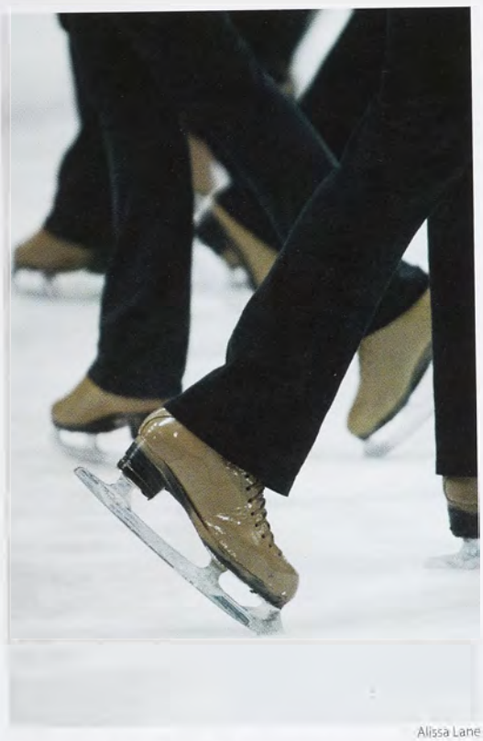
"We had a great season, especially considering half of our team was new this year," said kinesiology sophomore and team secretary Leah Hill. "We bonded really well and pulled off a great program."

The goal is to do intricate footwork and perform elements to the best of the team's ability, according to Schaal. They form shapes including line, blocks, circles and triangles on the ice.

The skaters compete in several competitions throughout the year, where they compete against other university teams. There are currently at least 50 collegiate figure skating clubs registered with the United States Figure Skating Association.

"We have fun at practice and play jokes on each other, but we are also a really good team and place well at all of our competitions," Schaal said. "We balance fun and work really well, and I don't think I could be on a team when I don't have this much fun."

Aaron Miller



Alissa Lane

The women of the Spartan Synchronized Skating Team tear up the ice running through their routines during practice. The team won the Midwestern championship and took home a bronze medal from the National competition.

Hit the Spot

Individuals become a team at national competition

From March 6-8, the National Indoor Archery Championship brought archers from all over the Midwest to East Lansing. It was the 40th year the National Archery Association (NAA) hosted the tournament. The NAA north division competition was held at I.M. West.

"This tournament is regionally set up, but it is a national shoot," said Matt Mamo, Archery Club president and social relations sophomore. "All the scores will be sent and compared to the other regions."

Archery Club members generally practiced on their own time due to the individual nature of the sport and the size of the practice shooting range in the I.M. West basement. However, club members anticipated the new John and Marnie Demmer Shooting Sports Education and Training Center in progress south of Jolly Road.

"Right now, there really isn't very much room for multiple shooters," Mamo said. "We are looking forward to the new building. It will be open to air rifle and archery shooting."

Annually, the club holds two large home tournaments including nationals. On Sept. 16 and 17, the club's outdoor event, The Fall Classic, was a tournament for archers of all ages and skill levels.

"It isn't a sport that discriminates," said Ben Flegler, Archery Club vice president and food industry senior. "Young or old, male or female, anybody can do it. The biggest challenge is the mental toughness it takes to be an archer."

The club's adviser, Norm Graham, associate dean and director of James Madison, meets with the archers individually if they are new to the sport or want personalized help with their skills.

"When I first started, I couldn't hit the target to save my life," international relations sophomore Katelyn Essenmacher said. "Norm taught me how to use the bow, and now I almost always get it in the rings."

Marissa Cumbers

Food industry management senior Ben Flegler aims down his sight without an arrow during an archery club practice in the spring. Modern compound bows like Flegler's are highly developed for use in competition, incorporating a pulley and cam system that allows for greater accuracy.



Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

Hospitality business freshman Cara Easterbrook, general management freshman Samantha Bowles and international relations and education sophomore Katelyn Essenmacher score their shots while forestry graduate student Tom Baribault marks an impact spot with a permanent marker at the National Archery Association Indoor Nationals. Several hundred archers of all ages lined up in IM West to compete in the 40th annual competition.



Benjamin Lindstrom

International relations sophomore Katelyn Essenmacher, forestry graduate student Tom Baribault and general management freshman Samantha Bowles score their shots at the National Archery Association Indoor Nationals in IM West. Shooting indoors has its dangers; over the years stray arrows have put several holes in one of the metal loading doors of the turf arena.



Lauren Wood

Lyman Briggs freshman Dylan Denison practices a move with the Breakdance Club. The group was in between performances at the Dance Marathon at IM Circle.



Lauren Wood

Urban and regional planning sophomore Eric Sarb performs with the Breakdance Club at the Dance Marathon at 2 a.m. The Breakdance Club prepared for the performance with weekly practices at IM East.

Without Breakin' a Sweat

Hip-hop is expressed through the art of break dance

No one would expect to hear dance music blasting out of I.M. Circle at 2 a.m., but the night of the university's first Dance Marathon was an exception. Students moved to the rhythm of different music styles and songs throughout the marathon, before seeing a performance by the university's club break dance team. Although the performance was late at night, students were still enthused by the performance. "The only way to describe them is great," kinesiology sophomore Kelsey Miller said. "They had the energy level people needed to get them up and going that late at night."

The break dance team performed twice, once with their performance group of ten students, and the other dance contained over 20 club members. Both routines featured synchronized group steps, followed by intricate solos.

"I love being able to vibe out and express yourself in your own unique, individual way," said East Asian languages and culture junior Kevin Richardson.

Richardson was one of the co-founders of the club, and believed the club was a great opportunity to help people understand hip-hop.

"We teach about the true nature of b-boying or b-girling (the real term for break dancing) and what hip-hop really is," Richardson said. He said that to accomplish the club's goal, the team performed in dance battles and at other break dancing events.

"We battle to gain experience in the hip-hop community in and out of Michigan," Richardson said. "The best way to teach what hip-hop culture is is to go learn it firsthand yourself. Partaking in a b-boying battle, called a jam, is essential for accomplishing our purpose."

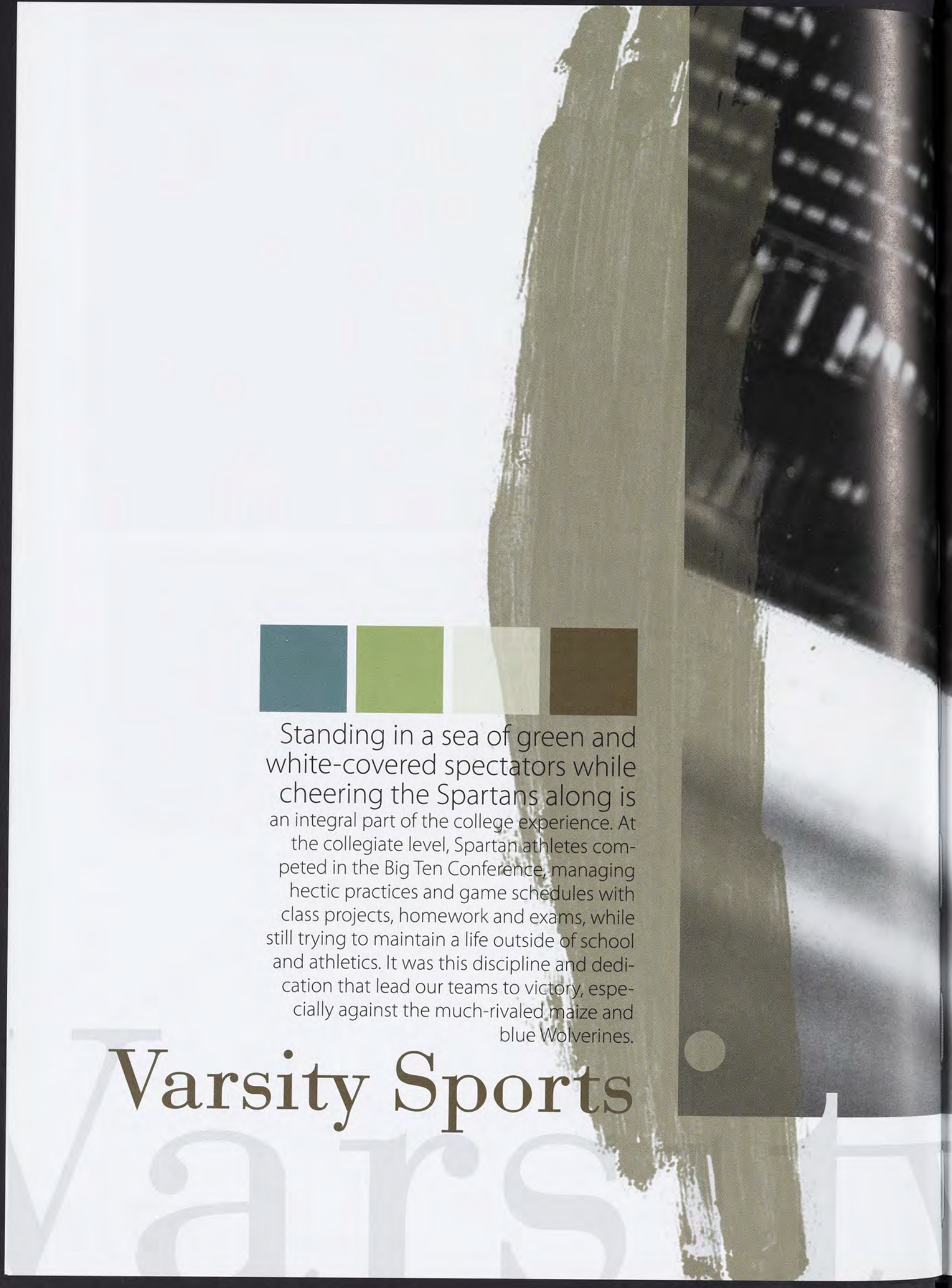
The team would have never had a purpose if Richardson and five other students hadn't created the club in the fall of 2007. The students desired to break dance themselves, but also to create an environment where people of all backgrounds and skill levels could come together and learn from one another, according to club president Jesse Geer.

The group consists of over 40 team members and the performance group had done shows with the university dance team at varsity basketball games, Jesse McCartney at the Detroit Lions' Thanksgiving Football Game Halftime Show and numerous battles across the state.

Although the club has been around for a little over two years, it has been growing fast, according to Richardson.

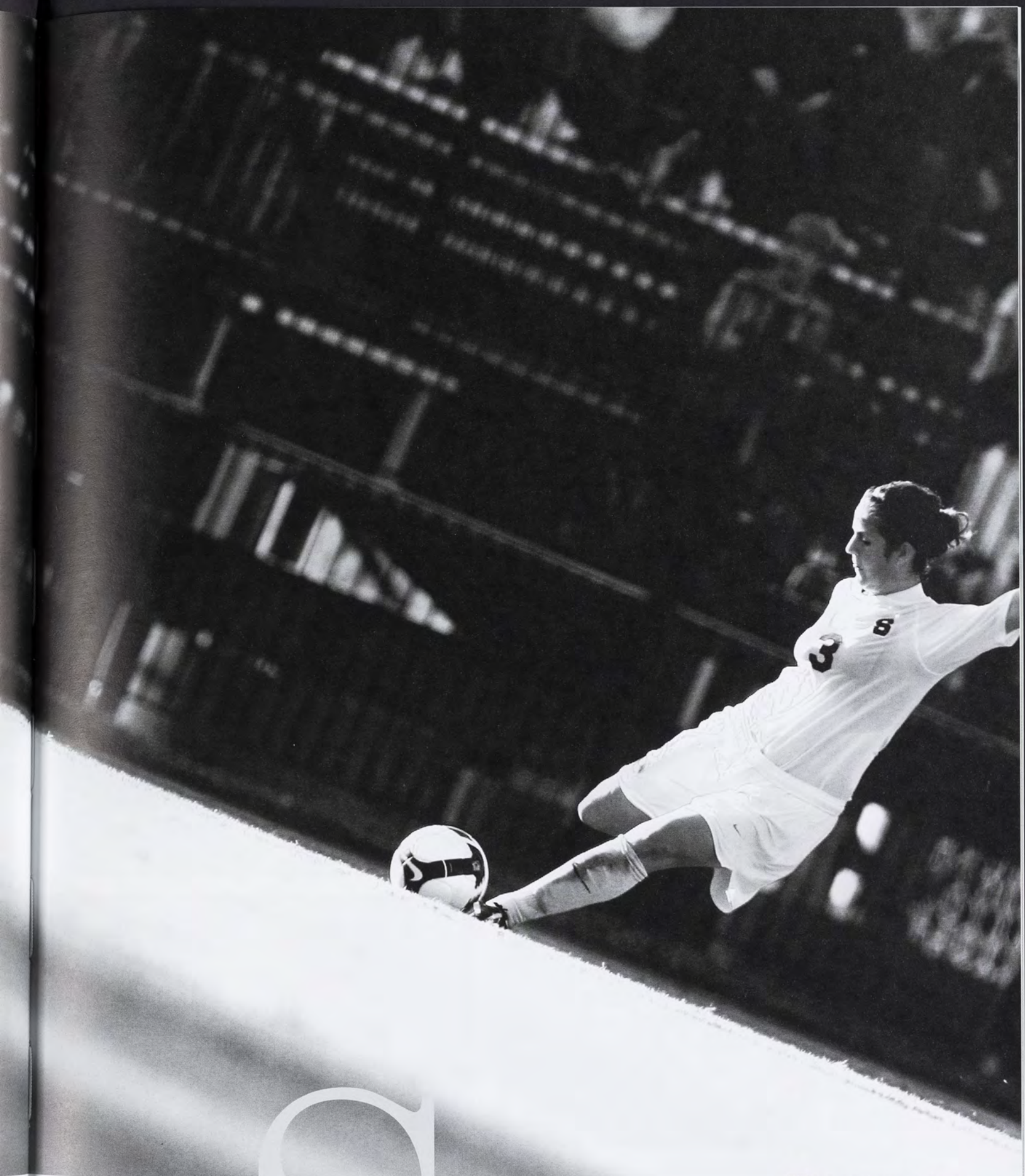
"We've expanded our number of members, our members' skill levels and our members' experience in communicating, leading, organizing and applying everything they learn at session," Richardson said. "We're also known through the MSU community and we're now known in the Michigan b-boying and b-girling community."

Aaron Miller



Standing in a sea of green and white-covered spectators while cheering the Spartans along is an integral part of the college experience. At the collegiate level, Spartan athletes competed in the Big Ten Conference, managing hectic practices and game schedules with class projects, homework and exams, while still trying to maintain a life outside of school and athletics. It was this discipline and dedication that lead our teams to victory, especially against the much-rivaled maize and blue Wolverines.

Varsity Sports



10.31.08 | Lauren Sinacola | Photo by Alissa Lane

Red-shirted freshman midfielder Angie Lucik gets ready for a pass to a teammate. Lucik played a strong game and helped the Spartans dominate against Indiana.



Eric MacKinnon

Field Hockey Sees Success

Players improve throughout season

"Empty the bucket" was the motto of the women's field hockey team, but anyone who was unfamiliar with the sport might not understand the significance.

Although field hockey has yet to garner mainstream support, the Spartan women's field hockey team completed one of its most successful seasons in recent years.

"Two of our biggest obstacles to overcome were probably learning to come together as a team and being able to transfer the ball better," freshman forward Libby Liesveld said.

After opening with a 2-2 exhibition tie to in-state rival the University of Michigan, the team rolled off three wins before falling to Syracuse 3-1 at home. The loss propelled the team into a nine-game winning streak, beating conference foes Ohio State and Indiana in the process.

Throughout the season, the Spartans were led by the scoring of junior forward Floor Rijpma. In 21 regular season games, Rijpma scored 18 goals and recorded four assists. Freshman forward Chantae Miller led all of the freshmen with 11 goals, while senior forward Gwen Riley led the team in assists with 13.

Leading the team at goalie was junior Elissa Unger, who recorded 76 saves while only allowing 30 goals.

"The whole game definitely starts with the goalie," Liesveld said. "If the goalie isn't talking, then the games not going to work."

After the nine-game winning streak, the team suffered two straight setbacks, the last coming in a crushing 1-0 defeat in Ann Arbor to the University of Michigan.

In the end, the Spartans finished with an overall record of 13-4, and a 4-2 record in the Big Ten Conference.

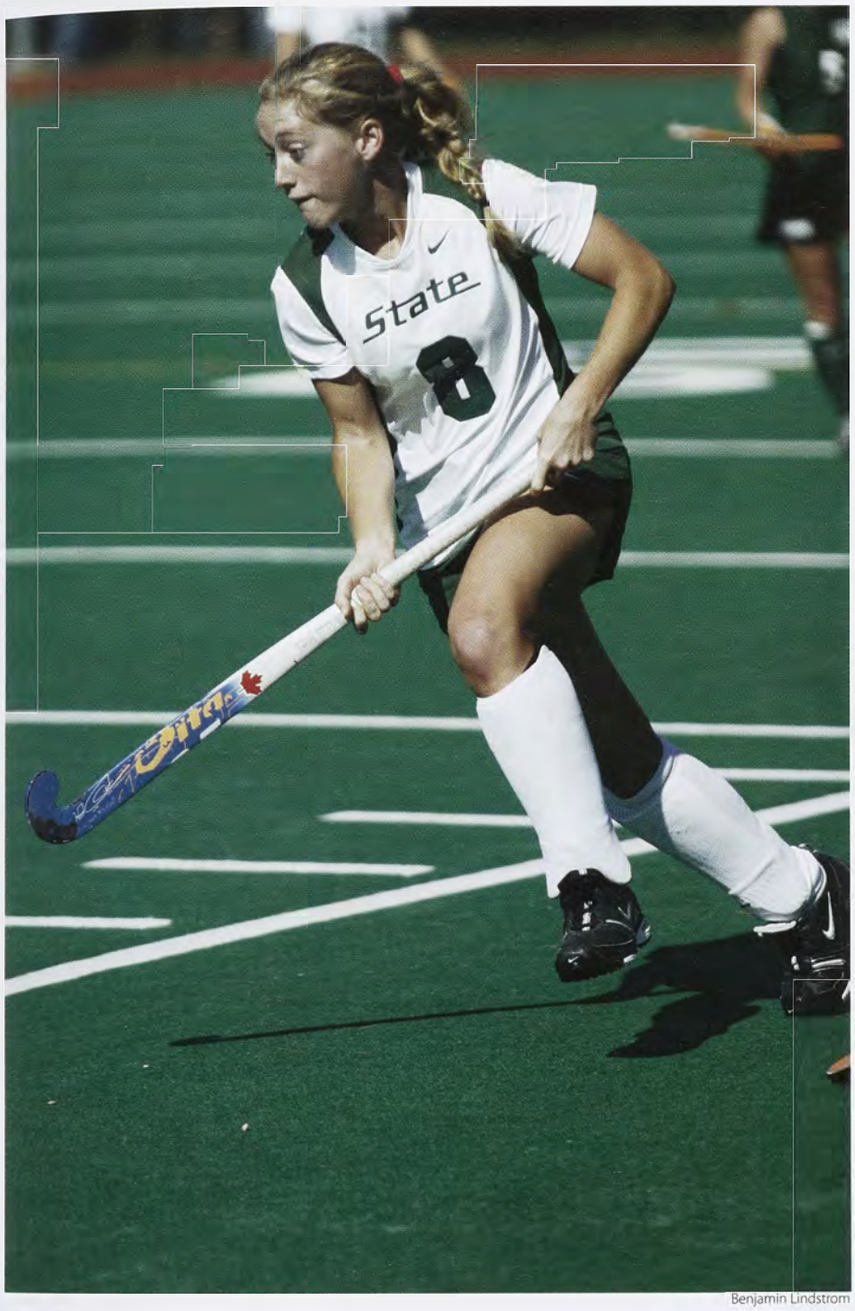
"We may have lost some games that we should have won, but overall we finished with a great season," Liesveld said. "We can be proud that we always went out and gave it our all."

Colby Berthume

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Stanford	W, 3-2
Syracuse	L, 3-1
Boston University	W, 2-0
New Hampshire	W, 6-1
Miami (Ohio)	W, 5-1
Pacific	W, 7-1
Ohio State	W, 3-1
California	W, 3-2
Indiana	W, 9-1
Temple	W, 9-0
Northwestern	W, 3-1
Wake Forest	L, 2-1
Michigan	L, 1-0
Ohio	W, 2-1
Iowa	L, 4-3
Penn State	W, 2-1
Central Michigan	W, 2-0





Benjamin Lindstrom

Sophomore Amanda Huck chases the ball during the Oct. 18 game against Ohio University. Huck's older sister played field hockey at Missouri State University, and her younger sister played goalkeeper for Miami University.

Roster

Name	Class
Elissa Unger	Junior
Geraldine Raynor	Senior
Gwen Riley	Senior
Corey Block	Freshman
Julie Mackay	Sophomore
Brae Dowling	Freshman
Michelle Ciliberti	Senior
Amanda Huck	Sophomore
Kelly Roderick	Freshman
Joelle van Ierland	Sophomore
Libby Liesveld	Freshman
Meghan Magee	Sophomore
Floor Rijpma	Junior
Christie Jones	Freshman
Angela Pagura	Sophomore
Holly Sherman	Freshman
Chelsy Coil	Freshman
Jantine Steinmetz	Sophomore
Angie Lucik	Freshman
Jeamie Deacon	Junior
Chantae Miller	Freshman
Brittany Miller	Sophomore



Eric MacKinnon



Eric MacKinnon

Junior midfielder Floor Rijpma switches directions during the field hockey game. Rijpma was a key player in the Spartans 9-1 win against Indiana.

Red-shirted freshman midfielder Angie Lucik steals the ball from an Indiana player. The Spartans played above their No. 6 ranking for a 9-1 win.



Red-shirted freshman Courtney Shegos takes a breath during halftime of the women's soccer game against Penn State. The Spartans finished the game victoriously with a score of 3-1.

Sophomore forward Cara Freeman takes on a University of Michigan opponent for possession of the ball. The Spartans were trailing to the Wolverines in the second half, but came back for a final score of 1-1.

Megan Roney



Alissa Lane

diversity is best

Chasing victory with rookies

With a lineup of new freshmen faces, the priority of the women's soccer team was to integrate its rookie players with the veterans.

"One third of the team this year are freshmen. They have a lot of potential," head coach Tom Saxton said. "They will give the veterans a run for their money."

Starting their season with eight back-to-back wins, the women displayed strong team unity despite overcoming a major obstacle. Near the beginning of the season, senior midfielder and team captain Kristi Timar tore her ACL.

"Everyone had to step it up to make up for the loss. Kristi was unable to play for the remainder of the season," Saxton said.

But the Spartans persevered despite Timar's injury. On Oct. 12, hundreds of fans showed their support during the highly anticipated game against Penn State. The Spartans defeated the Nittany Lions for the first time in 14 years with a final score of 3-1.

The team even had the opportunity to play in the Big Ten Championship and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), which had only happened twice previously.

The women made it into the second round of the NCAA Tournament, but lost to No. 1 ranked Notre Dame with a score of 1-0. The Spartans finished their season with a 14-7-3 record.

With the arsenal of fresh players like freshman forward Laura Heyboer, named the Big Ten Offensive Player of the Year and the Soccer News Net Player of the Year award for Freshman of the Year, the upcoming seasons look even more promising as veteran players and coaching staff continue to provide guidance to new talent.

Anthony Harvey and Catherine Kelly

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Oakland	W, 5-1
DePaul	W, 3-0
Bowling Green	W, 3-0
Eastern Michigan	W, 3-0
Loyola Chicago	W, 2-0
Western Michigan	W, 3-1
Kent State	W, 3-0
Detroit Mercy	W, 5-1
BYU	L, 2-0
Minnesota	W, 2-0
Iowa	W, 4-0
Illinois	L, 3-0
Purdue	L, 2-0
Ohio State	W, 5-1
Penn State	W, 3-1
Northwestern	W, 3-0
Wisconsin	L, 2-0
Indiana	L, 1-0
South Dakota St.	T, 1-1
Michigan	T, 1-1
Illinois	T, 0-0
Penn State	L, 1-0
Milwaukee	W, 2-1
Notre Dame	L, 1-0



Alissa Lane

Junior Katie Rehor gains an advantage over her Penn State opponent, moving the ball up the field. Three Spartan goals within a 12-minute span gave the team their first victory over Penn State since 1995.

Alissa Lane



Roster

Name	Class
Lindsey Wrege	Junior
Demi Bruck	Junior
Katelin Chaklos	Freshman
Mikki Dennis	Freshman
Lauren Sinacola	Junior
Sarah Stern	Freshman
Hannah Peterson	Freshman
Megan Pines	Freshman
Katie Rehor	Junior
Jennifer Ulmer	Sophomore
Lauren Hill	Junior
Megan Brown	Junior
Laura Heyboer	Freshman
Lauren Carter	Senior
Cara Freeman	Sophomore
Kelsey Tait	Sophomore
Samantha Cook	Sophomore
Taylor Miller	Freshman
Kelley Amormino	Senior
Michelle Telebar	Senior
Jackie Accurso	Freshman
Courtney Shegos	Freshman
Kristi Timar	Senior
Jill Flietstra	Freshman
Carly Foguth	Sophomore
Ashley Crandall	Junior
Hannah Ferenchick	Senior
Elizabeth Watza	Sophomore
Ashley Swartz	Freshman
Danielle Petri	Junior

Head Coach Tom Saxton strategizes with his team during halftime. In the second half, a win over Penn State improved the Spartans' record to 4-2 in the Big Ten.

shooting for a win

Team earns a spot in the Big Ten Championship finals

Anticipation ran high as the men's soccer team took on St. Francis during the season opener on Aug. 29.

In the newly renovated DeMartin Soccer Complex, the crowd eagerly awaited the start of what was soon to be a successful game. While senior defender David Hertel entertained the audience with his tumbling skills, the team scored its first of four goals with the help of senior midfielder Zac Scaffidi. This win would be the first of many during the season.

"The game I'm really looking forward to is against Northwestern," said red shirted sophomore Avery Steinlage. "They're ranked high and the match will be for the Big Ten title."

When the time came on Nov. 2 to go up against the Northwestern University Wildcats, both teams put up a strong fight. And after many failed attempts to pull ahead, the Spartans finally defeated Northwestern with a single goal by senior forward Louis Stephens III. Not only did the win come as a relief, but the team also won the first regular season title in school history and worked seamlessly together on the field.

"Communication is a huge part of the game – helping your teammates see the field and letting them know of their surroundings so they are better equipped to make the right play," Steinlage said.

"Our biggest competition is ourselves, we decide how far we'll go and not anyone else. If we work hard, the results will show," freshman midfielder Cyrus Saydee said.

Thanks to their hard work, the men's soccer team went on to defeat Wisconsin and Indiana Universities and the University of Michigan.

And both the coaches and players experienced success off the field as well. Head coach Joe Baum announced his retirement, following a 32-year career with the sport. And at the Big Ten men's soccer Awards Banquet in Madison, Wis. on Nov. 13, Baum was unanimously selected as the Big Ten Coach of the Year.

The Big Ten also recognized senior forward Doug DeMartin, awarding him Player of the Year and All Big-Ten First Team. Three other Spartans – including Steinlage, senior midfielder Zac Scaffidi and senior defender Dave Hertel – also earned First Team honors.

After advancing to the Big Ten Championship Finals, the team had high hopes that they'd triumph on the field.

"I feel the sky is the limit, only us Spartans can stop ourselves," Saydee said.

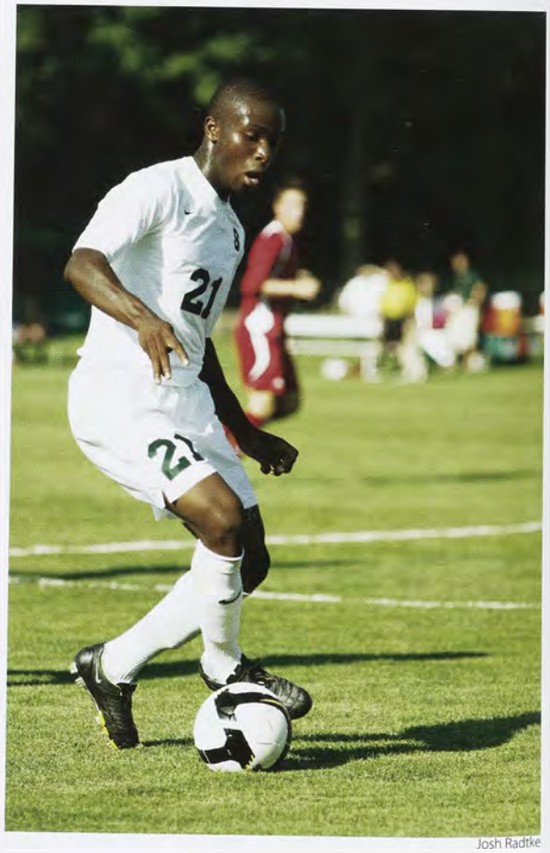
As the season progressed, the steadfast Spartans proved themselves with wins in both the Big Ten tournament and regular season championships. After a disappointing loss in the NCAA Championship to Illinois-Chicago however, the team saw their season come to an abrupt end with a final record of 13-5-2.

Rachel Sylvester



Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Louisville	L, 2-1
Saint Francis	W, 4-0
Vermont	L, 2-1
New Mexico	L, 3-2
UC Davis	L, 4-2
Buffalo	W, 1-0
Ohio State	L, 1-0
Western Michigan	W, 6-0
Penn State	W, 4-3
Wisconsin	W, 1-0
Notre Dame	L, 3-0
Indiana	W, 2-0
Illinois-Chicago	W, 3-1
Michigan	W, 1-0
Cincinnati	W, 2-0
Valparaiso	T, 0-0
Bowling Green	W, 4-0
Northwestern	W, 1-0
Indiana	W, 1-0
UIC	T, 0-0



Sophomore Nosa Iyoha plays on a crossing pass. Iyoha's defense was an integral part of the 4-0 shutout against St. Francis.

Josh Radtke



Josh Radtke

Senior Doug DeMartin pushes the ball forward on a breakaway. DeMartin scored twice in the stadium opener.

Roster

Name	Class
Avery Steinlage	Sophomore
Joe Gregus	Sophomore
Garret Back	Freshman
Stephen Lucianek	Freshman
Mark Barone	Freshman
Louis Stephens III	Senior
Josh Rogers	Senior
Zack Scaffidi	Senior
Spencer Thompson	Sophomore
Karl Trost	Senior
Doug DeMartin	Senior
A.W. Stanek	Sophomore
Jake Fullerton	Sophomore
Rubin Bega	Freshman
Jeff Ricondo	Sophomore
David Hertel	Senior
Cyrus Saydee	Freshman
Kolt Martin	Freshman
Matt Cebula	Freshman
Domenic Barone	Freshman
Colin Givens	Sophomore
Nosa Iyoha	Sophomore
David Sayre	Freshman
Ben Pirmann	Senior
Tim Granaderos	Junior
Jeremy Clark	Freshman



Josh Radtke

Senior Zac Scaffidi works the ball through the St. Francis defense. Scaffidi scored the first goal of the game in the 4-0 victory against St. Francis.



Lauren Wood

Wisconsin forward Eric Conklin fights for the ball with senior Louis Stephens III. The play ended with a yellow card for Stephens, after Conklin fell to the ground.



Senior Doug DeMartin shoots the ball during the men's soccer game against Wisconsin. DeMartin later scored the game-winning penalty kick.
photo by Josh Radtke


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10



Josh Radtke

Helmets raised, the football team celebrates their win over Iowa. At the end of the game the team sang the fight song in front of the student section.

Senior running back Javon Ringer runs the ball against Iowa. Ringer was key in the Spartans' wins last season.



Josh Radtke



gaining strength

Program takes steps in right direction

Coming off a 7-6 record, which included a crushing come-from-behind defeat to in-state rival, the University of Michigan, and a bowl game loss to Boston College, it was evident that the Spartan football program needed to make some changes to turn their program around.

"These past three years have been quite a journey for us, but seeing that there is still interest in November from the fans has made all the hard work worth it," senior running back Javon Ringer said.

The season opened with a loss to California, but the Spartans came back to reel off six wins and found themselves ranked in the top 25 for the first time since 1999. During their six-game winning streak they gained a win in a driving rainstorm against Florida Atlantic University and scored a thrilling 16-13 victory against Iowa at the Homecoming game.

Ringer led the way for the Spartans, ending the season with 1,688 yards on 370 attempts and led the nation with 21 touchdowns. Senior quarterback Brian Hoyer threw nine touchdowns while completing over 50 percent of his passes. Defensively, sophomore linebackers Greg Jones and Eric Gordon led the Spartans. Jones finished the year with 115 tackles, while Gordon recorded 80.

The Spartans seemed ready to welcome Ohio State University into Spartan Stadium for one of the biggest games in the program's history, however, it soon became clear that the Spartans were not going to come out on top, losing the game 45-7.

The team had very little time to get over the loss to the Buckeyes as they traveled to The Big House, where they beat the University of Michigan 35-21 for the first time in Ann Arbor since 1990. The win was a defining moment for the program and jumpstarted another three-game winning streak and sparked hope in many Spartan football fans.

And Ringer said the team only got stronger as the year went on.

The Spartans finished out the regular season with a loss at Penn State to bring their overall record to 9-3 and earned the opportunity to play Georgia in the Capital One Bowl.

The Spartans started the game off slowly, but they eventually got comfortable and played tough the rest of the game. The game ended in a 24-12 defeat for the Spartans.

Although the season may have ended in disappointment, it left the team hopeful for the future.

"This is not going to be a one-year wonder," Ringer said. "With all the talent we have behind the senior class, our program is going to be competing for a while."

Colby Berthume





Josh Radtke

Senior running back Javon Ringer celebrates with sophomore wide receiver Mark Dell after the team's win against Iowa. The Spartans won 16-13.

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
California	L, 38-31
Eastern Michigan	W, 42-10
Florida Atlantic	W, 17-0
Notre Dame	W, 23-7
Indiana	W, 42-29
Iowa	W, 16-13
Northwestern	W, 37-20
Ohio State	L, 45-7
Michigan	W, 35-21
Wisconsin	W, 25-24
Purdue	W, 21-7
Penn State	L, 49-18
Georgia	L, 24-12



Josh Radtke



Josh Radtke

Students cheer during the football game against Iowa. The student section played an important part in creating a enthusiastic atmosphere.

Sophomore wide reciever Mark Dell catches a pass from senior quaterback Brian Hoyer. The Spartans defeated Iowa 16-13.



Junior Vanessa King signs a minature volleyball for fans. King, a middle blocker, was an integral part of the victory over Ohio State.

Josh Radtke

Sophomore Jenilee Rathje looks to spike the ball against Ohio State. The team finished off the Buckeyes 3-1.

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Oklahoma	L, 3-1
Cal Poly	L, 3-2
Wichita State	L, 3-1
Syracuse	W, 3-0
New Hampshire	W, 3-1
Delaware	W, 3-0
Milwaukee	W, 3-0
Florida A&M	W, 3-0
Connecticut	W, 3-0
Oakland	W, 3-1
Central Michigan	W, 3-1
Ohio State	W, 3-1
Michigan	W, 3-1
Indiana	L, 3-1
Penn State	L, 3-0
Northwestern	W, 3-2
Wisconsin	L, 3-0
Minnesota	L, 3-1
Iowa	L, 3-1
Illinois	L, 3-0
Purdue	L, 3-2
Wisconsin	W, 3-2
Northwestern	L, 3-0
Penn State	L, 3-0
Indiana	W, 3-1
Mihigan	L, 3-1
Ohio State	W, 3-1
Purdue	L, 3-0
Illinois	L, 3-2
Iowa	W, 3-1
Minnesota	L, 3-1





Josh Radtke

Roster

Name	Class
Allyson Karaba	Sophomore
Mandi Karaba	Freshman
Carli Weiler	Freshman
Jenilee Rathje	Sophomore
Heather McDaniel	Senior
Megan Schatzle	Sophomore
Becca Zlabis	Freshman
Gina Kiefer	Freshman
Natalie Emro	Freshman
Mischelle Nelson	Junior
Vineece Verdun	Freshman
Kyndra Abron	Freshman
Vanessa King	Junior

The women's volleyball team stands in a huddle to prepare for the next play. The team finished off Ohio State in four sets.



Josh Radtke



Josh Radtke

Donning a toga, advertising junior Jonathan Crepeau cheers during the volleyball match against Ohio State. Crepeau was a member of the Block Party student section that cheers at every match.

Bump, Set Spike

Team strives to meet goals of the season

After suffering a disappointing loss to Nebraska in the 2007 NCAA Regional Semifinals, the women's volleyball team wasted no time licking their wounds.

Their upset served as a learning experience.

"Now that we know what it feels like to play at that level, we can only grow from there," sophomore middle blocker Jenilee Rathje said.

The season marked both the departure of four senior players and the arrival of five freshmen athletes. Although the team was primarily comprised of freshmen and sophomores, head coach Cathy George commented that the bunch was the most athletic team she has coached during her four years at the university.

"We have a young and talented group that I feel can compete with just about any team in the conference," George said. "I look for this core group of players to do great things over the course of the next few years."

The women's volleyball team kicked off their season with 10 consecutive wins in matches against Syracuse University and the once-undefeated University of Michigan. In the Big Ten opener against Ohio State University, the Spartans triumphed once again, finishing off the Buckeyes 3-1 in a fast-paced, highly intense game.

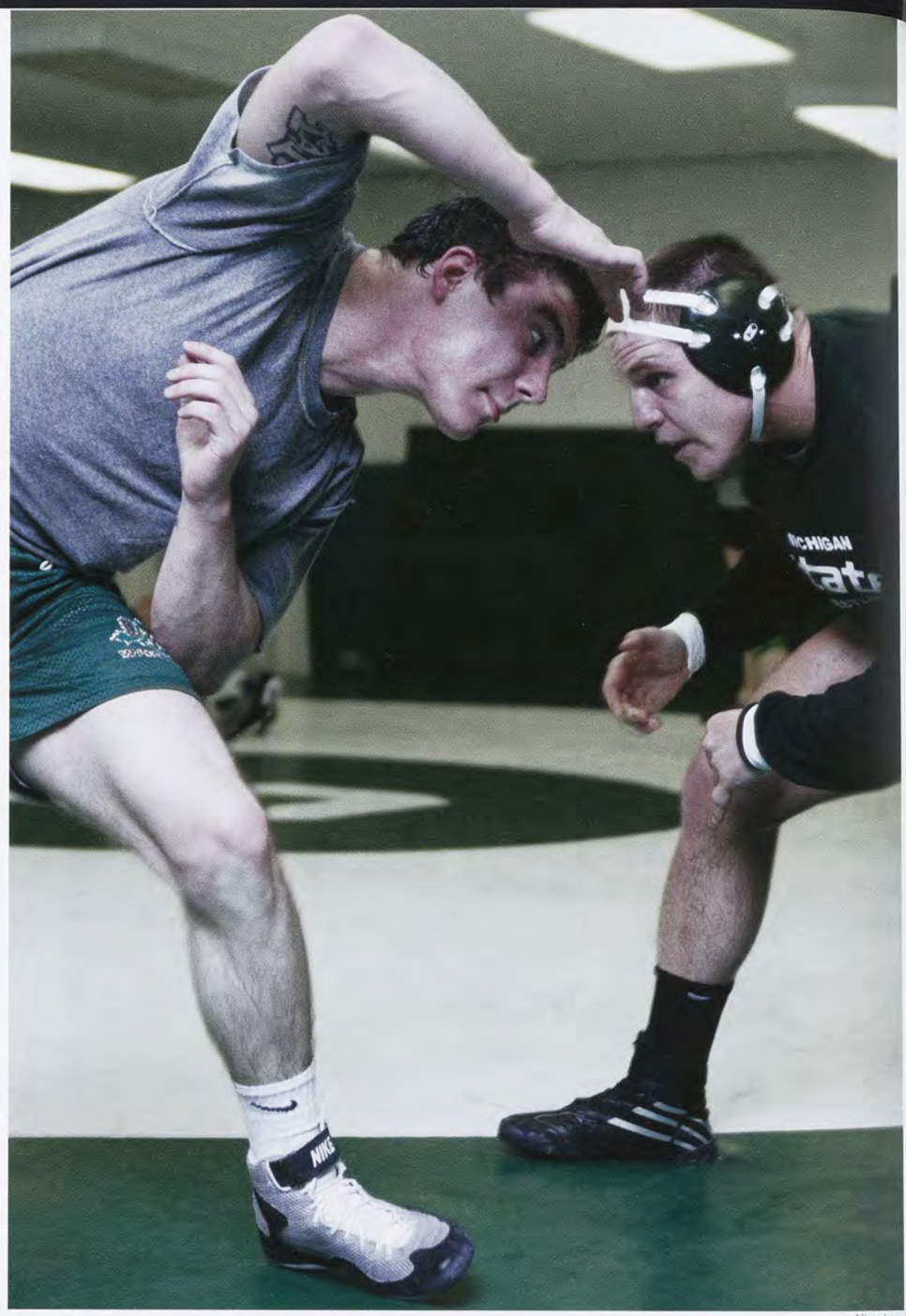
With hopes of defeating the defending national champions, the team took on the daunting task of challenging Penn State University on Nov. 7. In spite of several minor team injuries including an ankle sprain and a broken finger, the team stood their ground and fought through games one and three. Despite their efforts, the match resulted in a 3-0 loss for the Spartans.

The team had high expectations for the season, hoping to place in the top three of the Big Ten and move into the NCAA tournament in a comfortable position.

"We have learned a lot this season – about each other, team sacrifices, trust, respect, accountability and much more," Rathje said. "We've had our ups and downs, but hopefully through these lessons and adversities, we are able to grow and learn in order to further succeed in the future."

The Spartans rounded out their season with a 14-15 record, playing their last matches against both Iowa and Minnesota teams. Soon after completing their season, three players - Vanessa King, Heather McDaniel and Natalie Emro - all received postseason recognition by the Big Ten Conference, bringing the regular season to a close.

Rachel Sylvester



Alissa Lane

Freshman Kirk Tank gets ready to take a shot at junior Nick Palmieri. A young team, most of the Spartans planned on returning for the next season.

Roster

Name	Class
Eric Anderson	Sophomore
Steve Andrus	Freshman
Grant Ankney	Freshman
Jeremiah Austin	Freshman
Jeremy Bloom	Senior
Colby Borchetta	Freshman
Ben Boudro	Sophomore
Kyle Bounds	Junior
Micah Carter	Junior
David Cheza	Freshman
Bryant Craft	Freshman
Tyler Dickenson	Freshman
Collin Dozier	Freshman
Franklin Gomez	Junior
Tim Hammer	Senior
John Hebert	Freshman
Ian Hinton	Freshman
Curran Jacobs	Freshman
Anthony Jones Jr.	Sophomore
Rex Kendle	Senior
Philip Khozein	Freshman
John Murphy	Senior
Alan O'Donnell	Junior
Eric Olanowski	Freshman
Nick Palmieri	Junior
Mason Reid	Freshman
Raymond Seese	Freshman
Eddie Skowneski	Senior
Kirk Tank	Freshman
Jon Thomas	Freshman
Joel Trombly	Sophomore
Jeff Wimberley	Senior



Alissa Lane

Assistant coach Roger Chandler and junior Franklin Gomez grapple with each other. Gomez, a three-time high school All-American, lead the team as captain.



Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
North Carolina	W, 18-12
North Carolina State	W, 23-13
Virginia	L, 23-15
Eastern Michigan	W, 18-15
Central Michigan	L, 29-6
West Virginia	W, 25-15
Ohio	W, 26-6
Northwestern	L, 31-6
Minnesota	L, 30-6
Wisconsin	W, 25-17
Iowa	L, 22-15
Michigan	L, 28-7
Penn State	L, 28-12
Oklahoma	L, 21-8
Purdue	L, 19-17
Illinois	L, 26-12

overlooked performers

Teaching discipline, tradition and individual victory

At 133 lbs., junior Franklin Gomez defeated the Ohio State's No. 2 seed to claim the title of NCAA Individual Champion.

On March 21, many watched the matches on ESPN in St. Louis to see Gomez finish out the season with 27 wins and two losses. Gomez was no stranger to being an all-star for the Spartans, finishing third in the NCAA Individual Championships in the previous season.

The Spartans finished 25th in the NCAA Team Championships and made going to the NCAA Championships a regular occurrence, head coach Tom Minkel said.

The team agreed that the most memorable moment of the season was the NCAA Championships. For players like natural science freshman Colby Borchetta, "getting ready mentally" was the biggest challenge for the tournaments. He also said "most people don't realize how much is involved with wrestling."

Although widespread in the Midwest, wrestling was sometimes overlooked, due to the massive fan-base held by football and basketball, but Spartan wrestlers trained for hours each day to make a name for themselves on the national wrestling scene.

Sophomore Benjamin Boudro said the phrase "start drilllin' and end up killin'" summarized practices. Coach Minkle always pushed his players with his "commitment to excellence" attitude.

"The only time practice is ever easy is right before a match," Minkle said.

Although team injuries forced some players to sit out for the season, another obstacle was a string of losses against other Big Ten teams. The Spartans tied for last place in the Big Ten Championships.

For many on the team, college wrestling would mark the end of their wrestling career. Some will go on to pursue careers, like pediatrics senior Alan O'Donnel. Others will continue their wrestling career as coaches, like junior Kyle Bounds. Wrestling at the collegiate level provided players the discipline necessary to succeed in all arenas of life despite their season record.

Jessica Dupnack

Alissa Lane





Alissa Lane

Junior Nick Palmieri takes down his opponent. The team ran through routine drills during their practice at I.M. West.

Assistant coach Chris Williams and senior Tim Hammer practice in preparation for the upcoming Big Ten Championships. The Championships took place at State College in Pennsylvania.

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Jeff Drenth Memorial	No Team Score
Spartan Invitational	No Team Score
William & Mary Inter-Regional	Women 1st Men 2nd
Notre Dame Invitational	Women 1st Men 23rd
Pre-Nationals	Women 4th Men 14th
EMU Open	Individual Scoring
Big Ten Championship	Women 3rd Men 6th
NCAA Regional	Women 3rd Men 6th
NCAA Championship	Women 11th



Teams get their last few stretches in before the start of the women's 6K. The Spartans made an incredible showing at the home invitational, placing eighth in the pre-season.



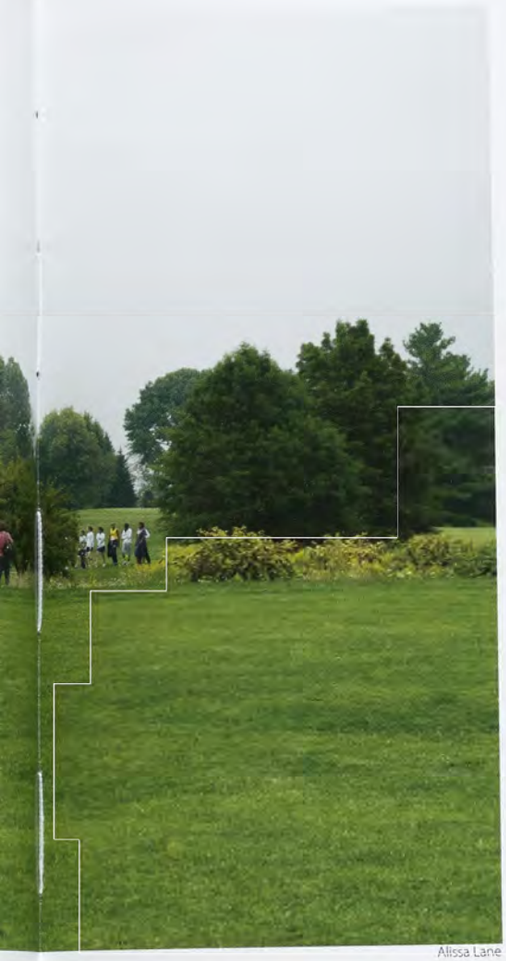
Alissa Lane

Back from his warm-up, freshman Mike Katsefaras prepares for the men's 8K during the Spartan Cross Country Invitational. The Spartans went on to claim four of the top 10 spots in the race.



Lauren Wood

Junior Dan Lewis runs the first loop of the 8K course at the Spartan Invitational. The course was run on the Akers East Golf Course, and it was the only home event the team hosted all year.



Alissa Lane

A stampede flies by the cheering crowd to kick off the Spartan Cross Country Invitational. The men's 8K run was the first race of the day at the Forest Akers Golf Course.



Alissa Lane

Bonding for the Long Run

Runners come together for fast times

Teamwork, dedication and hard work are key to any team's success, but for the cross country team these elements, along with being physically and mentally strong, were imperative this season.

The women started their season well at the Spartan Invitational in early September, with seven runners placing in the top 10. Senior Nicole Bush led the team and won the race with a time of 21:12. The women continued their success later in the season taking first at both the William and Mary Inter-Regional meet and the Notre Dame Invitational.

According to Coach Walt Drenth, the women are consistently ranked in the top 10 nationally and the men are ranked in the top 30.

"The women finished third at the Big Ten Championships with Nicole Bush winning the individual championship," Drenth said. "The men finished sixth, just four points from fourth. This is a dramatic improvement from 200 for the men."

Drenth said that because of the depth on both teams, practices became a more competitive environment, which in turn helped the runners become more competitive racers.

Packaging junior Max Goldak said he thought the depth of the team also helped them work more as one.

"In general, our team has been a bunch of individuals, almost running separately on the team, but this year everyone came together and we were a very strong unit," Goldak said. "Our ability to work as a team was one of our biggest strengths."

Although the men did not do as well as they hoped, Drenth said that over all the season was a great experience.

Leslie Tilson



Alissa Lane

Juniors Emily MacLeod and Ashley Casavant lead the way during the team's only home meet of the season. The two went on to claim the third and 11th best times in the race.

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Michigan	Win
Ohio State	Win
Notre Dame	W, 46-23
Indiana	1st, 256
Big Ten Double Dual	W, 39-30; W, 44-25
Big Ten Championships	1st, 137
South Central Regatta	5th, 320



Junior Michelle Mussett, senior Amanda Dunnill, and sophomore Laura Cowal get ready to cast off at the start of rowing practice in late October. When the weather got too cold to row outside, the team used its indoor rowing tank at Jenison Field House and its 33 rowing machines to train until the river thawed.

A rowing eight on the women's rowing team heads upstream in October. The team rowed every day to stay in shape.



Benjamin Lindstrom

holding onto **success**

Rowing team defends Big Ten title

With 70 women in one room, hours spent at practice were intense for the women's varsity rowing team. The ability of the women to leave their individual mentalities behind and become a team allowed them to succeed as a consistently nationally ranked top ten rowing team.

"The main challenge is to get 70 athletes to work as a cohesive group," women's varsity rowing head coach Matt Weise said. "The team is rowing better than it was last year, and I enjoy helping a group of individuals become a cohesive unit."

The women began the season under pressure due to success in the previous season. Early in the 2008-2009 season, the team swept two of their biggest rivals, Ohio State University and the University of Michigan, in a series of five races. The women remained undefeated throughout the fall season.

"Our coach puts it in a unique way that, because of our success last year, that we kind of have a target on our backs,senior Amanda Ruhno said. "We are used to being the ones that push from behind and come out of nowhere. This year, people know we are the team to beat, and there is definitely intensity in the competition."

In the spring season, the Spartans remained at the top as they defended their 2008 Big Ten title. The women began spring season as No. 7 and swept Notre Dame in six races at the spring opening meet to become No. 5.

"We really just had to focus on the process instead of focusing on that we have to win," graduate student Caitie Tyzo said. "We have to focus on what we know how to do and know that we all ready know how to row our best."

Marissa Cumbers





Benjamin Lindstrom

Roster

Name	Class
Danica Bevan	Junior
Stephanie Bochenek	Sophomore
Monique Carter	Sophomore
Laura Cowal	Sophomore
Kristina deJong	Freshman
Nancy Diehl	Senior
Katie Duncan	Senior
Shannon Dunn	Sophomore
Amanda Dunnill	Senior
Lauren Gamble	Junior
Emillie Gross	Senior
Emily Huddleston	Junior
Sarah Kreft	Senior
Megan Kursik	Junior
Kellie Lapointe	Sophomore
Alexandra Malbusch	Junior
Amanda McGeachie	Freshman
Michelle Mussett	Junior
Michelle Neuder	Freshman
Ashley Peach	Senior
Emily Regan	Junior
Alex Reinink	Freshman
Amanda Ruhno	Senior
Sarah Schmidt	Senior
Kelly Sherman	Sophomore
Megan Tyler	Senior
Catie Tyzo	Senior
Clare Vandelinder	Sophomore
Ashley Wenneman	Senior
Victoria Woodard	Junior



Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

The word "strong" is taped on the door to the team's locker room in the boathouse. Located on the Grand River in Lansing, the team's boathouse contains training facilities and boats.

Junior Victoria Woodard and senior Ashley Peach carry their boat off the dock while junior coxswain Victoria Grygar brings in her equipment after rowing practice. In rowing, a coxswain steers the boat and controls the rowers during a race.

year-round dedication

Spartans stay motivated through tough season

With one of the longest seasons - lasting from September to February -, practices twice a day and conditioning and dry land training throughout the rest of the year, swimmers and divers are some of the most dedicated athletes on campus.

"We have the longest season ever, and it is really hard to balance everything out," junior Laura DeFord said. "We only get three weeks off after the end of [the] season before we start training again."

Despite the time commitment, the Spartans stayed dedicated and some of the swimmers and divers even broke school records at the Big Ten Championship. Coming into the season, they planned to focus much of their energy on the championship meet.

"Our most important meet was the Northwestern Invitational and the Big Ten Championships," coach Matt Gianiodis said. "I think we just needed to keep working hard [at these meets] and be competitive and to improve within the country's toughest conference."

The women's swim team placed tenth at the Big Ten Championship, with sophomore Becca Ebner breaking a school record for her 200 butterfly time of 2:00.18. The men's team also finished 10th at the championships, with exceptional showings from sophomore Kevin Puskaric and junior Joe Schmitt.

"As a team, everyone swam really well at the Big Ten Championship," Schmitt said. "It's been our most successful in terms of personal bests."

Schmitt beat the university's varsity record in his portion of the 400m freestyle relay race, and Puskaric took fourth in the Big Ten for his 200 breaststroke.

"The day I love more than any other day is when I get a chance to see how incredibly successful our Spartan swimmers and divers have become," Gianidois said.

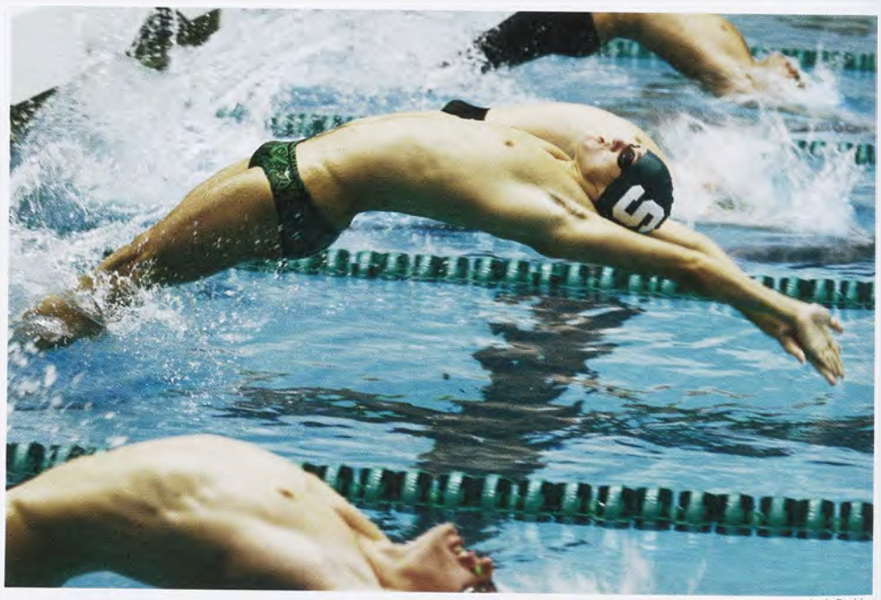
Some divers qualified to compete at the NCAA Zone Championships, including senior Alycia Mokedanz, who placed 14th, and junior Kayla Kalmbach, who placed 18th in the finals of the one meter dive on March 14.

Marissa Cumbers



Scoreboard

Event	Outcome	
	Men's	Women's
Minnesota	-	L, 164-132
Illinois	-	L, 199-154
Iowa	L, 185-115	L, 154-146
Houston	-	W, 126-117
Grand Valley	-	W, 169-172
Northwestern Inv.	2nd	2nd
Ball State	W, 157.5-142.5	W, 158-138
Purdue	L, 208-90	L, 176-123



Josh Radtke

Junior Gabe Strickler pushes off the wall on his backstroke start. Strickler was key for the Spartans in the 100 and 200 yard backstroke races.

Josh Radtke

Junior Cassie Hamilton counts laps for another swimmer during the 500 freestyle. The Spartans had a close meet, losing in the final race to the Iowa Hawkeyes.



Josh Radtke



Josh Radtke

Sophomore Stephanie Fisher lays on the floor visualizing her next race. Fisher led the team with a win in the backstroke with a time of 56.74.

Sophomore Kevin Puskaric swims the breaststroke during the team's meet against Iowa. Puskaric came in first place in both the 100 and 200 yard breaststroke events.





Sophomore Rebecca Ebner turns at the wall in the 100 m butterfly. Ebner won the race with a time of 57.16, keeping her undefeated record for the season.
photo by Josh Radtke

Senior forward Kurt Kivisto sprints across the ice during a game against Bowling Green. The Spartans beat the Falcons with a score of 3-2.

AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION
CHEVROLET
Sha-een

Benjamin Lindstrom

Head coach Rick Comley and assistant coach Tom Newton watch the ice while players get ready for the start of the final game against Notre Dame. Having led the team to a national championship in 2007, this year's team suffered several injuries and suspensions leading to a poor 10-23-5 season record.



Benjamin Lindstrom

hard work and discipline

Persevering through tough setbacks

Despite ending their season with 10-24-5 record, the men's ice hockey team packed the arena during each game with loyal fans.

The team, led by head coach Rick Comley, attributed its losses to a young team of freshmen and sophomores and several injuries.

"The most challenging hurdle this season was probably having to adjust to all of the injuries the team faced," freshman forward Trevor Nill said. "We had forwards playing defense and defensemen playing forward at different times due to injury."

While there were some highlights throughout the season, like the win against North Dakota at Joe Louis Arena during the Great Lakes Invitational, the team and senior goalie Jeff Lerg knew what made those wins possible and the losses inevitable.

"Hard work and discipline for our wins and inexperience and work ethic for our losses," Lerg said.

The fans, especially the student section, kept the players persevering through their losses and wanting to improve.

"We had unbelievably supportive fans and we always had great crowds," senior defenseman Brandon Gentile said. "I think one of my favorite things about Munn was the great train horn we had when we scored—that thing really shook the building and got you going."

A student section icon, journalism senior Anthony Pollreisz came to every game since he was a freshman, and even fought through sickness to attend. Students coined him the "designated screamer."

"As far as I'm concerned, it's the best piece of performance art outside of the MSU drama department. I act like a psycho, scream nasty things at the opposing goaltender, lead in a couple of chants and dance like crazy," Pollreisz said.

The sense of unity the team shared could be seen in their pregame rituals: they ate meals together, watched highlights from previous games and took naps. They also prided themselves on being gifted student athletes trying to rid themselves of their ruff-and-tumble reputation.

"I think most people see hockey players as tough, mean guys with not much of a heart. However, a lot of hockey players are heavily involved in community work and actually love to teach others about hockey," Nill said.

Some players like Lerg won awards for being the nation's leader in saves, while others would move on to minor league hockey teams, like Gentile who planned to play with the Gwinnett Gladiators of the East Coast. However, it was the team's compassion for its fans and their unified style of play that set them apart from others.

"Whether the team wins or loses, it's never one person's fault," Gentile said. "Hockey is the ultimate team game. You need six guys on the ice playing together at all times. When players are unselfish and execute the game plan, good things are likely to happen."

Jessica Dupnack



Benjamin Lindstrom

Slapshots members celebrate with confetti after a goal during a game against Notre Dame. Slapshots is the Student Alumni Foundation's student spirit section at hockey games.

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Ohio State	L, 3-0
Ohio State	L, 3-1
Wisconsin	L, 3-1
Minnesota	T, 4-4
Michigan	L, 6-1
Michigan	L, 5-3
Michigan	L, 5-1
Michigan	L, 6-2
Michigan	L, 5-3
Ohio State	T, 1-1
Ohio State	W, 2-1
Notre Dame	L, 5-0
Notre Dame	L, 2-1

Benjamin Lindstrom



Roster

Name	Class
Jeff Lerg	Senior
Jeff Petry	Sophomore
Shaun Fulton	Senior
Trevor Nill	Freshman
Brock Shelgren	Freshman
Andrew Rowe	Sophomore
Tim Buttery	Freshman
Brandon Gentile	Senior
Daultan Leveille	Freshman
Dustin Gazley	Sophomore
Brett Perlini	Freshman
Jacob Schering	Junior
AJ Sturges	Sophomore
Justin Johnston	Junior
Jay Sprague	Junior
Joey Shean	Sophomore
Ben Warda	Freshman
Matt Crandell	Freshman
Nick Sucharski	Senior
Adam Henderson	Freshman
Matt Schepke	Senior
Kurt Kivisto	Senior
Daniel Sturges	Senior
Drew Palmisano	Freshman
Steve Mnich	Senior
Bobby Jarosz	Junior
Tim Crowder	Senior

Junior forward Jay Sprague keeps the puck away from a Notre Dame player during the hockey team's last game of the regular season. The team lost the match in overtime.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Freshman forward Lykendra Johnson drives towards the basket during the game against Minnesota. The Spartans lost the game, but rallied in the NCAA tournament to make it to the Sweet Sixteen.

Roster

Name	Class
Lauren Aitch	Junior
Taylor Alton	Freshman
Allyssa DeHaan	Junior
Jasmine Holmes	Junior
Aisha Jefferson	Junior
Lykendra Johnson	Freshman
Mia Johnson	Senior
Kalisha Keane	Sophomore
Mandy Piechowski	Junior
Porsché Poole	Freshman
Courtney Schiffauer	Freshman
Brittney Thoma	Sophomore
Cetera Washington	Sophomore
Taja Wilson	Sophomore

Sophomore Cetera Washington, senior Mia Johnson, freshman Porsché Poole and junior Lauren Aitch look up at the scoreboard to watch a recap of the season during Senior Night. Johnson broke into tears after playing her last regular season game as a Spartan.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Expectations were high for the women's basketball team from the beginning, the team's director of operations Julie Dombroski said, and by the end of the season, they had proved they could live up to the hype.

After playing through a season plagued with injuries and close games, the team ended its season in the NCAA's Sweet Sixteen after losing to Iowa State.

"Although we lost, I think we ended on a positive note," Dombroski said. "Only two teams win in the end (one in the NCAA, one in the NIT), and I feel good about where we ended."

The team rushed out of the gates when the season began, winning their first six games for the third time in school history. They set program and Breslin Center highs in points scored -116 - in their home opener against Niagara—and junior center Allyssa DeHaan became the fastest in conference history to achieve 300 blocks, after giving out four blocks against Stony Brook in the team's second game of the season.

The Spartans' success dropped, though, during their next four games before they went on to win nine of their next 11 contests, including a defensive grind out against the University of Michigan. The Spartans allowed 37 points during the game, the seventh fewest since the 1974-75 season and the third fewest in Big Ten conference play history.

Some of the team's woes following its 6–0 start could have been contributed to mounting injuries, Dombroski said. Sophomore forward Taja Wilson sat out the season after tearing the ACL in her right knee during the off-season, senior guard and captain Mia Johnson missed seven games due to a knee injury and sophomore guard Brittney Thomas sat out 12 games with a torn ACL and a broken hand.

"The biggest obstacle in our way was the injuries," said Dombroski. "It's hard to play at your best when you're not at full strength, but the girls did very well overcoming adversity."

The team ended the regular season 20–9 with a defensive blowout against Michigan at the Breslin Center on Feb. 19. The Wolverines only scored 27 points, which was the fewest points scored by an opponent at the Breslin Center, the fewest in the University of Michigan's history and the lowest total all-time by a Big Ten school in conference play.

After finishing the regular season strong, the team fell in the Big Ten Tournament, losing against Wisconsin in the first round, 56–50.

The Spartans entered the NCAA Tournament as the ninth seed in the Berkeley region. In the first round, Johnson hit a game-winning three-pointer with a minute remaining to beat eighth-seeded Middle Tennessee and secure head coach Suzy Merchant's first NCAA Tournament win.

The team's next challenge was against Duke and former MSU head coach Joanne McCallie. The team upstaged their former coach with a 63–49 victory in the Breslin Center, capped off by a 16–2 run against the Blue Devils in the last seven minutes. The victory marked the first time that a ninth-seeded team topped a one seed in the Women's NCAA Tournament since the 1998 season.

Fresh off their victory over Duke, the team moved on to the Sweet Sixteen in a game against fourth-seeded Iowa State. The Spartans lost 69–68 in a game closed by a three-pointer from the Cyclone's freshman guard Alison Lacey.

Domboski said that the team had many goals for its next season, but would have to take them one step at a time.

"Our first goal will be to get in the NCAA Tournament. After that, to win the Big Ten Championship. After that, it will be the Final Four. Finally, the championship game," she said. "We know it is a long way to go, but the coaches are confident, the players bought into it this year, so we expect to go far."

Aaron Miller



Benjamin Lindstrom

Sweet Success

Spartan women break records

Players on the women's basketball team lock their arms together in anticipation during the final seconds of game against Purdue. A buzzer-beater shot by junior center Lauren Aitch brought the team up by two points to win the game 57-55.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Junior center Allyssa DeHaan takes a shot against Purdue. At 6 feet 9 inches tall, DeHaan is the tallest player in the school's history.

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Penn State	W, 67-70
Indiana	L, 62-48
Purdue	W, 68-62
Ohio State	L, 67-49
Indiana	W, 64-52
Michigan	W, 41-37
Penn State	W, 70-59
Northwestern	W, 74-54
Wisconsin	W, 59-50
Iowa	W, 68-56
Minnesota	L, 60-44
Illinois	W, 63-50
Ohio State	W, 52-46
Indiana	W, 71-65
Michigan	W, 52-27
Wisconsin	L, 54-51
Minnesota	L, 66-51
Purdue	W, 57-55
Wisconsin	L, 56-50
Iowa State	L, 69-68



Sophomore Maddi Massa assesses the greens before a putt. Massa tied for 71st place with a score of 254 over 54 holes.

Sophomore Maddi Massa hits her ball out of a sand trap. The team later had a come-from-behind win against Kent State that was determined by a tie-breaker.



Josh Radtke

Roster

Name	Class
Michelle Bowles	Sophomore
Natalie Brehm	Sophomore
Ashley Dewling	Junior
Jen Domagalski	Junior
Laura Kueny	Junior
Vanessa Leon	Freshman
Maddi Massa	Freshman
Aimee Neff	Sophomore
Holly Niederkohr	Senior
Sarah Nirenberg	Sophomore
Lindsey Solberg	Freshman
Shannon Warner	Freshman



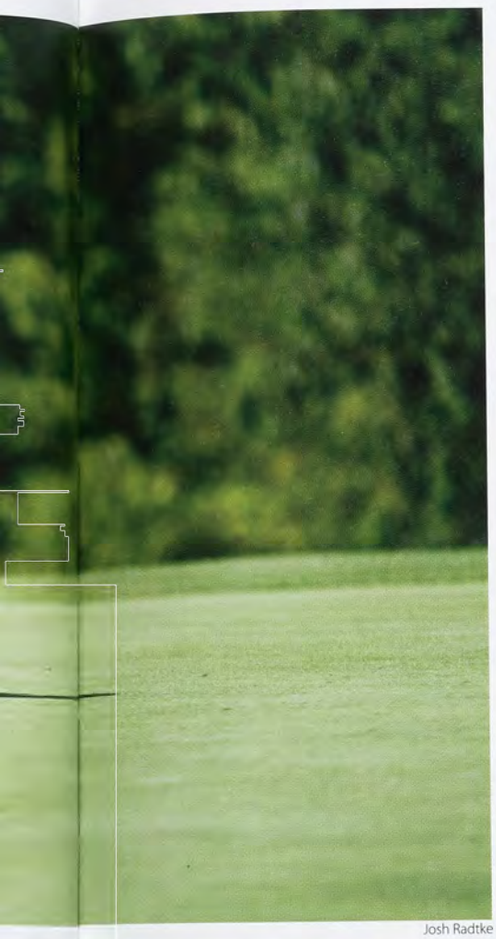
Lauren Wood

A Michigan State golf bag sits in the grass as the women play on the East Akers golf course. Their bags carried everything they needed to compete from clubs to tees to binoculars.

Junior Sarah Nirenberg sights the hole to figure out which club to use on the first day of the women's golf invitational. The event ended with a win for Michigan State University.



Lauren Wood



Josh Radtke

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Mary Fossum Invitational	2nd, 593
Mary Fossum Invitational	1st, 891
Tar Heel Invitational	11th, 309
Tar Heel Invitational	10th, 614
Tar Heel Invitational	10th, 915
Lady Northern	3rd, 604
Lady Northern	2nd, 912
Hooters Match Play	8th, 590
Hooters Match Play	W, UCLA
Hooters Match Play	L, Duke; L, Denver
Fort Myers Challenge	1st, 306
Northrop Grumman Challenge	5th, 316
Northrop Grumman Challenge	10th, 636
Northrop Grumman Challenge	6th, 937
Central District Invitational	5th, 601
Central District Invitational	5th, 903
Liz Murphey Invitational	15th, 318
Bryan National Collegiate	14th, 315
Lady Buckeye Invitational	6th, 611
Lady Buckeye Invitational	6th, 920

swinging for victory

Young team shows promising future

The morning dew was still present as the Spartan golf team took to the course on September 21 for the second day of the annual Mary Fossum Invitational.

If the women were going to win their only invitational on their home course for the fourth time in six years, they were going to have to play flawless golf amidst the rainy and dreary conditions. And flawless golf they played as they came back from eight down in the last round to win in a tie-breaker.

"The players knew what they were here to do," head Coach Stacy Slobodnik-Stoll said. "This is a big victory."

The Spartans always looked for a win when they hit the course, and winning the Mary Fossum Invitational spark-plugged the young team to many solid performances throughout the year. But winning at home was something the team really strived for.

"We always want to win, but when you win on your home course, it is that much sweeter," senior Holly Niederkohr said.

After the Invitational, the women went on to compete consistently in all their tournaments, finishing outside the top 10 only twice, and finishing in the top three twice. Considering the team competed with only three upperclassmen, the season was promising and showed that the future looks bright for the program.

"Aimee Neff and Laura Kueny were kind of our solid rocks throughout the season," Niederkohr said. "We have a really young team so it looks like we have a great future coming up."

Colby Berthume



Josh Radtke

Sophomore Michelle Bowles drives the ball from the tee. Bowles finished the tournament tied for 39th place with a score of 236 over 54 holes.

ready to tumble

Season sees highs and lows

With their eyes held steadfast on a Big Ten Championship, the women of the Spartan gymnastics team began their 2009 season hopeful and determined.

Ranked 17th in the pre-season, the team opened the regular season with a home quad-meet and finished third with a score of 192.325.

As the season progressed, an ever-growing amount of team members earned career highs and top honors. While competing at the Flip for a Cure meet on Jan. 15, senior Katlyn Roggensack received a score of 9.825 and earned top honors for the first time in her career.

Weeks later at the Chicago Style International, three Spartan gymnasts set career highs and the team finished third overall. Junior Rochelle Robinson set a career high on the uneven bars with a 9.900, while Roggensack and sophomore Nicole Argiros set career highs on the vault.

Sophomore Kelsey Morley set a program record on Feb. 14, after completing her balance beam routine. Earning a score of 9.975, Morley broke the previous school record of 9.950.

"It was an honor," Morley said . "To add a program record to my name was completely unreal to me. Gymnastics depends on the basics that you learn on your very first day, and I've had 15 years of preparation in order to make that beam routine successful."

Despite disappointing defeats, including a 196.575-195.275 loss to Auburn, the team finished the regular season in a triumphant match against New Hampshire, achieving a season high score of 195.675 and earning top honors in four of five events.

The team went on to Illinois to compete in the Big Ten Championships, where the Spartans placed sixth overall. Three Spartan gymnasts earned All-Big Ten honors. Morley and teammate Junior Nicole Curler took home second team honors while Robinson earned a first team selection.

After scoring 195.650 in the championship, the team competed against Ohio State in the NCAA Central Regional. With the help of Curler and sophomore Kathryn Mahoney, the team was able to earn the third best score among the competing teams for floor exercise, ultimately finishing fourth in the competition with a score of 194.825.

"Overall, I'm very proud of our team this season," junior Kelly Moffitt said. "I believe everyone has worked hard toward our ultimate goals, and we also learned and improved along the way. Our drive for excellence is what makes this team who it is and I believe that is what is going to make us stronger in the future."

Rachel Sylvester

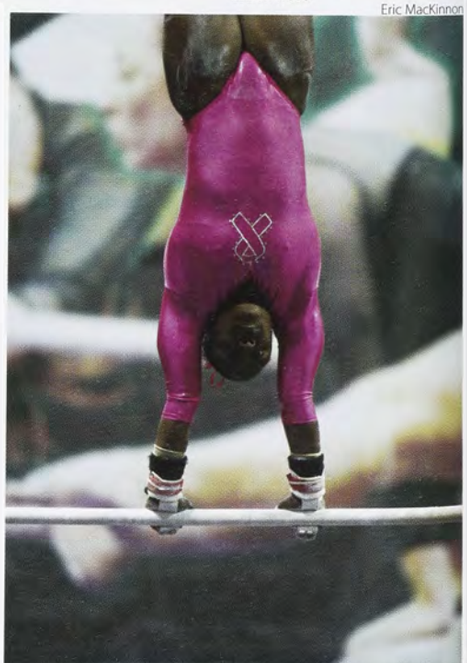
Roster

Name	Class
Nicole Argiros	Sophomore
Jackie Berg	Freshman
Alyssa Brennan	Freshman
Elise Craig	Sophomore
Nicole Curler	Junior
Dani Fanning	Senior
Nicole Heikkila	Sophomore
Emily Lopatofsky	Junior
Katheryn Mahoney	Sophomore
Kelly Moffitt	Junior
Kelsey Morley	Sophomore
Rochelle Robinson	Junior
Selina Rodriquez	Freshman
Katlyn Roggensack	Senior



Lauren Wood

Sophomore Nicole Argiros gracefully pauses during her floor routine at the first competitive meet of the season. Argiros scored a 9.775 on the floor, and placed second for the team on the vault.



Eric MacKinnon

Junior Rochelle Robinson competes during a meet to raise money for breast cancer. The women's gymnastics team finished in second place with a final score of 194.200.





Lauren Wood

Sophomore Kelsey Morley gracefully arches herself over the balance beam at the start of her routine. Morley took first place in the event, along with teammate Nicole Curler, with a score of 9.850.

Spartan gymnasts prepare for their quad meet on the floor of Jenison Field House. The Field House has been the home of the gymnastics team since 1972.



Lauren Wood

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Western Michigan, Illinois, Michigan	3rd, 192.352
Iowa, Illinois State, West Virginia	2nd, 194.200
Penn State	L, 195.875-194.175
Ohio State, Illinois, Misouri	L, 195.875-194.500
Illinois, Illinois-Chicago, Boise State	3rd, 194.500
Florida	3rd, 194.400
Pittsburgh	L, 196.850-194.775
Missouri, Cal-State Fullerton, Western Michigan	W, 194.900-194.600
Auburn	2nd, 194.750
California, Ball State	L, 196.575-195.275
New Hampshire	1st place 195.050
Big Ten Championships	W, 195.675-195.350
NCAA Central Regional	6th place 195.650
	4th place 194.825

MacKinnon



Lauren Wood

Senior Dani Fanning extends her arms as a dance element during her floor routine. Fanning, along with her teammates, competed in four events at the meet, including floor, balance beam, uneven bars and vault.



Pre-medical freshman Jackie Berg finishes her routine at Jenison Fieldhouse. The gymnastics team hosted the meet to fundraise for breast cancer research.
photo by Eric MacKinnon



Peering through the net, sophomore John Stratton kneels in anticipation of a serve during doubles play against Indiana. The Spartans lost the regular season dual match to Indiana and didn't fare any better against the sixth seeded Hoosiers in the first round of the Big Ten Tournament.

Men's tennis coach, Gene Orlando shows little emotion as sophomore Clark Richardson and senior Scott Rasmussen lose their match against Indiana. Orlando has been head coach for 18 years and has mentored all four of the Spartans' NCAA Championship singles qualifiers.

Roster

Name	Class
John Allare	Senior
Austin Brooks	Freshman
Alex Forger	Senior
Ronnie Hulewicz	Freshman
Brendan Kinkoph	Junior
Jason Norville	Junior
Scott Rasmussen	Senior
Clark Richardson	Sophomore
John Stratton	Sophomore



Benjamin Lindstrom

game, set, ouch

Spartans winless in Big Ten

A thud from a tennis ball echoed throughout the Indoor Tennis Facility with each hit as the men's varsity team battled No. 51 Penn State on April 5 in the race toward the Big Ten Championship.

Unfortunately, the Spartans were unable to win this Big Ten battle. Penn State took the early wins, clenching the double's point. In the end, the Nittany Lions came out on top 5-2 over the Spartans.

"We lost two big players last year," junior Brendan Kinkopf said. "So it's part of the challenge showing that losing those guys won't hurt everyone else."

The Spartans prepared for a tough season, traveling to play matches and train in California early in the spring. During the trip, the Spartans stole an important win against Santa Clara with a final score of 4-3.

"Our trip to California was a season highlight," sophomore John Stratton said. "We wanted to start out really energetic and show everyone in the Big Ten that we've been working."

The Spartans also clenched an important win against Western Michigan in Kalamazoo on Feb. 11.

"Beating Western was big," Stratton said, "because they are a big rival for us."

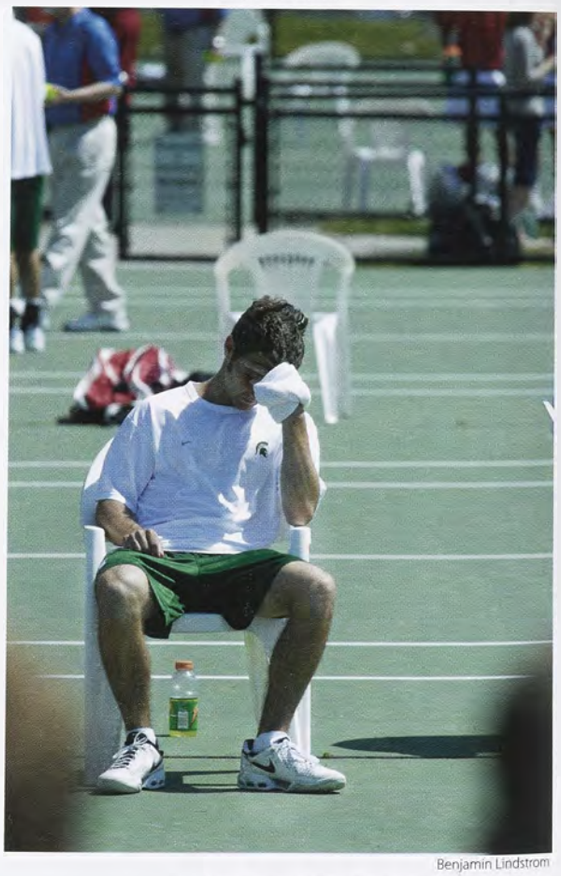
However, the team was unable to maintain its momentum during important Big Ten matches. Despite many wins for individuals, the Spartans, as a team, remained winless in the Conference posting a 0-10 record. Overall, they held on with a 12-14 record throughout the spring season.

"It's an individual sport," Kinkopf said. "But it is made a team sport in college. This brings a whole new dynamic where even if you are playing well, your team can still lose."

While it was a difficult season for Spartan tennis, the team remained dedicated and continuously focused on success.

"We were just looking to go out and fight," Stratton said. "Just win as many matches as we could."

Marissa Cumbers



Benjamin Lindstrom

Frustrated, senior Alex Forger takes a moment to rest before the start of singles matches during the regular season bout against Indiana. Defeat and disappointment were all too common for the team in 2009.



Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

Freshman Austin Brooks strides off the court in anger after losing a set against Indiana opponent, Stephen Vogel. Brooks went on to defeat Vogel in a third set of play, giving the Spartans one of their two single victories in the April 18 loss to Indiana.

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Iowa	L, 4-3
Minnesota	L, 6-1
Northwestern	L, 5-2
Wisconsin	L, 6-1
Ohio State	L, 7-0
Penn State	L, 5-2
Michigan	L, 7-2
Purdue	L, 5-2
Indiana	L, 5-2
Illinois	L, 6-1
Indiana	L, 4-1



Sophomore Manon Noe slams the ball back to her Toledo opponent. The Spartans finished the meet with a 6-1 victory over the Rockets.

Head Coach Simone Jardim talks to sopohomores Whitney Wilson and Manon Noe during their doubles match against Toledo. Wilson and Noe went on to defeat their opponents 8-4.



Alissa Lane

new beginnings

Young squad and new coach grow together

The 2008-2009 school year marked a tough first season under head coach Simone Jardim for the women's tennis program as she looked to lead the Spartans back into Big Ten contention.

"When the season began, I knew we could have some wins in the Big Ten and try to get nationally ranked," Jardim said. "I thought that was possible with the pallet we had."

The Spartans returned nine letter winners from the previous season, while adding three freshmen to their roster. However, they lost sophomore Manon Noe to a mysterious foot injury, Jardim said.

"The doctors don't know exactly what it is, but thankfully it won't be a career-ending injury," she added.

The team began the regular season on a good note, going 6-4 in their first 10 contests, including both three 6-1 and 7-0 competition wins. However, the glory ended quickly.

The Spartans dropped six of their next eight contests; including three close 4 -3 match losses to Western Michigan, Marshall and Iowa.

"A lot of those tough close matches just didn't go our way," Jardim said. "If just one game went different in each of those competitions, our season could be very different."

On March 29, the team defeated Wisconsin, 4-3, at the MSU Indoor Tennis Facility in a five hour match. With the win, the Spartans were 6-4 at home, and captured Jardim's first career Big Ten Conference win.

On March 31, freshman Elena Ivanova was honored as the Big Ten Women's Tennis Athlete of the Week. This was the first Big Ten weekly honor for Ivanova, and marked the first laurel for the Spartans since Feb. 14, 2007.

Unfortunately for the Spartans, the win over Wisconsin would be their last of the season, as they went 0-5 in the team's final five matches.

Heading into the Big Ten Tournament, Ivanova held a 17-17 singles mark, with 10 of her wins coming during the dual season, leading the team in that span.

Freshman Dana Guentert started her Spartan career with a record of 18-8, going 7-3 in her last 10 regular season singles matches, having lead the team with a .692 win percentage; her 18 wins were second-best. Her 10 wins in the spring were tied for first on the team, and her .714 win percentage was first in dual play. She was honored as the team's recipient of the 2009 Big Ten Sportsmanship Award

"We knew that with players like Ivanova and Guentert we were going to have a talented younger class," Jardim said.

Leading the Spartans for singles was senior Stephanie Kebler. Kebler was one of three Spartans who posted at least 10 wins in the spring, joining both Guentert and Ivanova.

The team ended the regular season going 8-15, and 1-9 in Big Ten play. On Thursday, April 23, the Spartans faced sixth-seeded Purdue in the first round of the Big Ten Championship, concluding the season by falling 4-2 to Purdue in the tournament's first round.

Aaron Miller

Roster

Name	Class
Kate Bonnen	Sophomore
Marlanne Eelens	Senior
Dana Guentert	Freshman
Elena Ivanova	Freshman
Stephanie Kebler	Senior
Lindsey Lonergan	Sophomore
Christine Milliken	Junior
Ana Milosavljevic	Senior
Manon Noe	Sophomore
Ashley Stockwell	Freshman
Whitney Wilson	Sophomore



Alissa Lane



Allyssa Bostick

Senior Stephanie Kebler anticipates a serve during a match at the MSU Indoor Tennis Facility. Kebler and her doubles partner, freshman Elena Ivanova, defeated the Wisconsin doubles team on March 29 for their fourth straight match win.



Eric MacKinnon

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Michigan	L, 7-0
Northwestern	L, 7-0
Iowa	L, 4-3
Minnesota	L, 6-1
Wisconsin	W, 4-3
Penn State	L, 4-3
Ohio State	L, 5-2
Purdue	L, 4-3
Illinois	L, 7-0
Indiana	L, 5-2
Purdue	L, 4-2

Business management freshman Elena Ivanova peers through the net during a doubles match against Wisconsin. Ivanova and her partner, general business administration senior Stephanie Kebler, defeated their Wisconsin opponents 8-5.

championship caliber

Spartan men rise up to be hometown heroes

It started with 347, was slimmed to 64, cut to 32, trimmed to a Sweet Sixteen, shaved to an Elite Eight, clipped down to the Final Four and after two heart-wrenching battles in the Motor City, only two teams remained.

One of those two teams was the Spartans, representing not only Michigan State University, but the entire state of Michigan and every underdog fan out there.

The men's basketball team battled through 39 games during the 2008-2009 season before reaching the coveted NCAA Tournament National Championship game. Although they didn't succeed against first-seeded North Carolina, the team fought hard and had a remarkable season, according to team Head Coach Tom Izzo.

"It was great to see this senior class go out the way they did," Izzo said to the Associated Press. "It was a struggle to get here, and they had a lot of pressure on them… and for what they accomplished this year, it will help us take another stride in that ever-growing part that we want to get to, and that's our program reaching a level that each and every year we're expecting to get here. So proud of 'em."

The road was bumpy at the season's start, as the Spartans started their regular season with a 4–2 loss, including a 98-63 blowout loss, which seemed all too familiar in April, to the North Carolina Tar Heels at Ford Field.

The team ended up going on an 11-game winning streak after the loss in Detroit, holding their opponents to an average of 62.45 points, and showing the development of their defensive prowess.

The team closed the regular season 25-5, including a season finale 62-51 win over Purdue, which clinched the team its first Big Ten Conference title since 2001 and its first outright crowning since 1999.

"This was one incredible memory-maker," Izzo said to the Associated Press. But, the team's conference title wasn't the only award they were honored with.

Izzo was named Big Ten Coach of the Year, while sophomore guard Kalin Lucas was voted to the Big Ten First Team as well as being named Big Ten Player of the Year. Senior guard Travis Walton was selected to the conference all-defensive team and was named conference Defensive Player of the Year. Freshman forward Delvon Roe was selected to the conference all-freshman team and junior forward Raymar Morgan received an honorable mention.

"It is crazy. It is an honor and a blessing," Lucas said to the Associated Press. "I have to give a lot credit to the coaches and Coach Izzo for just pushing me to be the best player I can be."

Michigan State became the second program in league history (since 1984) to win all three awards in the same season, joining Illinois in 2005.

After finishing the regular season ranked eighth in the nation, the Spartans had a short-lived Big Ten Tournament trip after being dealt a second-round 82–70 loss to Ohio State after defeating Minnesota 64-56 in the tournament's first round.

The team was then awarded the second seed in the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament's Midwest region. The team climbed over first round opponent 15th-seeded Robert Morris before being tested in two close wins: 74-69 over 10th-seeded Southern California and 67–62 against third-seeded Kansas in the Sweet Sixteen.

The Spartans' next match-up came against first-seed Louisville in the Elite Eight. In a surprising upset, the Spartans employed their half-court style game plan and a 17-7 run that made it 58-43 with 5:50 to go. The win gave the Spartans their fifth Final Four appearance in 11 years; the most trips of any team in the nation during that span.

After defeating their first one-seeded opponent, the team faced another top seed in the Final Four against the Connecticut Huskies. The Spartans handed the Huskies their fifth loss of the year and advanced to the National Championship game after an eight-year drought, and 30 years after basketball legend Magic Johnson led Michigan State to its first title in 1979.

However, the 2009 team wouldn't achieve the same results as the 1979 team. The Spartans fell 89-72 to the North Carolina Tar Heels, ending a season full of emotional highs for the team and its state.

"Detroit's been unbelievable to us," Izzo said to the Associated Press. "We've had some great games here, and the best is yet to come."

Aaron Miller

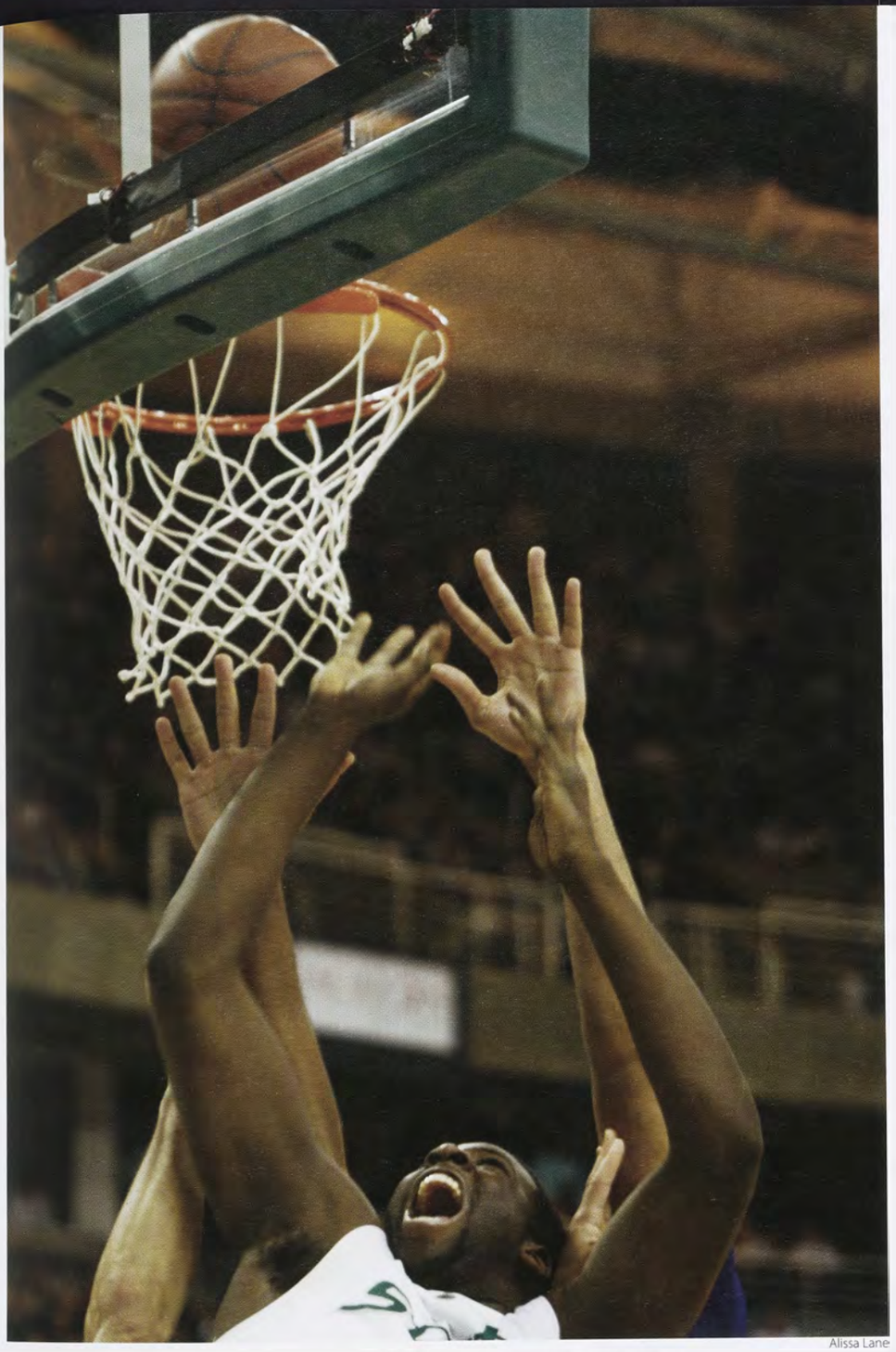


Alissa Lane

Junior Raymar Morgan hustles to win the ball from his Northwestern opponent. The Wildcats ended the Spartans' 28 home-court winning streak with a final score of 70-63.

Roster

Name	Class
Chris Allen	Sophomore
Jon Crandell	Junior
Isaiah Dahlman	Junior
Marquise Gray	Senior
Draymond Green	Freshman
Tom Herzog	Sophomore
Idong Ibok	Senior
Mike Kebler	Sophomore
Kalin Lucas	Sophomore
Korie Lucious	Freshman
Raymar Morgan	Junior
Delvon Roe	Freshman
Durrell Summers	Sophomore
Goran Suton	Senior
Austin Thornton	Freshman
Travis Walton	Senior



Alissa Lane

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Minnesota	W, 70-58
Northwestern	W, 77-66
Ohio State	W, 67-58
Penn State	W, 78-73
Illinois	W, 63-57
Northwestern	L, 70-63
Ohio State	W, 78-67
Iowa	W, 71-56
Penn State	L, 72-68
Minnesota	W, 76-47
Indiana	W, 75-47
Michigan	W, 54-42
Purdue	L, 72-54
Wisconsin	W, 61-50
Iowa	W, 62-54
Illinois	W, 74-66
Indiana	W, 64-59
Purdue	W, 62-51
Minnesota	W, 64-56
Ohio State	L, 82-70
Kansas	W, 67-62
Louisville	W, 64-52
Connecticut	W, 82-73
North Carolina	L, 89-72



Alissa Lane

Freshman Draymond Green and his Northwestern opponent battle it out under the basket. The Spartans had 39 rebounds to the Wildcats' 23.

Senior Goran Suton marks his man during the Spartans' second game of the season against Minnesota. Despite his early season injury, Suton played hard and led the team in rebounds.



Sc
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Sophomore Chris Allen dominates the boards against Minnesota. The Spartans took an early lead against the Golden Gophers and went on to earn the victory.
photo by Alissa Lane

it's all about the green

Team putts for the Big Ten

Green grass, green spirit and green jackets: The men's varsity golf team had green on the brain throughout their entire season.

The team entered the spring season ranked No. 27 after five top four team placements and four first place individual showings in six fall tournaments. The Spartans opened spring Big Ten play in Coral Springs, Fla., in February at the first-ever Big Ten Match Play Championship.

"As a team, our goal was to be a top-10 ranked school in the county and win our third Big Ten title in a row," business management sophomore Graham Baillargeon said. "So pretty much just get as many wins under the belt as we can and ultimately win Big Tens."

And the Big Ten Match Play set the team off toward that goal, as the team finished third behind Indiana and Michigan. After the initial Big Ten matches, the men looked to hone their skills and stay near the top of the conference.

"Our two main competitors are Illinois and Indiana. I imagine we'll have to beat them to win. That will be the biggest challenge," Baillargeon said. "We are probably going to have to be the best putters out there."

By April, the Spartans were ranked No. 28 and had gained top four finishes in eight out of nine tournaments.

Junior Jack Newman made history when he became the first university golfer to qualify for a shot at a green jacket at the Augusta National Golf Club in the 73rd Masters Tournament.

Newman was invited to the Masters after winning the U.S. Amateur Public Links in July 2008. While Newman missed the cut in the Masters practice round, he came back with just as much Spartan pride.

"It just made me a little more focused and a little hungrier to get back out there," Newman said. "I realized that I can compete with those guys. The only thing that's holding me back from this is a little bit of experience."

Marissa Cumbers



Assistant Coach Bart Lower observes as Junior Jack Newman gets warmed up. Newman was the first Spartan golfer in history to play in the prestigious Masters Golf Tournament in Augusta, Ga.

Alissa Lane

Roster

Name	Class
Graham Baillargeon	Sophomore
Jimmy Dewling	Freshman
Dan Ellis	Freshman
Dave Ellis	Freshman
Jordan Ensrud	Senior
Payne Gniewek	Sophomore
Randy Hutchison	Senior
Andrew Ladwig	Junior
Chris Mory	Freshman
Jack Newman	Freshman
Philip Snow	Freshman



Alissa Lane

Sophomore Graham Baillargeon gets in a few practice swings before his drive. Baillargeon helped lead the team to their first win at the Spartan Classic.

Sophomore Payne Gniewek drives a shot at the University of Michigan's golf course. Gniewek finished the day with a score of two under par at 69.



Alissa Lane

Senior Jordan Ensrud asseses the greens with the help of Assistant Coach Bart Lower. It was Lower's first year as a member of the coaching staff.



Alissa Lane

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Spartan Classic	1st of 6
Wolverine Intercollegiate	4th of 16
Fighting Irish Gridiron Golf Classic	3rd of 16
The Prestige	8th of 16
UNCG Bridgestone	2nd of 14
Rees Jones Invitational	4th of 12
Wisconsin (Big Ten Match Play Quarterfinals)	W, 3.5-2.5
Indiana (Big Ten Match Play Quarterfinals)	L, 4.5-1.5
Illinois (Big Ten Match Play Quarterfinals)	W, 4-2
Pinehurst Interollegiate	3rd of 20
Western Intercollegiate	4th of 18
Boilermaker Invitational	11th of 18
Fossum/ Spartan Invitational	1st of 12
Big Ten Championship	11th of 11
NCAA Regional	10th of 13
NCAA Regional	12th of 13
NCAA Regional	11th of 11th

changes build stronger bond

Players take pride in new coach and stadium

After all the changes the baseball team faced at the beginning of the season - a new coach, new players and a new stadium to play in - the team was uncertain about how the season would turn out.

"I was hired July 1, 2008, and we weren't really sure what to expect going into the year because we had never competed with these players before," head coach Jake Boss said. "We have a good group that works very hard and keeps trying to get better."

In addition to the new coach, the team also got to play in the new McLane Stadium. The 2,500-seat addition to the existing stadium was a $4 million renovation that was part of the New Life for Old College Field project.

"Drayton McLane, owner of the Houston Astros donated the money for the field," Boss said "He donated the money because of his love for Michigan State, baseball and the Old College Field project. It's been a real point of pride for our players and it has helped with recruiting as well."

Going into the season, the captains and coaches set goals for the team, such as winning home games, making it to the Big Ten Tournament and beating the University of Michigan.

"We have worked hard everyday striving to make our goals a reality," senior captain Eric Roof said. "This is my third year here, and I think it's one of our hardest working teams. Guys go out there every day with a plan and goal and want to get better. One of coach's sayings is to impress someone, whether that's on or off the field, at practice or during games."

Roof said the team's biggest goal, though, was to make it to the Big Ten Tournament and leave with the championship title.

"Anything is possible once you get there. It's a double elimination with six teams, so a couple good wins and you have a chance for a Big Ten title."

And the team made it to the first round of the Big Ten Tournament – the first time since 2004 – but fell to fourth seeded Illinois. Despite the loss, the team worked together to bond and to accomplish their goals all season long.

"The relationships we are able to build with our players and their families is really rewarding," Boss said. "Those will last far longer than any win or loss. It's an honor to be a positive influence for these young men as they grow and prepare for the real world after their time here at MSU."

Even though the team's success was important to the captains, the camaraderie among team members made the team special.

"The most rewarding part of being on this team is the friendships I have created over the past four years. All my closest friends are on the team and they will be long after we are done here," senior captain Nolan Moody said. "I think this team is extremely hard working and cares for each other and at the end of the season that will leave us in a good chance to win a championship.

"The goals will take care of themselves if we play good baseball, minimize mistakes, pitch well and have clutch hitting," Moody said. "Our biggest accomplishment this year is our undefeated home record, winning at home is important and we take a lot of pride in that."

Leslie Tilson





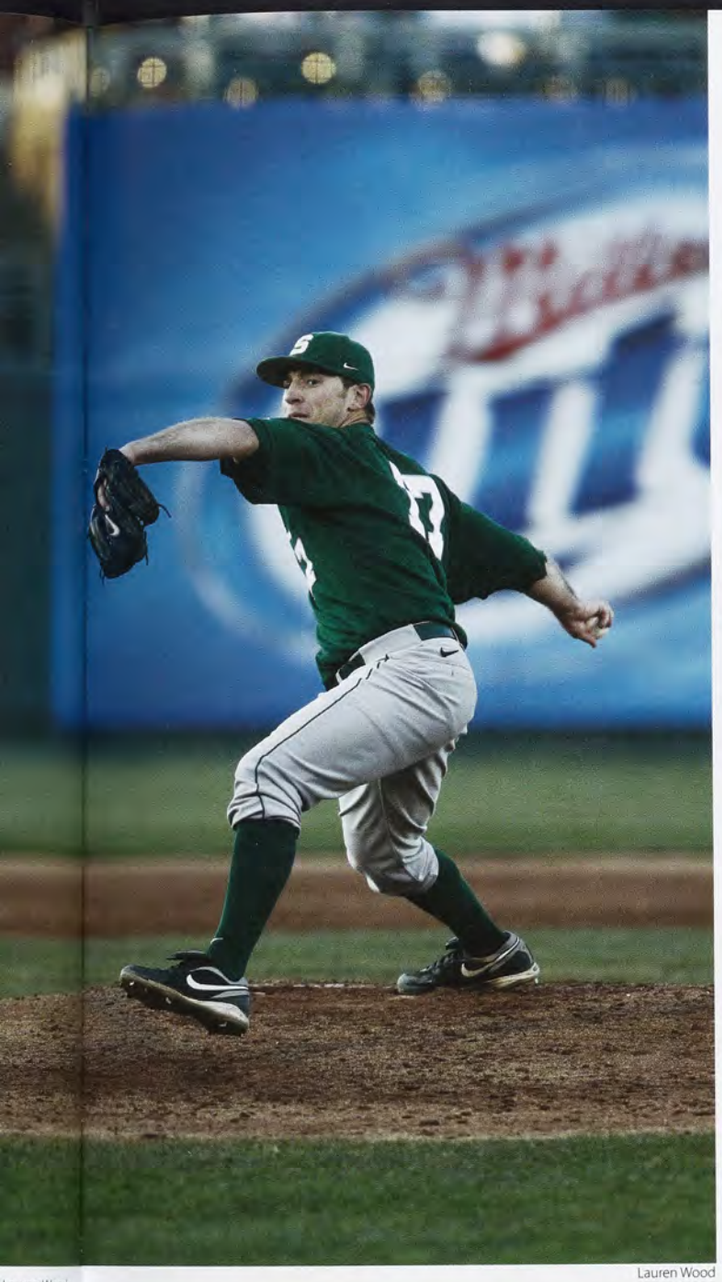
Lauren Wood

Sophomore Jeff Holm stands at first base ready to catch the ball to tag out Jake Goebbert from Northwestern, who tried to steal second base. The Wildcats fell to the Spartans in the first game of the doubleheader, 2-0.



Lauren Wood

Senior Max Miller throws a pitch to senior catcher Eric Roof during a game against the Lansing Lugnuts. The Spartans won the game at Oldsmobile Park in front of a record crowd of 12,992 fans.



Lauren Wood

Senior Anthony Dunn winds up to pitch at the beginning of the game against the Lansing Lugnuts. Dunn was the starting pitcher for the game, which the Spartans won, 12-2.

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Minnesota	L, 7-2
Illinois	L, 10-3
Illinois	L, 3-2
Illinois	L, 3-0
Northwestern	W, 2-0
Northwestern	W, 9-4
Northwestern	W, 6-5
Ohio State	L, 6-1
Ohio State	L, 5-3
Ohio State	L, 6-1
Michigan	W, 8-7
Michigan	W, 3-1
Michigan	L, 9-2
Iowa	W, 15-10
Iowa	W, 15-4
Iowa	W, 14-5
Penn State	W, 12-1
Penn State	W, 9-1
Penn State	W, 6-5
Purdue	W, 6-5
Purdue	L, 9-8
Purdue	L, 9-3
Indiana	L, 6-4
Indiana	L, 6-1
Indiana	W, 7-3
Illinois	L, 16-5
Purdue	L, 12-9

Lauren Wood



Lauren Wood

Junior Bo Felt runs and tries to get out from between two Northwestern players. The Spartans won all three games they played against Northwestern, which ultimately helped their standing in the Big Ten.



Lauren Wood

Junior Kurtis Frymier stands on the mound after throwing a 91 mph pitch. Frymier pitched in the win against the Lansing Lugnuts.



Benjam

like a well-oiled machine

Team shatters records individually, comes together as a whole

As the men's track and field team began their season, goals were set and plans to achieve these goals were set in stone.

"The goal for this season is the same goal we have had since I came to MSU," senior Ian Boyle said. "That is to improve our team as a whole, to the point that we can be a top competing team in the Big Ten. We want to win Big Ten Championships. The goal is to improve marks more and more so that this goal becomes a reality."

The men's team finished with eighth place at the Indoor Big Ten Championships after competing in the Meyo Invitational, Grand Valley Big Meet and the Iowa State Classic. Both the men and women hoped to improve their performances in the Big Ten Outdoor Championships.

The Spartans finished the indoor season by sending two team members, junior Shane Knoll, and senior Jeremy Orr, to the NCAA Indoor Championships.

After not making past any of the preliminary heats, the men opened their outdoor season strongly and finished in second place at the UFS quad meet in Tampa Bay, Fla. And at the Spartans' only home meet of the season, nine event titles were claimed on East Lansing's turf. Just a week later in competition, Senior Kyle Strotbaum broke the university record for the hammer throw at the Joe Hilton UNC Invitational.

The men then went on to improve their performance at the Indiana Invitational as they took home first place at the meet. The Spartans then went on to the outdoor Big Ten Championships where, on the first day of competition, junior Anthony Agrusa and Strotbaum, again, dominated again at hammer throw. The men concluded the weekend with eighth place and then 21st in the NCAA Midwest Regional.

At the start of the season, Boyle said he had very high hopes for the team. "Every part of our team, from the throwers, to the jumpers, to the sprinters and the distance runners, is continuing to get better, and I think we will continue to improve for the rest of the season."

And the team did continue to improve throughout the season. Stand out players for the season were sophomore Kyron Foster and red-shirted senior Jeremy Orr. Foster placed second in the triple jump at the Big Ten Championships while Orr outran his personal best time at the NCAA Midwest Regional.

Leslie Tilson

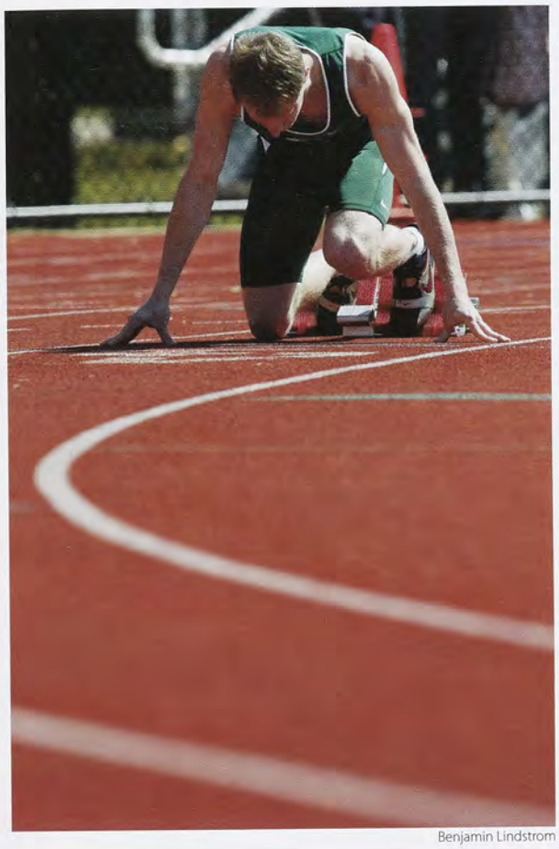


Benjamin



Benjamin Lindstrom

Junior thrower Brad Wentzel prepares to throw a shot put at the Spartan Invitational, where he placed fifth in the event. Wentzel was one of 20 Spartans to represent the university at the NCAA Mideast Regionals, where fellow thrower freshman Lonnie Pugh placed fifth in the discus to advance to the NCAA Championships.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Sophomore Jake Hamilton sets himself on the blocks for the men's 400m dash at the Spartan Invitational, where he finished third. Winning the 400m hurdles at the Invitational, the Spartans' top hurdler finished 12th at the Big Ten Championships after failing to match his previous performances.

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Notre Dame Invitatoinal	2nd
Big Ten Indoor Championships	9th
Big Ten Indoor Championships	8th
USF Quad Meet	2rd
Indiana Invitational	1st
Big Ten Championships	4th
Big Ten Championships	4th
Big Ten Championships	8th
NCAA Mideast Regional	21st



Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

Senior thrower Jerry Hessell lunges forward, launching his javelin in competition at the Spartan Invitational. Hessel placed third with a throw of 51.92m.

Both feet airborne, sophomore Joe Dimambro pushes to the finish behind a Calvin runner in the 800m run at the Spartan Invitational. Normally running longer distance events, Dimambro placed 8th in the event with a time of 1:57.30.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Senior Jackie Gross leads two University of Michigan Wolverines in the 800 m run at the Spartan Invitational. Gross placed 14th with a time of 2:23.59. Her time placed her fifth among the Spartans.

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Notre Dame Invitatoinal	2nd
Big Ten Indoor Championships	7th
Big Ten Indoor Championships	6th
USF Quad Meet	3rd
Indiana Invitational	2nd
Big Ten Championships	6th
Big Ten Championships	7th
Big Ten Championships	7th
NCAA Mideast Regional	12th
NCAA Mideast Regional	9th
NCAA National Championships	11th



Eric MacKinnon

Psychology senior Stephanie Miller focuses on the bar during the season's only home meet. Miller was the third ranked pole vaulter for the Spartan women.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Spartan Stadium looms in the background as junior Katie Shaw makes a successful vault at the Spartan Invitational. A former high school state champion, Shaw won the event with a top height of 3.85 m.



giving it their all

Team places eleventh in NCAA National Championship

The women's track and field team brought in outstanding results this season under the direction of track and field director, Walt Drenth.

The women wrapped up their indoor season with outstanding distance runners, sophomore Emily MacLeod and senior Lisa Senakiewich. Both women went to the NCAA Indoor Championships. Despite not advancing past any of their preliminary heats at the indoor championships, the women's team placed third at the USF Quad Meet then went on to stepped up to take second place at the Indiana Invitational.

"We are looking to improve our finish in the Big Ten Championship, and have our team continue to rise and grow in each of our event groups," sophomore Carlie Green said. "We've been working on improving with each competition and putting in the work we need to do to get better."

And mid-season, members of the team said they believed their goals were close to fruition.

"The season has been [going] very well," communication and public relations senior Hazel Joiner said. "Everyone on the team is doing their part to take responsibility for their own progress in their training to better the team. Everyone has the game goal, and that is to give it your all when you are out there on the track."

And the women felt the power of a few exemplary players on the team, like Nicole Bush who ran the world's second fastest steeplechase time during the Payton Jordan Stanford Invitational.

With so many qualified women on the team, Drenth said going into the Big Ten Championshops, the team was looking to be at the head of the conference.

And they were. As the women moved on to the NCAA National Championships at the University of Arkansas. Bush showcased her skills again and earned All-America honors for the third time in her career in the steeplechase.

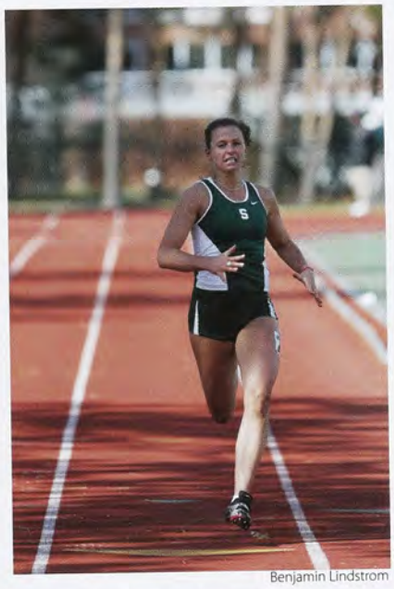
With a squad full of talented women, the team placed 11th at the NCAA National Championships to end out the season in mid June. Bush was honored as All-Big Ten First team selection after the Big Ten Outdoor Championships while Senakiewich won the Big Ten Sportsmanship Award.

Leslie Tilson and Lisa Ermak

Benjamin Lindstrom



Junior Katie Shaw's pole bends past 90 degrees as she attempts a vault at the Spartan Invitational. The event took place at the track and field adjacent to Spartan Stadium.



Benjamin Lindstrom

After placing second in the long jump, freshman Maggie Smith pushes to finish the last few strides of the 200 m dash at the 2009 Spartan Invitational. Hailing from Cadillac, Mich., Smith set several records at her high school before becoming a Spartan.

Freshman Brett Williams winds up to throw the ball to her teammate at Old College Field during the Spartans' game against Indiana. Williams and her teammates practiced between every inning during games.

bein' scrappy

Young team struggles but never quits fighting

Down 5-0 late in their game against Central Michigan University and staring at their eighth straight loss, the Spartan softball team thought that they had to do something drastic to turn around the game and possibly their season.

But the team didn't make any outrageous changes. They just kept at it. And eventually, the team saw a win under their belt, as they beat Central Michigan 7-6 in extra innings off of a hit by junior Kelly Confer. They saw their persistence pay off.

"Our game against Central was definitely a stand out moment for the season," freshmen outfielder Lori Padilla said. "We just did what we have wanted to do all season, keep fighting and never give up."

The team started off losing their first two games only to follow that by winning their next four games. After the win to Central Michigan, and a decent start, the Spartans struggled to find consistency. After falling to the University of Michigan at the end of their schedule, the Spartans lost the rivalry game 8-2, but came back and took home victory for their final game of the season, beating the Wolverines 2-1 at home. Despite their inconsistency on the field, the team never threw in the towel.

"Be scrappy," senior pitcher Megan Hair said about her team's motto. "We have a lot of young girls, but we always want to go out there and be tough and scrappy and put our time in now to succeed in the future."

Only having five upperclassmen, the team was faced with rebounding from a sub .500 team the previous year with an even younger team. When faced with adversity the team turned to the upperclassmen, but two stood out in particular.

"Everyone looked to seniors Gena Mondo and Kara Weigle for leadership," said Padilla. "Gena was more of our sparkplug while Kara was a solid leader."

Colby Berthume



Lauren Wood

Scoreboard

Event	Outcome
Ohio State	L, 8-0
Ohio State	L, 9-1
Illinois	L, 13-3
Northwestern	L, 9-1
Northwestern	L, 11-2
Purdue	L, 12-0
Purdue	L, 8-3
Indiana	L, 3-1
Indiana	L, 5-2
Iowa	L, 8-0
Iowa	L, 4-3
Minnesota	W, 1-0
Minnesota	W, 3-0
Penn State	L, 6-3
Penn State	W, 3-2
Wisconsin	L, 2-1
Wisconsin	W, 5-3
Michigan	L, 8-2
Michigan	W, 2-1



Lauren Wood

Freshman Melanie Bensema lays down a bunt in hope of making a run. The Spartans lost the game to the Indiana Hoosiers with a final score of 3-1.



Lauren Wood

Sophomore shortstop Lindsey Hansen catches the ball between plays to throw back to the pitcher. The Spartans played their two game series against Indiana at their home field, Old College Field.



Lauren Wood

Senior Kara Weigle bunts the ball at home plate on Old College Field. Weigle went 2-for-3 at the plate during their game against Indiana, which was their first of a double header.

Freshman Lori Padilla rushes to touch first base after trying to run for second. Padilla's single from a successful bunt contributed to the Spartans' first run after both teams went scoreless in the first two innings.



Lauren Wood



Lauren Wood

Sophomore outfielder Jessica Bracamonte talks to associate head coach Kathryn Gleason while on first base. Bracamonte's single helped her teammate Kelly Confer score the Spartans' one run in their game against Indiana.

Roster

Name	Class
Melanie Bensema	Freshman
Jessica Bracamonte	Sophomore
Kelly Confer	Junior
Karen Fox	Sophomore
Ali Grant	Freshman
Megan Hair	Senior
Lindsey Hansen	Sophomore
Lauren Kramer	Freshman
Gina Mondo	Senior
Lori Padilla	Freshman
Heidi Purtzer	Sophomore
Rebecca Rogers	Freshman
Stephanie Schmidt	Freshman
Kara Weigle	Senior
Brett Williams	Freshman



Although it wasn't until May that the campus finally came alive with the colors of spring, green and white were present throughout the coldest days of March. Students demonstrated their Spartan pride as they cheered on the men and women's basketball teams through the NCAA Tournament. With the women making it to the Elite Eight against Iowa State and the men to the final championship game, school spirit radiated through campus and energized even the dreariest winter days. Despite a final loss to North Carolina, the overall success of the men's team was a victory for not only the school but the entire state of Michigan as the game in Detroit lifted spirits and boosted a lagging economy. With all eyes on Michigan State University, students and fans alike showed the nation the vitality, spirit and sportsmanship that makes us proud to be Spartans.

Spring Campus Life



2.26.09 | Michigan State University | Photo by Benjamin Lindstrom

Campus *Chill*

Record low temperatures freeze up campus

Wandering through campus, it was difficult to see much more than two squinty eyes and the crown of a red nose on each passerby.

Jan. 15 and 16 were two of the coldest days of the new semester, and most students were hidden underneath thick scarves and fuzzy hats.

After a month filled with home-cooked meals and cozy car rides, students returned to campus to find record-breaking cold temperatures as low as minus 15 degrees with wind chills surpassing 40 below zero.

"I couldn't even go to one of my first classes on Thursday when I saw the temperature was negative 9," biology senior Jessica Scheel said. "I walked to class later with so many layers. I had to wear long underwear."

Michiganders have forever been familiar with brutal winters, but these temperatures were the lowest the state had seen in years. Schools across Michigan and beyond shut down to keep people out of the cold.

The Associated Press reported at least five deaths due to the extreme temperatures including a man in Michigan who froze to death after being locked out of his home. Even the South saw record low temperatures, with states like Missouri, Tennessee and even Georgia reaching zero degrees.

Despite wind chill advisories all over the nation, the university did not cancel any classes, creating extremely dangerous conditions for students walking to class.

"I was so cold. I had to put on so many layers. I felt like the kid in the Christmas Story, you know - 'I can't put my arms down!'" finance junior Jaclynn Maltese said. "But, by the time I finally got inside my warm classroom, my skin was burning and I was sweating my butt off."

The university has only closed twice due to heavy amounts of snow (in 1967 and 1975), stating it will only close due to "extremely severe snow or floods."

Some students had a higher tolerance for the extreme temperatures and simply enjoyed being back on campus.

"Well, I really don't mind freezing weather. Truth is, I really enjoy it," physiology senior Nick VanOosten said. "Truth be told, I did more for class this week than I have done in a really long time. I guess just because it was the first week back, the cold temperatures didn't bring me down too much."

The freezing temperatures continued through the weekend, and East Lansing's streets were quieter than usual during the first weekend of the new semester.

"It's so cold that I'm going into party hibernation," hospitality business junior Bobby Klans said. "I'm not going out until it warms up."

Marissa Cumbers

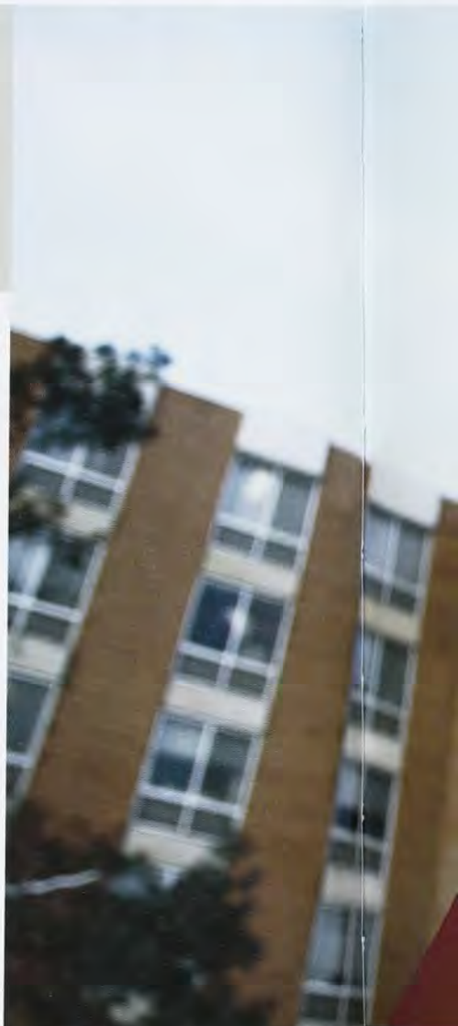


> *"It's so cold that I'm going into party hibernation"*



Advertising sophomore Michele Hillman walks to the bus stop near her apartment during the cold spell in January. Hillman found herself taking the bus and even driving more often to stay out of the cold weather.

Lauren Wood





Lauren Wood

Mathematics junior LT Thomas walks to campus from his house, despite the below average temperatures. "I don't like to walk when it's this freezing, but sometimes I have to. If I don't have a ride back from class though, I just wait," Thomas said.

Apparel and textile design sophomore Olivia Grzasko covers her face from the cold as she leaves class. Grzasko wore extra layers to try and keep warm, such as leggings under her jeans.



Lauren Wood

Lauren Wood

Lyman Briggs freshman Andrea Heymes tries to stay warm as she walks to class. "I actually don't mind the cold," Heymes said. "I like to bundle up."



a day in the life of

Jon Whiting

Telecommunications is his life. It's his passion and his career. If Jon Whiting could be summed up, you would have to call him tech-driven.

The telecommunication, information studies and media grauate student had been interested in technology from a young age but he said his passion for audio technology grew during his first year at the university.

"During my freshman year, my friends and I would stay up in my room from 2 to sometimes 6 in the morning to listen to my brother's radio show, and I just thought, 'Wow, this is really cool,'" Whiting said.

The station, Impact 89FM, is where Whiting found his place and worked at alongside his brother, Jeremy.

On Thursday nights, the Whiting brothers could be found at the station's office, located in the basement of Holden Hall, for a directors' meeting. They discussed an array of topics, including previous broadcasts and the content of the station's shows, with the rest of Impact's directors staff.

After the meeting, Whiting headed over to one of the station's control rooms to set up recording equipment for the station's broadcasts.

When his equipment was set, Whiting sat in on Happy Hour, one of the station's shows. Whiting and other station workers joined the show's host, telecommunications senior Brandon Jaksim, and informally discussed news and popular culture.

It may seem odd that a radio station would have a video department, but Whiting said the station was adapting to a new frontier in global technology.

"It is interesting because we are putting a face on radio," Whiting said. "This idea is so new, I had to write a proposal for my position."

According to Whiting, the video director position last existed at Impact in 2002. He said he felt the station could technologically grow and he wanted to be a big part of it.

After Happy Hour, Whiting grabbed his handheld video-recorder and documented bands playing live in studio. Later in the week, after Whiting was done recording, he came back into the station to edit and upload his videos onto YouTube or the station's Facebook page.

When Whiting was not working at Impact, he still had a number of jobs to keep him busy. He worked regularly as a sound engineer for the College of Music's recording services and as a media specialist for the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory on campus. Along with that, he was a teaching assistant for three classes and was the sole employee of his own company, Whiting Media. He also did video shoots for weddings.

Besides the opportunities Whiting has taken advantage of, he said he came back to the university after completing his undergraduate in telecommunications because he loves it.

"What isn't there to love?" asked Whiting. ""The environment is perfect. I love walking through old campus."

Whiting said he also enjoys traveling in his free time.

"I love taking road trips," he said. "One time I drove with a friend from Michigan all the way to Alaska."

Whiting said he wasn't sure where he would end up after leaving the university, but he knew that his passion for telecommunications would take him places.

Aaron Miller
Photo by Alissa Lane




89 FM



University president Lou Anna K. Simon gives a speech reflecting on President Barack Obama's visit to campus during his campaign. President Simon received her doctorate in administration and higher education from the university in 1974 before joining the faculty.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Ready for Change

Students celebrate the inauguration of the 44th president

Discussing the future of America may not be the typical conversation for college students on a Tuesday morning, but on Jan. 20 more than 100 students gathered in the Union with nothing on their minds but what would lie ahead for the country.

On this significant day, America inaugurated Barack Obama as the nation's first black president. The president elect was sworn in before record-sized crowds in Washington celebrating this monumental moment in history.

At the celebration in the Union, students gathered for table talks, listened to a short speech from President Lou Anna K. Simon and watched a video from President Obama's visit to campus. Later, they tuned in to watch the president and his vice president, Joe Biden, be sworn into office.

"I cried during his speech," said interdisciplinary studies sophomore Jackie Robillard. "For most of my conscious adult life I was raised with George Bush as president and listening to our new president speak about all of his future plans, I was filled with hope."

While the new president was commemorated around the world, it seemed as though the American people were very ready to see how Obama would bring change to the country. Obama entered presidential office facing a deepening recession and American wars in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

"The economy is a big issue for me as a senior," psychology senior Kendall Barry said. "Jobs and the economy are big concerns for college students."

After being sworn in, Obama gave a brief speech promising to restore the nation and its leadership. He asked for the support and dedication of the American people in rebuilding the economy.

"Starting today, we must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off, and begin again the work of remaking America," Obama said.

Obama reminded Americans that the problems we face in restoration will be difficult and the challenges "are serious and they are many…"

"Obama's vision has motivated a drive in the American people to pursue those goals," said Stevie Jones, a family community services senior. "We have come so far as a nation, and now change is here. Change is now. We have no choice but to take advantage of the opportunity and move forward."

For many students, this was the first presidential election in which they were of voting age, and it had importance for many reasons.

"This was the first election I was actually able to vote in," advertising senior Megan Glanzman said. "A lot more of our generation took part in this election. I think as we get older we start to look to our future. We saw where it was headed with Bush in office, and we wanted change."

The MSU Democrats hosted a large celebratory watch party in Holden Hall and other groups of students got together on their own to witness history with friends. Liz Ratzloff, MSU Democrat and zoology sophomore attended a bash that lasted from Tuesday afternoon into the evening.

"Literally, this is the first time I have been proud to be an American which I think is a great thing to celebrate," zoology sophomore Liz Ratzloff said. "It is nice to know that the rest of the world is supportive of our new administration. This summer I'll be going on a study abroad in Kenya…because of Obama's ties to Kenya, when I travel, I'll actually be welcomed as an American."

Throughout his campaign, Obama received incredible support internationally. In his inauguration speech, he touched on the importance of America's international relations and reminded other countries that "America is a friend of each nation and every man, woman and child who seeks a future of peace and dignity, and that we are ready to lead once more."

Marissa Cumbers





Benjamin Lindstrom

People gather in the Union before the start of President Barack Obama's inauguration. Dozens of students, faculty and community members gathered in the ballroom to watch the event.

> *"This is the first time I have been proud to be an American"*



Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

Assistant professor of English Jeff Wray watches President Obama's inauguration. The atmosphere was resoundingly positive in the Union as the 44th president of the United States took office.

Director of the Counciling Center Jan Collins-Eaglin watches the inauguration ceremony. Emotions ran high as the nation's first black president was sworn in.



Eric MacKinnon

Porter, from a Lansing area elementary school, gets helped up by a member of Project GREEEN. Porter counted all 67 of his falls while ice skating at Munn Ice Arena.

Spreading *the Green*

Organization makes an effort to clean up

Where there are usually large men in green uniforms speed skating across the ice, more than 100 small bundles of color bumped and glided across the large arena.

On Jan. 30, students from the organization Project GREEEN hosted the annual open skate and lunch with Sparty for elementary students at Munn Ice Arena. Faculty from Lansing's Willow Elementary brought third, fourth and fifth-grade students to participate in the free event.

Project GREEEN is a student organization formed in 2001 by students within the Leer Center. Originally, the organization was based around one large end of the year event involving community infrastructure. Now, the organization hosts events throughout the year, which include doing at least one community service event each month.

For the elementary students, events with the "big kids" from the university are anticipated all year, especially when they get the opportunity to leave school and come to campus.

"It is something fun for us to do," Willow Elementary School student Latone Smith said. "We get to see Sparty, and we don't have to do homework."

Project GREEEN has had a partnership with Willow Elementary School for seven years.

"We attend a PTA meeting at the beginning of the year and find out what they want," family community services junior Erin Crouch said. "It is about supplying what they need and bridging the gap between students and the community."

While the group was originally composed of students within the business college, it had grown to include students from almost every college on campus. With only 10 executive members, the group draws volunteers from numerous campus organizations.

"The idea came from them wanting to keep the neighborhood green," Crouch said. "We are in their backyard, why not do something for them?"

Project GREEEN organizes events that are easily accessible for the school and free to the elementary students and school.

"Project GREEEN has been a wonderful partnership for us," Willow Elementary School principal Connie Nickson said. "They do many community outreach things with students. Ice skating is free to students and a lot of them are out there, and it's their first time. It is great fun for them."

Beginning in September, the group hosted many events giving the elementary students opportunities to come to campus as well as the block party and Halloween events that gave Project GREEEN members the opportunity to go to Willow.

"They come here often, but it is cool when we get to go there and see them in their regular environment," special education junior Sari Saperstein said.

Throughout the year, the group builds up to their final event: a school beautification project and a large block party cookout near the school. University students talk to the parents and staff of Willow to determine what projects are most pertinent to the school. Usually they plan things such as painting, planting flowers and general cleanup.

"We are role models for them," retailing junior Mara Sculler said. "And we think the building should reflect what comes out of it."

Marissa Cumbers





Eric MacKinnon

Daylyn skates around Munn Ice Arena with help from the rink boards. Daylyn and other elementary school students joined Project GREEEN members for ice skating, pizza and a visit from Sparty.

> *"We get to see Sparty and we don't have to do homework"*



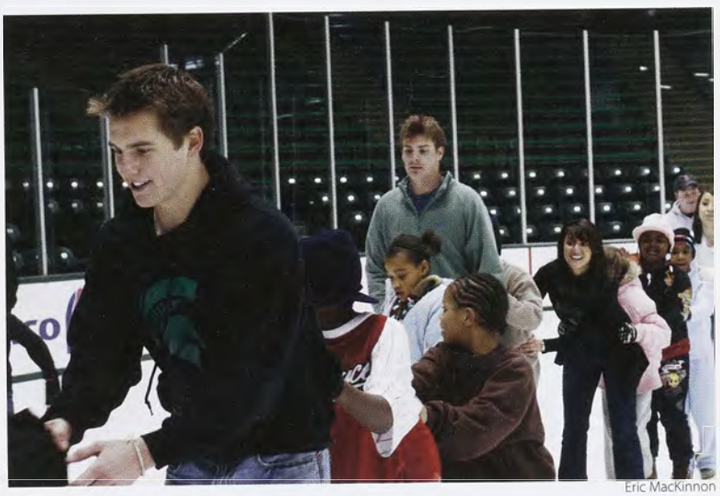
Eric MacKinnon



Eric MacKinnon

Marketing and international business senior Cathleen Garbacik skates with Brianna at Munn Ice Arena. Students from the Eli Broad College of Business volunteered with Project GREEEN to help the Lansing community.

Marketing and international business senior Cathleen Garbacik helps children tie their ice skates. Project GREEEN held an open skate at Munn Ice Arena for Lansing area elementary students.



Eric MacKinnon

Supply chain management seniors Mike Keller, Kyle Lambert and Ashley Aquinto help form a skating train around Munn Ice Arena. After skating, Project GREEEN members served pizza to the elementary students while they waited for a surprise visit from Sparty.



Recycling bins sit in a hallway of the Engineering Building. The ubiquitous bins could be found throughout campus.

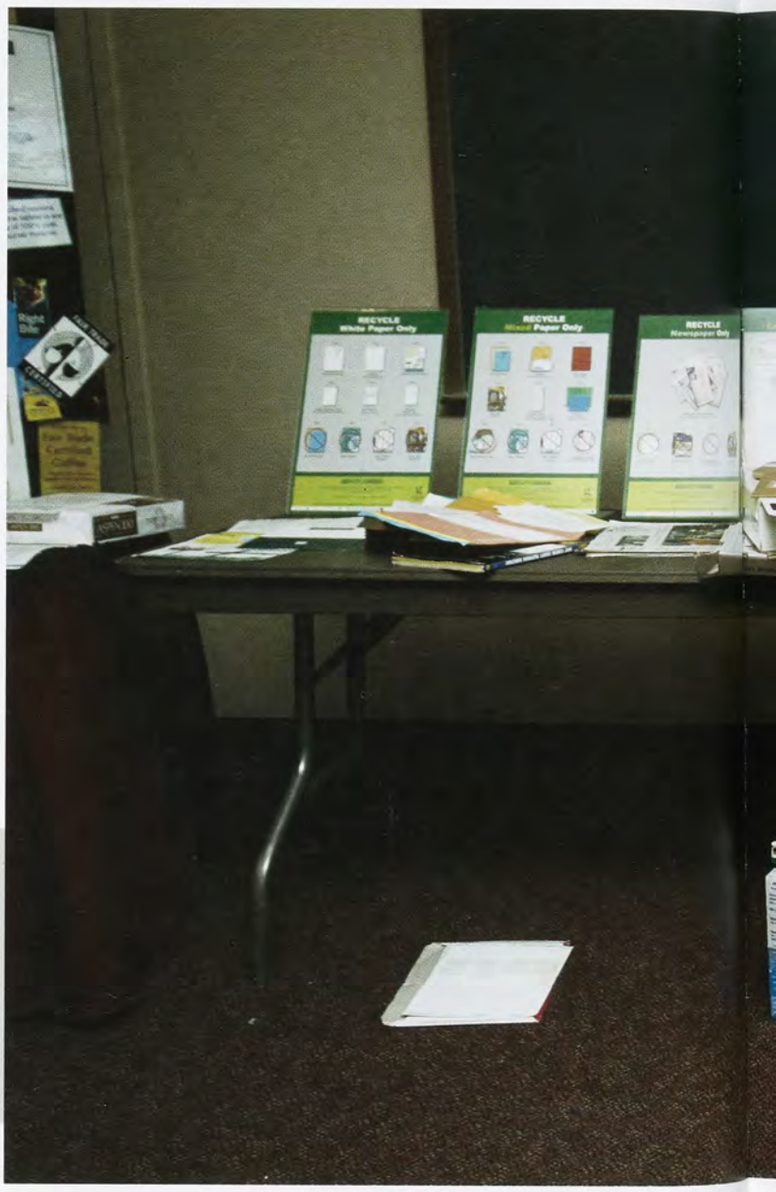
A bottle recycling bin sits next to the sidewalk near Mason Hall. Be Spartan Green encouraged people to recycle by placing large green bins around campus.

Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

> "Being 'green' is already on the minds of so many"



Be Spartan *Green*

What shade of green are you?

The amount of wood and paper we throw away each year is enough to heat 50 milion homes for 20 years. If we could cut back on the average 680 pounds of paper each person uses in a year, we could reduce carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, clean up landfills and lessen waste.

On campus, the leaders spearheading the Go Green phenomenon are members of the Be Spartan Green campaign. The campaign began in 2006 as part of an initiative led by Boldness by Design, an organization focused on turning the campus into a model university by efficiently using energy resources and reducing waste.

"Students are excited to make changes that positively impact the environment. Our job is helping them understand exactly what they can do and how to do it," said Be Spartan Green team leader Jennifer Sowa.

Be Spartan Green made recycling more accessible to students by providing designated collection areas for white paper, mixed paper, plastic, cardboard and newspaper in each of the 549 buildings on campus. Each building also has an environmental steward that partners up with Be Spartan Green to oversee the utilization of the recycling facilities.

The program began educating students on the importance of recycling through promotional campaigns like "What Shade of Green Are You?" to get students to recognize the extent of their carbon footprint and advise them on feasible ways to reduce, reuse and recycle.

"With a campus population our size, it is a challenge to reach all of our students and to deliver messages that resonate with them enough to change their behaviors, but I think we've been fortunate that being 'green' is already on the minds of so many of our students," said Karen Zelt, a member of the Be Spartan Green communications committee.

Jessica Dupnack



Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

Packaging junior Nathan Shinault throws some junk mail into the recycling bin in Mason Hall. The bins placed in the residence halls made recycling more convenient for students.

Lauren Olson from the Office of Campus Sustainability sits next to her display at the recycling initiative. The Office of Campus Sustainability helped the university acheive recognition from the National Wildlife Federation as one of the top five universities in the nation to keep the campus green.

a day in the life of

Keegan McNally

Prior to entering through the doors of the Douglas J Aveda Salon, it was evident that the salon's atmosphere was anything but tranquil. Inside, the humming of blow dryers and the recurrent thump of the latest pop tunes overhead might have posed a problem for those trying to concentrate, let alone style hair.

Keegan McNally, a 23 year-old student at the Douglas J Aveda Institute, appeared to have no difficulties. Striding into the salon 30 minutes before the arrival of her first client, McNally appeared flustered.

"I forgot my shoes at home," she said.

As a student at the Aveda Institute, McNally arrived donned in her usual work-appropriate uniform - black leggings, flats, smock and a name tag. A hot pink blouse completed the look, adding a touch of personality to the basic uniform.

Having recovered from the minor footwear setback, she proceeded to settle into work, anticipating the arrival of her first client for the evening, a men's haircut. After taking 10 minutes to organize her station, she was able to pick up her forms for the shift, which described what each client of the night is hoping to receive. Her eyes grew wide with horror.

"A perm," she said. "For real, I have to do a perm?"

Seeming to brush aside the daunting task that lay before her later in the evening, McNally welcomed her first client and sat him down for a scalp massage. After explaining the routine procedure and rinsing out the oil, she broke out her scissors and began. Furrowing her brow in concentration, she remained in focus throughout the haircut, pausing only to engage in conversation with the client, marketing freshman Ryan Rosman. After cutting away slowly but surely for an hour, McNally stepped back to examine her work. A supervisor was then asked to come over to inspect her work. After a thorough inspection, a look of relief passed over McNally's face as a nod of approval was rewarded.

"I was a little nervous at first," said Rosman, "but I'm happy with the results."

After Rosman departed with a satisfactory haircut, McNally waited anxiously for her second client, a young student desiring a perm. Once the student arrived though, she quickly changed her mind and opted for a cut and color. Avoiding the dreaded hair ordeal, Keegan went on to finish her shift for the night with two new customers under her belt.

Aside from McNally, several other Aveda Institute students were present at the salon clipping their way toward a career. Students at the salon normally work five-hour shifts, four days out of the week, with one day set aside for class theory. The programincluded an introduction, advanced one and two levels and salon concepts that require a great amount of effort and dedication.

"We have to go through many different levels in order to graduate," she said. "We have class time and a lot of practical work."

After the concepts stage, students were able to spend their time on the clinic floor until graduation. Expected to graduate in January 2010, McNally continued toward her goal, despite that hairstyling was not her first calling. After a brief stint in college, McNally chose to attend manicure school, and afterward obtained her phlebotomy license. Attributing it to boredom, McNally once again changed courses and decided to go to school for sign language. When the opportunity to style hair presented itself, she considered the prospect.

"The Aveda Institute appealed to me because it was the most business-like and professional," she said.

With hopes of one day obtaining a degree in sign language, McNally will continue to work toward graduation next year.

"I really enjoy working with people and making them feel good about themselves," she said.

Rachel Sylvester
Photo by Lauren Wood




Douglas J Aveda Institute
Keegan McNally
Clinic
Cosmetology Student


Soaring Eagle
Fossil



Students place their bets for ***roulette*** *at the start of* ***Vegas*** *Night. Many students tried to beat the odds, playing games such as* ***poker****, bingo and blackjack.*
photo by Lauren Wood



Lauren Wood



Hospitality business senior Jennifer Kita and junior Madeline Clark shuffle cards for blackjack. Kita and Clark were volunteers from the Hospitality Association, which hosted the event at the Breslin Center.

Show Me the Money

Crowds go all in at casino-themed event

Lights flashed, music played and people gambled. Reminiscent of the Vegas strip, only the high rollers were students and the gambling establishment was the Breslin Center.

It was the School of Hospitality Business' Vegas Night.

As participants arrived, showgirls would approach and present them with a bowl of chips. Each participant paid the required $5 registration fee, $3 going for chips and $2 for a food voucher.

After registering, participants could choose from an assortment of gambling games including craps, blackjack, bingo, poker and roulette. There was also a high-stakes poker tournament. The entry fee was $25 for the chance to win $600.

Bingo cards sold for $1 each and bingo players could win at least $25, along with gift cards from Chili's, Best Buy and Outback Steakhouse.

The upper concourse of the Breslin Center housed the bingo and the poker tournaments and a realistic casino floor was located in the basement. More than 600 participants came out for the even, and almost every table was filled to capacity with lines waiting to play.

"There could be a little more room, but I think overall this is a great idea because it gives students a chance to make money," general management freshman Alex Young said.

With the help of members of the Hospitality Association and many volunteers from the School of Hospitality Business, Vegas Night turned into a great success. All profits benefitted the school, and most of all, gave everyone a great experience in real life situations.

"There is no doubt that is an ultimate experience in managing people in a business-like matter," hospitality business junior Rob Eyers said.

Colby Berthume



Lauren Wood

Hospitality business freshman Erica Weinbaum deals out a hand of blackjack as hospitality business freshman Nick Alice, political theory junior Nicholas Galea and human biology sophomore Jeff Selasky watch the game unfold.



Lauren Wood

Students as well as community members tried their luck at the different tables during Vegas Night. "We sold over 500 cups with chips, so over 600 people attended," said the event's executive director and hospitality business senior Lisa Danno.

Hospitality business sophomore Steven Bernacik shuffles his poker chips during a poker game at Vegas Night. Each blue chip was worth $1 while red chips were $5.



Lauren Wood



Lauren Wood

Students from the School of Hospitality Business deal games of blackjack at the Breslin Center. There were more than 200 student volunteers that helped at Vegas Night with everything from roulette to craps and bingo.

> "Reminiscent of the Vegas strip"

Reviving *an Era*

Retro party brings students out on the dance floor

Students with ratted side-ponytails, cut up sweatshirts and fake Ray Ban sunglasses danced to music from the 1980s performed by cover band Square Pegz. They played pop hits by Madonna, Prince and Blondie at the Totally Awesome '80s dance at the International Center on Feb. 20.

The event was organized by the University Activities Board (UAB) executive board, headed by Brittanie Johnson, an international relations and supply chain management senior.

Each member of UAB was encouraged to take ownership in a specific portion of the event, Johnson said. They came up with the idea of having stations that reflected certain aspects of the '80s pop culture. There was a candy station with Pixy Stixs and another station where people could rat their hair and add spray-on color dye. All the while, the band played and "The Breakfast Club" was projected onto a movie screen.

UAB committee thought that students would appreciate an event where they could dance to music from a specific era, and although the turnout was not what was expected, it was more about quality than quantity, Johnson said.

The executive board members that attended the dance were happy with how it went, especially after having had only two weeks to plan the event.

"I think my favorite part was seeing all of the students dressed up and stay the whole night dancing away," Johnson said. "The band was phenomenal and the students really enjoyed them."

The second in command for the night, Sara Cotrill, a health and psychology senior, said she was "absolutely [happy]" with the turnout.

"All attendants came dressed up, stayed all night, and seemed to have an amazing time," Cotrill said.

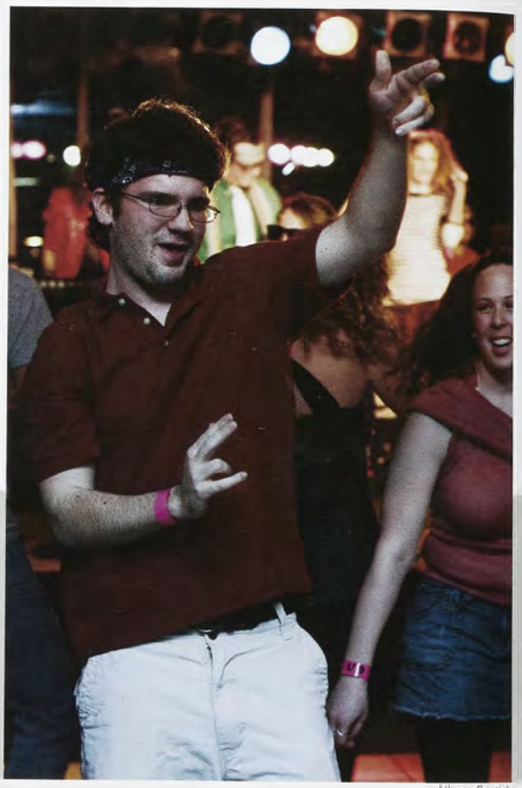
The apparent life of the party, communication junior Lisa Figlan, was clad in Converse shoes with leg warmers and bright pink makeup. She said her favorite part was, "starting off the dancing by being the first one on the dance floor. Someone has to make the first move."

Figlan said she liked the theme of the dance because it encompassed all things with bright colors and big hair.

Others in attendance said they enjoyed Totally Awesome '80s Night because it was an alternative from the stereotypical drinking-driven weekend.

"You don't have to worry about humiliating yourself or getting in trouble with the police," said advertising freshman Lindsay Silber. "All drinking parties are the same, so it's nice to get out and try something different."

Jessica Dupnack



Allyssa Bostick

Nathan Ward, computer engineering freshman, and Kait Gustafson, journalism and theatre freshman, strike a pose in a circle of friends. A group of Honors College students claimed a spot on the dance floor while the Square Pegz provided '80s covers for the audience's listening and grooving pleasure.



Alissa Lane

The crowd rocks the dance floor at the UAB's Totally Awesome '80s party. The party had all the ingredients of a rockin' night in the '80s: big hair, Pixy Stix, cheap sunglasses, and rad music.



Alissa Lane

Communication freshman Melissa Tarter and drama and advertising freshman Jack Wells rock some wicked '80s gear on the dance floor. The UAB party was a smash hit and kept everyone dancing far into the night.

> *"it's nice to get out and try something different"*



Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane

Apparel and textile design freshman Thu Tran and English freshman Matt Revers dance to some rockin' jams. Tran said the '80s party was "So rad. Totally just like, so rad."

Lead singer Cindy Lish and the rest of the '80s cover band, The Square Pegz, rock the crowd with one song after another. The band played all the '80s favorites from "Material Girl" to "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun."



Spring Campus Life ■ Caleb Sandoval



a day in the life of

Caleb Sandoval

Caleb Sandoval, history freshman and Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) student, anticipated serving his country after graduation, as a condition of his scholarship. His militant dedication, however, was more than just a commitment to a scholarship. It was deeply rooted as part of his family's history.

"My father and grandfather both served in the Army," Sandoval said. "So, I know quite a bit about what happens during that hazy period after college, going into the Army. It is kind of a family tradition."

Sandoval said he chose to enroll in the ROTC due to the family legacy but also because he would gain great management and organizational skills during his enlistment and learn how to hold a leadership position.

"After I graduate, I am automatically placed as a 2nd Lieutenant of a platoon, which consists of about 50 men," he said.

Sandoval's academic scholarship awarded to him by the Army to cover the cost of books, out-of-state tuition and a monthly stipend. However, there were terms for Sandoval to adhere to in order to maintain his scholarship.

"I attend a formal class on Tuesdays and a lab that follows," Sandoval said. "Then, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, I have PT [personal training] at 6 in the morning."

It took Sandoval's dedication to make PT an almost daily routine, and on top of this he also attended classes like every other college student.

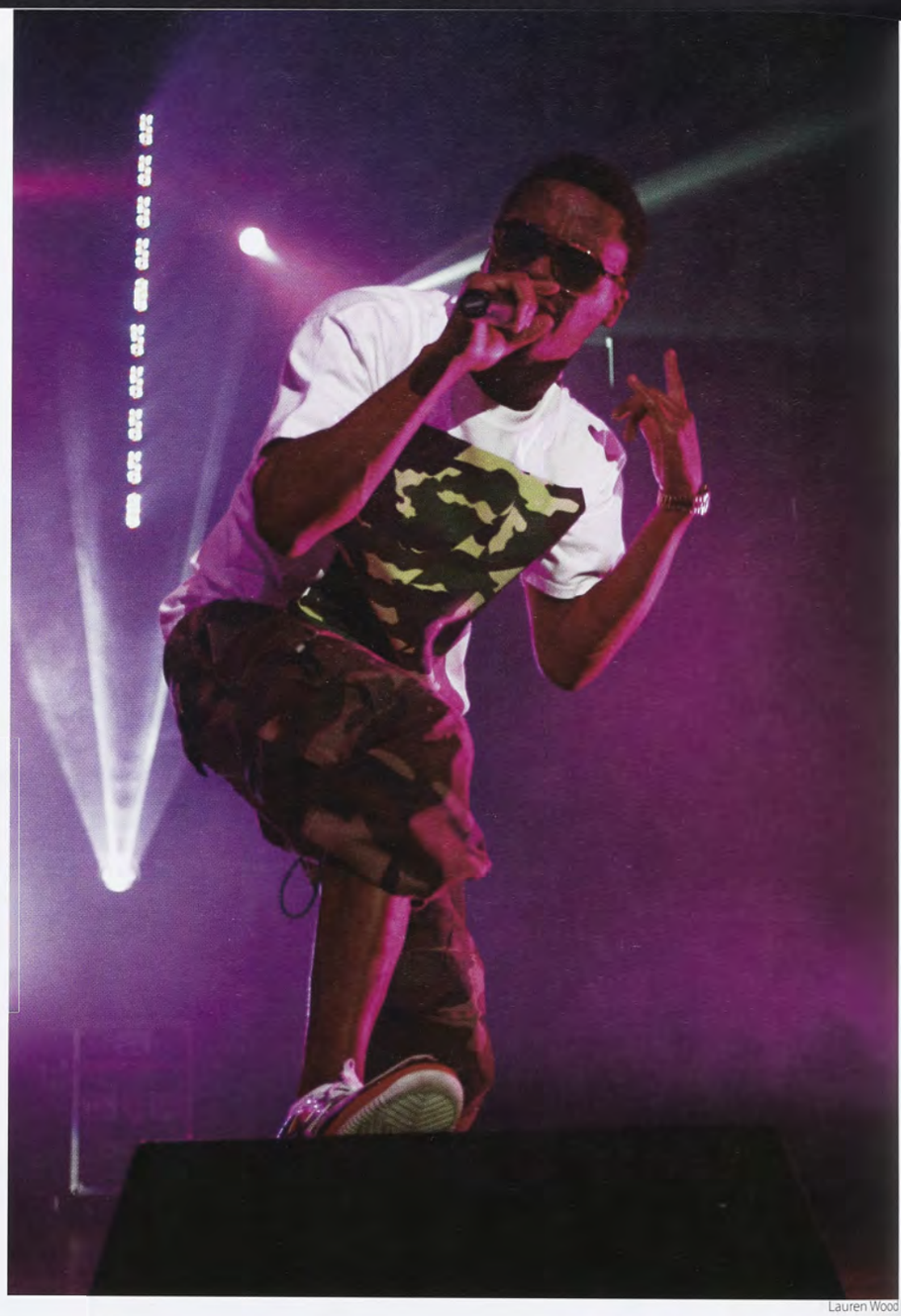
Although the structure of Sandoval's ROTC classes was similar to others offered at the university, the information he gained in the classroom was even more applicable to the field of work he planned to go into.

"My lecture is a little different than most classes," Sandoval said. "We learn about stuff that will directly affect my survival on the combat field. We learn about squad formations and different kinds of essential equipment."

However, Sandoval made it clear he had much more under his Army fatigue uniform than just physical endurance and strength: he had goals and future aspirations most people wouldn't assume of a typical "Army guy" who was following in the footsteps of two generations before him.

"I plan to become a history teacher at a high school one day," said Sandoval. "I really would like to make a difference."

Anthony Harvey and Lisa Ermak
Photo by Alissa Lane



Lauren Wood

Rapper Lupe Fiasco passionately performs one of his songs at his concert at the Auditorium. Fiasco's lastest album, "The Cool," was nominated for four Grammy Awards.

Rapper Asher Roth sits on the stage while singing one of his songs. Roth had a very high-energy performance, keeping the crowd engaged the whole time.



Lauren Wood

> *"There wasn't a dull moment throughout the night"*



DJ Simon Says spins music before rapper Lupe Fiasco takes the stage at the Auditorium. The concert was held on Feb. 12, and tickets were sold for $15 for students.

Show*Stopper*

Musicians draw packed crowd for memorable concert

Students got a taste of the Grammy Awards as hip-hop star Lupe Fiasco energized the packed Auditorium Feb. 12.

Fiasco, with four Grammy nominations in 2009, including Best Rap Album and Best Rap Song for "Superstar," performed songs from his latest album showed off his free-style rap skills and previewed a song from his upcoming album.

"It was just an all around amazing show," engineering sophomore Jonathan Callahan said. "Simply amazing."

Rapper Asher Roth opened the show. Roth, who had only recently entered the music scene, received buzz for his album, "The Greenhouse Effect," which dropped in June 2008.

Roth, known for his comedic rapping, aroused the crowd when lighting a University of Michigan t-shirt on fire and flaunting it to the crowd.

"How did this shirt get on me?" asked Roth. "Oh well, let's just burn it."

After Roth left the stage, students chanted the classic 'go green, go white' university cheer to draw Fiasco on stage. Fiasco answered by coming out to a bass beat, which rumbled throughout the Auditorium.

His show was simple, but energetic. He didn't have any dancers, pyrotechnics or props. Instead, he captured the audience by rapping with the quality people can hear anytime on Fiasco's album.

Besides a malfunction with his microphone during the song "Kick-Push," he performed with the same professionalism throughout the concert.

"There wasn't a dull moment throughout the night," electrical engineering sophomore Lean Voskov said.

In the middle of his set, Fiasco and fellow rapper Bishop G had a free-style rap battle, which the crowd believed Fiasco won.

The songs Fiasco performed talked about a variety of topics including video game violence, the significance of hip-hop and expectations of rappers.

While recording "The Cool," Fiasco dealt with very personal issues. Among those were the deaths of his father and a close friend and the arrest of his mentor and the co-owner of his label, Charles Patton, who was sentenced to 44 years in prison for drug trafficking.

Fiasco first gained recognition when he collaborated with rap artist Kanye West on West's hit single "Touch the Sky." Soon after, Fiasco released his debut album, "Food and Liquor." The album became very successful, receiving a trio of nominations, including Best Rap Album along with Best Rap Song and Best Rap Solo Performance nods for his hit "Kick, Push."

When Fiasco was done with his set, he ran back to his dressing room, immediately heading for a drink of ice water. When asked what was up next for the Grammy nominee, all he said was, "I'm heading home. It's been a while."

Aaron Miller

auren Wood



Lauren Wood



Lauren Wood



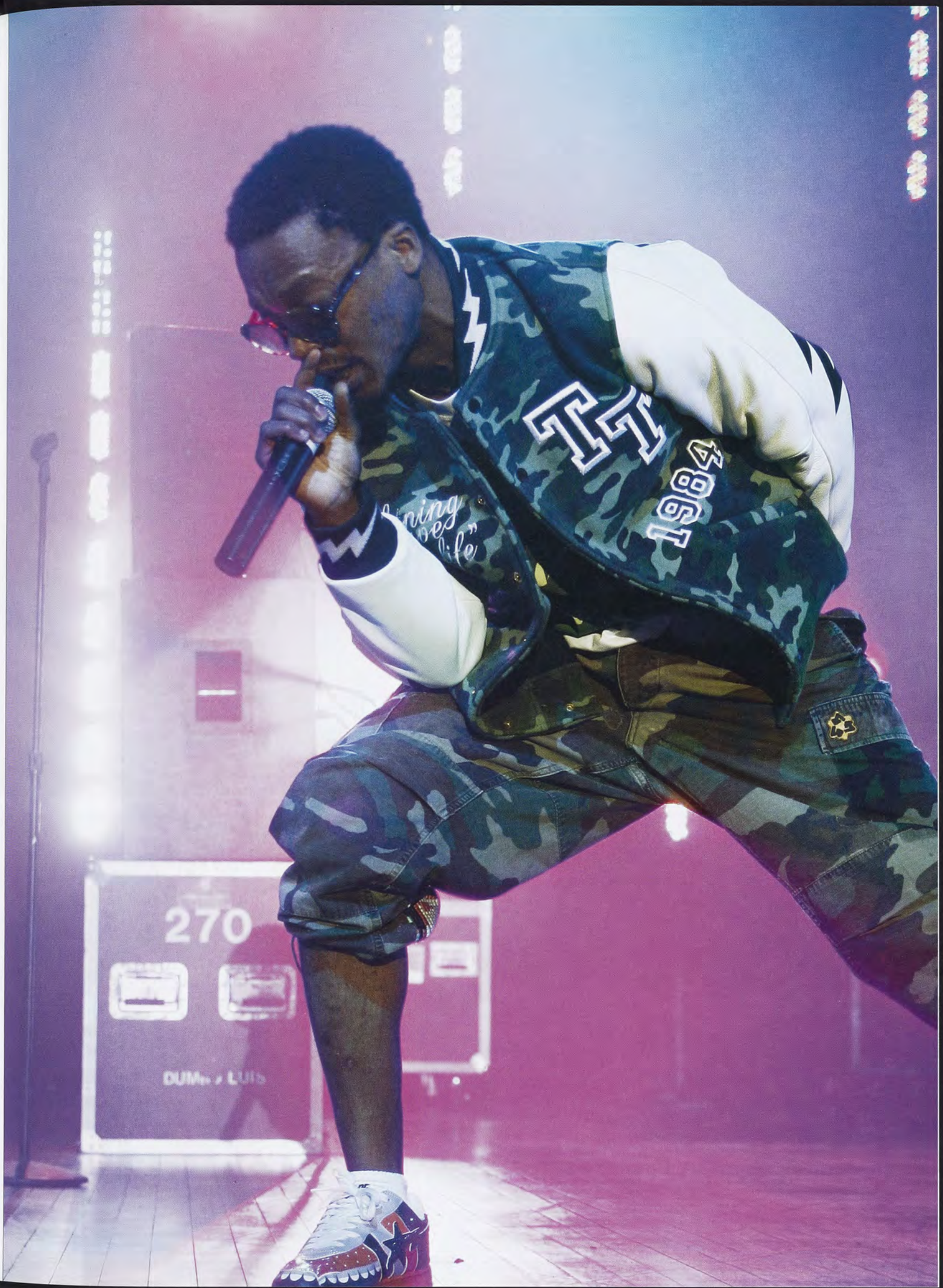
Lauren Wood

The crowd watches Lupe Fiasco perform an encore at the end of his performance at the Auditorium. The show was a sold-out performance.

After burning a University of Michigan t-shirt, rapper Asher Roth proudly displays a different shirt. Roth ended his performance by singing his hit song, "I Love College."

*Rapper Lupe Fiasco takes the stage at the Auditorium to start off his high-energy set. Fiasco, along with **Asher Roth** and Bishop G hyped the audience with freestyle raps and theatrical antics, including **burning** a University of Michigan T-shirt.*

photo by Lauren Wood

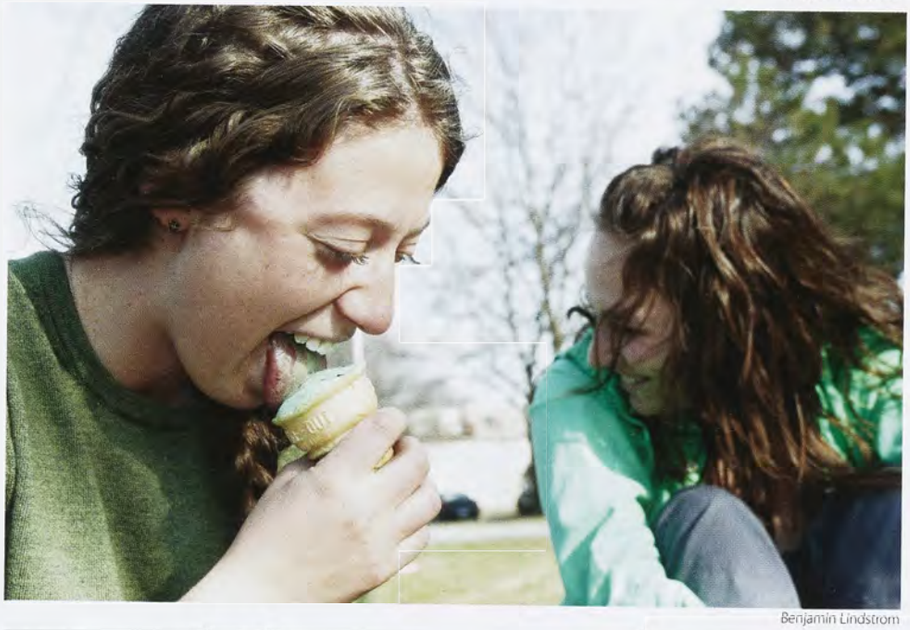

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Marketing sophomore Tom Goehrig grabs a burger while partying outside on St. Patrick's Day. Students enjoyed the unusually warm weather, taking the opportunity to grill food outside.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Arts and humanities freshman Augusta Morrison licks an ice cream cone while relaxing outside on St. Patrick's Day. Morrison and her friends dressed in the traditional green to celebrate the holiday and avoid being pinched.



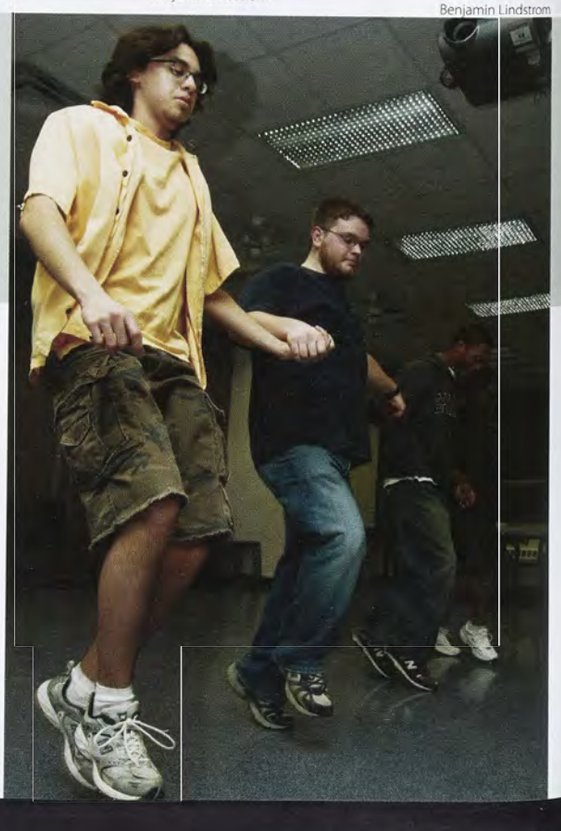
Benjamin Lindstrom



Benjamin Lindstrom

> "St. Patrick's Day events took over campus"

Zoology sophomore Keenan McCormick and physiology sophmore Erich Himebaugh dance to Irish music in Holmes Hall. Hall director Shawna Stover taught residents Irish dancing in celebration of St. Patrick's Day as part of a series of dance classes.





Benjamin Lindstrom

Green*Campus*

Students show their Irish pride

Strikingly reminiscent of football season on campus, students woke early on March 17 and donned their green clothing, but this time it was to celebrate a different occasion.

Displaying their Irish pride, students lined the streets of East Lansing on St. Patrick's Day. Many local bars opened their doors at 7 a.m. and some served breakfast for those who came out to celebrate.

"Everybody loves St. Patrick's Day," education sophomore Kelly Prior said. "It's just a day to relax and have fun with your friends."

Like many university students, Prior dropped in on a few of the many St. Patrick's Day celebrations around campus. Party-goers threw around footballs, played bag toss games and shared green beer while enjoying the unusually sunny weather.

"Nobody could have asked for a better day," communication sophomore Amy Cwalina said.

Many businesses also joined in on the festivities. Menna's Joint gave green "Dub Me I'm Irish" necklaces to customers, and McDonald's continued a company tradition of adding mint flavor and green coloring to their shakes to create the infamous Shamrock Shake.

"I look forward to it every year," Prior said. "It's a sweet tradition."

The Department of Residence Life and the Black Caucus held Kick Up Your Feet in Holmes Hall, an Irish concert that taught students how to perform traditional step dancing moves.

"Irish dancing is high energy, fun and not that difficult," Holmes Hall Director Shawna Stover said. Stover first started Irish dancing at the University of Michigan, where she joined an Irish dance group. She developed an early love for the dance, and wanted to share it with others.

"I saw people performing it and I said, 'I could do this,'" Stover said.

Whether celebration took the form of indulging in green eggs and ham at the crack of dawn, learning about the technique and origin of Irish dancing or donning all green apparel to bring out one's inner leprechaun, St. Patrick's Day events took over campus.

Aaron Miller



Benjamin Lindstrom

Students relax at a house near Bogue Street on St. Patrick's Day. With temperatures in the 60s, students stayed outside to celebrate rather than going to bars.



Spring Campus Life ■ Megan Dolby

Megan Dolby

With hot pink drapes shading the large front window, Pin Up Pole Dancing, a dance studio located on M.A.C. Avenue, was difficult to miss. Despite it's unmistakable exterior, it is doubtful that many passersby had ever stopped to inquire about the woman behind the business.

Striding into the studio five minutes prior to the start of a Tuesday evening class, instructor Megan Dolby quickly settled into her pole dancing routine. Dressed casually in yoga pants and a simple tank top, Dolby shed her flip-flops at the door and patiently anticipated the arrival of her students by absentmindedly swinging around a pole located in the center of the room. It didn't take long for the six young women to filter in from the rain-soaked street, removing their shoes and settling down on the wooden floor. Friendly chatter added to the relaxed atmosphere and 10 minutes later, once the girls were stretched, it was clear that everyone was eager to begin.

A strategically placed stereo provided the music as the girls began to settle into their weekly routine. After completing four sets of pole pull-ups, Dolby asked the students to review previously learned material, including a pose referred to as the Fireman. One particular skill practiced by the more experienced students entailed sliding down the pole upside down. Seemingly without effort, Dolby demonstrated the move, leaving everyone in the room bewildered.

"Modesty is not the name of the game," said Nisha Hakhu, a medical student taking intermediate classes at Pin Up. "That flew out the window a long time ago."

It's doubtful that modesty was ever a main priority of Dolby, who picked up the art of pole dancing at the age of 19.

"Someone else was teaching classes, and it was something I just stumbled upon," she said.

After nearly five years experience, the 24-year-old made the conscious move to exercise both her acquired business and dancing skills by opening up Pin Up to the public in January 2008.

"Self employment if definitely flexible," she said. "You have to be willing to take risks, but with that you get freedom. You make your own hours and any leftover profit is yours. It's very rewarding."

Like any other college student, human resources senior and instructor Dolby needed to strike a balance between an education, social life and part-time job. Finding balance between the three is a daunting task to most, especially for those close to graduation. Although pole dancing began as a hobby, it quickly evolved into a business opportunity and completely rearranged Dolby's priorities.

"I started making money, good money, and I realized I don't necessarily have to go to school to do that," she said. "I want to be the most desirable to employers post-graduation, and that comes straight down to experience. I want job security as fast as possible and I've become very strategic in that pursuit."

Aside from classes, Dolby works 12-hour weeks on average, offering classes for beginner, intermediate and advanced students. Private lessons were also offered, and Dolby has seen her fair share of bachelorette parties. With a prime location in the heart of East Lansing, it would have been easy to assume Dolby's customers were mostly college-aged women, but in fact the opposite was true.

"About 60 percent of my students are age 30 and up," she said. "I've even had 50-year-old women come in and enjoy themselves since they had no reservations about it."

Despite the progress made by Dolby in the past year, she often faced adversity in the eyes of her skeptics.

"I don't want people to have a misconception - I've never had the intention to strip," she said. "I'm able to combat stereotypes because the more public it becomes the more open people are to it."

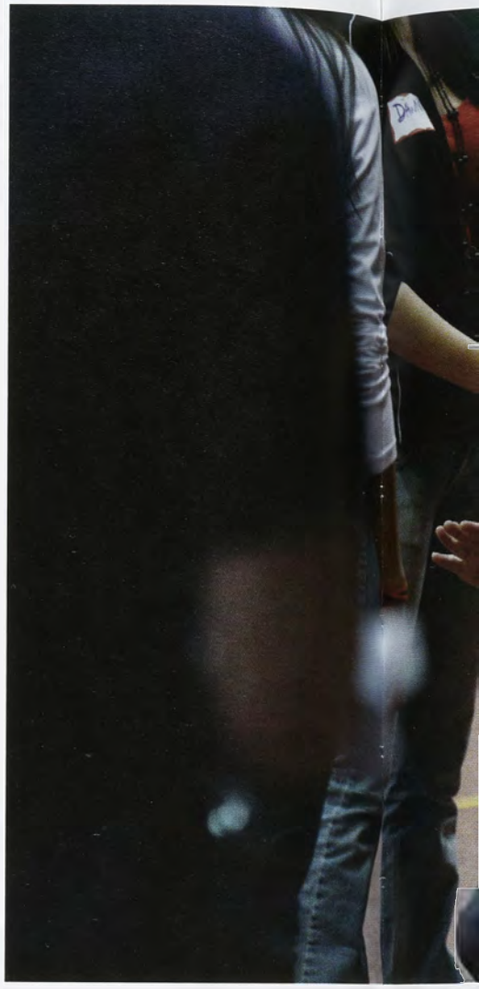
Roughly an hour into the session, Megan instructed the girls to move onto a list of more advanced techniques. With a list of poses ranging in name from the painful Dislocator to the complicated Venus, it's no wonder that several intermediate level students complained of bruises.

"No one said this was easy, ladies," Dolby said in an attempt to offer words of encouragement to several discouraged girls.

After attempting a particularly difficult move dubbed the Corkscrew, a beginner-level student wondered aloud about the odds of performing in front of a larger crowd.

"There's a chance for a potential audience someday," Dolby joked. "I mean, the economy is down."

Rachel Sylvester
Photo by Eric MacKinnon



Civil engineering freshman Travis Satkowiak launches his paper airplane during the distance portion of the Red Bull Paper Wings competition. Red Bull held the qualifier event to give participants a chance to travel to Austria and compete against the best from around the world.



Eric MacKinnon

Flying*High*

Red Bull sponsors paper airplane competition

Paper airplanes flew up and around Jenison Field House on Mar. 19 during the Red Bull Paper Wings competition.

Judging for the event covered three categories: distance, airtime and aerobatics. Participants competed for the opportunity to qualify for the worldwide paper plane contest in Salzburg, Austria. The world competition takes place at Hangar-7, a private hangar owned by the founder of Red Bull, Dietrich Mateschitz.

"I heard about the competition from the UAB table tents in the [cafeteria]," media arts and technology freshman Jeremy Mitchell said. "I have a very big thing for paper airplanes, and this got my attention really fast because I like flying airplanes and I like Red Bull. You put the two together, and it's like a dream come true for me."

In addition to getting the chance to qualify to go to Austria, the contestants competed for cases of Red Bull and Red Bull paraphernalia.

Chemical engineering freshman Eric Mitchell won the distance portion of the competition.

"I threw my plane 102 feet and 8 inches," Mitchell said. "I used to make planes a lot in marketing class in high school."

The other winners were Billy Vitale and Jeremy Mitchell in the airtime and aerobatics categories, respectively.

Mitchell was the most excited about the acrobatics category because he had spent so much time perfecting his plane.

"I made my own model," Mitchell said. "I combined two different planes. I call it the DC3 Swallow."

Although some competitors had a strict design for their paper planes, others felt different components would help them win the competition.

"I put lots of love into making my plane," apparel and textile design junior Shelly Moher said. "I called it The Monkey. It flew 5 ft."

In order to compete in Austria, participants had to compete in a national qualifier then the top three competitors were sent to Austria.

Leslie Tilson



> *"I like flying airplanes and I like Red Bull. You put the two together, and it's like a dream come true for me."*



Eric MacKinnon

Grand Valley State University student and Red Bull girl Ari Davis does the limbo at Jenison Field House. Sparty enjoyed talking with the Red Bull girls during the Paper Wings competition.



Eric MacKinnon

Mechanical engineering senior Matt Wolf constructs his paper airplane for the airtime portion of the Red Bull Paper Wings competition. Participants could compete for the longest distance, longest airtime or aerobatics.



Eric MacKinnon

Sparty shows his DJ skills at the Red Bull Paper Wings competition at Jenison Field House. Sparty also tried his luck at constructing a large paper airplane for the distance portion, but failed to qualify for the trip to Austria.



Molten Decadence rocks the crowd with her electric stage presence. The crowd cheered throughout her entire performance of Beyonce's "Ring the Alarm."

Dietetics junior Justin Ford and women's studies junior Stefanie Gill entice Dax Animous with some cash. Students in the crowd brought money up to the stage and offered it to the drag kings and queens in creative or seductive ways.



Eric MacKinnon

On *With the Show*

Event entertains for a cause

As a line of hopefuls waited outside the International Center, about 1,000 waited inside for the start of the seventh annual Drag Show on April 17.

"I chose to come out of pure curiosity," horticulture senior Amanda Segar said.

As the lights dimmed, the once noisy crowd became quiet and the most-highly anticipated fashion show of the season began. It wasn't Fashion Week, nor did Hollywood's top socialites occupy the front seats. Instead, audience members were students and the models dressed in drag.

"I heard about it through a friend participating in the show and came out to show support," psychology senior Sarah Phillips said.

After a prolonged introduction and drum roll, drag queen and host for the evening Hershae Chocolatae appeared on stage in a flourish of sequins and shimmer. Donning a brown ruffled pantsuit, the hostess was all smiles, despite complaints of a broken nail.

Keeping the crowd entertained, she showed off her handmade outfit by completing a twirl onstage. A second later, she pointed down to her black heels. "But, these are from Payless," she sighed.

Sponsored by the LBGTA caucuses in conjunction with Pride Week, the event served to both entertain and raise awareness for the National Day of Silence. Respecting Individuals on Neutral Grounds (RING) members announced that the day would be a silent protest of sorts, in hopes of quieting the hate speech that LBGT people face everyday. After a moment of silence to honor those lives lost as a result of hate crimes, it was on with the show.

Of the night's 16 drag kings and queens, none were met without resounding applause. A particularly energetic routine by drag queen Molten Decadence brought the crowd to its feet. At the sound of sirens, audience members craned their necks in curiosity, only to witness Decadence running through the aisles of chairs towards the lit up stage. Wearing a pink and red dress, white sunglasses and long, dark wig, she unconventionally jumped onto stage and began to lip sync "Let You Go" by Beyonce.

"Despite the heat, everyone has been enjoying themselves," said Stephanie Donelko, mathematics junior and University Activities Board education and leadership director. "There is definitely a lot of excitement and entertainment all at once. It obviously brought out a huge crowd."

During each performance, audience members approached the stage in support of their favorite kings or queens. One crowd favorite was Delicious, a full-figured drag queen decked out in a deconstructed corset and zebra patterned Nikes. Blowing kisses to the crowd, she performed a rendition of a popular song by the artist Pink.

Two hours into the event and 10 routines later, Hershae Chocolatae announced a brief intermission, while the line of potential audience members continued to wait outside. At 1 a.m. the crowd finally thinned and the drag show festivities came to an end.

"It was powerful," said pre-nursing sophomore Beth Stanish. "Powerful, exciting and colorful, to say the least."

Rachel Sylvester





Eric MacKinnon

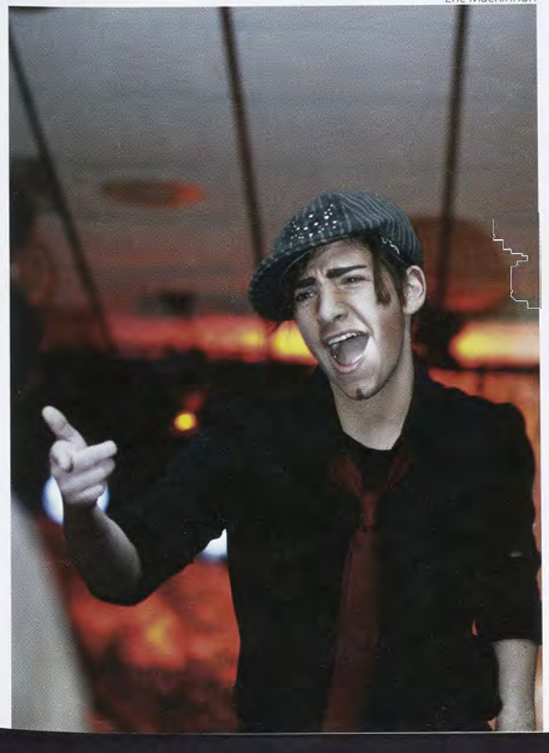
Dax Animous poses for the crowd at the end of the runway. Animous's hair covered his piercing blue eyes as he entertained the audience.



Eric MacKinnon

"Hershae Chocolatae appeared ... in a flourish of sequins and shimmer"

Eric MacKinnon



Delicious shows off her assets on stage. She has been a crowd favorite at other campus drag shows.

Seth puts his heart and soul into singing for the crowd at the International Center. Seth was only one of many drag kings and queens to grace the stage at the annual drag show.



Coach Tom Izzo embraces senior Marquise Gray in the Breslin Center after defeating Louisville 64-52 to make it in to the Final Four. Analysts predicted a Spartan loss, but the team took control of the game to get a commanding lead in the second half.

> *"Students on and around campus began to burst with jubilation"*



Benjamin Lindstrom

Senior Goran Suton high-fives students in the Breslin after coach Tom Izzo and senior Travis Walton finish speaking to the crowd. Emotions ran high at the Breslin Center as thousands of Spartan basketball fans showed their support.



Eric MacKinnon

Physics junior Danny Kimball shows his Spartan pride while being interviewed by Sparty. Kimball and other students gathered at the Breslin Center to show the men's basketball team support for the upcoming Final Four game.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Fans raise their spirit fingers while the men's basketball team shoots a free throw during the NCAA Championship game. More than 9,000 people from all across campus and the community gathered at the Breslin Center to watch the game played in Detroit.



Lauren Wood

A Week for the Ages

Basketball finals become weeklong spirit event

"We Believe."

Those were two simple words uttered by senior guard Travis Walton. Those two words eventually represented the whole crowd gathered at the NCAA Final Four game, an event that mesmerized the whole campus.

"This is just surreal; almost bone chilling," a choked-up Coach Izzo said about playing for a national championship game in Michigan. "This has got to be one of my most favorite experiences, win or lose."

The madness began March 29, after the Spartans upset the No. 1 seeded Louisville Cardinals to advance to their first Final Four since 2005. As the final moments of the game ticked away, with the outcome already determined, students on and around campus began to burst with jubilation.

"I just couldn't believe it was happening. I sat in awe," communication freshman Max Suri said. "We all just wanted to run around and scream when we finally knew we were going to the Final Four."

The party continued into the night when thousands gathered at the Breslin Center to welcome the team back. "Go Green, Go White" chants grew louder and louder as the crowd resembling a celebratory mob awaited the 10 p.m. arrival. Voices became coarse with each chant as many people had been shouting all day.

"I'm going to scream the whole time, whether I lose my voice or not," pre-medical freshman Hillary Russell said.

Before the team's arrival, the crowd entered through a narrow tunnel to the basement of the Breslin Center, where they were then seated and waited anxiously to welcome the team. At 10:05 p.m. the team entered through the locker room tunnel and the crowd erupted with excitement, showering the team in a lengthy standing ovation. Coach Izzo and Walton addressed the crowd.

Around campus, excitement began to build as the Spartans inched closer to their game against the University of Connecticut on April 4. Many students frantically tried to pick up the limited amount of student tickets available. A couple hundred people showed up on the Wednesday before the game to send the team off to Detroit. The team left with a police escort and the Spartan Marching Band playing the fight song.

"I never missed a game the whole year, and I figured this was a once in a lifetime opportunity, so I did whatever possible to get [tickets]," marketing sophomore Joe Oginsky said.

With many students and community members anxious to go to the game–not only to watch a national championship in their home state, but also to watch their home team–many Spartan faithfuls flocked to Detroit and covered the town in green and white.

"The atmosphere was an enormous advantage for State," Oginsky said.

After beating Connecticut, the Spartans ensured that the celebration would continue for one more night. The streets of East Lansing quickly turned into the site of an all-out party, but the town saw one of its most peaceful celebrations in a long time. After the game, the team's followers needed no convincing, they already believed. The general consensus was that this was a good team, and no matter what, they were proud.

"Just to be here is a great experience," Spartan fan Jason Dotson said. "Win or lose, everyone should be proud of the team."

The following Monday, the scene repeated itself in Detroit. Lines to enter bars wrapped around blocks and green and white filled the streets. Unfortunately, the outcome was very different, and, just as people knew the outcome of the Louisville game long before the finish, many fans knew the Spartans had no chance of winning again.

Fans in Detroit and East Lansing sat in disbelief when their hopes of a national championship faded, but even those last 60 minutes of the season could do nothing to dampen the memories created during the week.

"When it comes down to it, this was one of the most memorable weeks to be at State," Oginsky said. "And I am still proud to be a

Spring Timeline

1. 5 | 5. 8. 09

1. 5. 09

Revisiting the Past
to analyze the present

Bobby Seale, co-founder of the Black Panther Party, shares his experiences as a community organizer during the 1960s. Students, faculty and residents of East Lansing gathered in the Kellogg Center Auditorium to hear Seale discuss politics, community activism and the future of democracy in the United States.

The African-American civil rights movement of the 20th century helped to create a more racially equal United States. Social and political organizations including the Blank Panther Party worked for better racial and social justice. And Bobby Seale, co-founder and chairman of the Blank Panther Party, continues to represent the civil rights movement. On Jan. 16 Seale delivered a lecture to analyze the state of black politics in the 21st century at the Kellogg Center.

Seale's lecture began with a reflection on the civil rights movement and the Black Panther involvement within the movement. Seale spoke of the party's philosophy for "all power to the people" and the importance of greater public participation in policy.

"We still have to change the paradigm of the rich controlling the situation," Seale said. "We have to realize where we have been heading and look for peoples' involvement in the decision making process."

The latter part of Seale's lecture dealt with improvements in respect to racial tolerance and the growth of community organizations. The W.E.B. Du Bois Society and Young Democratic Socialists (YDS) organized the event to serve as an educational experience for the community, according to co-founder of YDS and the advertising coordinator for the W.E.B. Du Bois Society, Nicole Iaquinto.

"What Mr. Seale and the Black Panthers stood for directly aligns with what our organizations stand for," Iaquinto said. "Social justice, racial justice and true democracy, in other words 'all power to the people.'"

By Aaron Miller

Matthew Mikus





Eric Mackinnon

1. 23. 09

Boot Scoot Boogie

Brian Arrowood plays the violin for country singer Matt Stillwell. Stillwell performed at the Whiskey Barrel in Lansing.

Hailing from Sylva, N. C., country music artist Matt Stillwell made his second appearance at the Whiskey Barrel Saloon in Lansing on Jan. 23.

"Coming to Michigan, it surprised me how much people love country music here," Stillwell said. "Anywhere people like country music, I'll come. I've gotten to meet a lot of people here in Michigan and everybody likes to have a good time, so I like that."

Stillwell first performed at the Wiskey Barrel on New Year's Eve, and was so popular that he was asked to come back for another show.

The Whiskey Barrel attracts customers of all ages, and many students enjoy spending weekends there. Every Wednesday at the Whiskey Barrel is College Night and employees teach beginner line dancing lessons. Lessons are also offered on Thursday night for the 21-and-up crowd.

"It is a better atmosphere than most of the bars around," alumna Jordan Ball said. "It's cool for a concert because it's small and you can get right up front. It's kind of fun to watch drunk people ride the bull, too."

Before Stillwell's performance, line dancers packed the floor performing new steps for each song.

Remis resident Phyllis Wernett and Owosso resident Betty Jones made appearances at the saloon almost every Friday and Saturday night, whether there was a show or not.

"We just love to line dance," Jones said. "We hear a song, and we are on the dance floor."

"Yeah, we're regulars," Wernett said. "This is our second family. And, right here - this is where we all hang. This is my table. This is my chair. This is Betty's chair and everybody knows it."

Marissa Cumbers

1. 24. 09

Running Wild

Food science senior Brad Allen ties bandanas around his and fellow food science senior Barrington Williams' legs for a round of the three-legged race. The race was one event during the Track and Field Challenge, which was held by the University Activities Board.

On Jan. 24, UAB hosted a track and field challenge in Jenison Field House. The night featured fun twists to events that one would find at a real track meet.

"We were brainstorming events and we wanted to do something athletic, but a real track and field meet would be too risky," advertising and public relations junior and UAB Business Director, Jessica Hoffman said. "So we decided to something a little more elementary, all of the events were inspired by real track events, but we made them more user-friendly."

The evening included a raffle of prizes to top point scorers, the pep band and a visit from Sparty, who even competed in some of the events.

Physiology senior Rebecca Skaglin heard about the event from the UAB table tents and convinced her friend to go with her.

"I did track in high school, so I thought it would be fun," Skaglin said. "Plus I just love being in Jenison."

Chemical engineering junior Jordan Rancour and no preference sophomore Nick Weaver came because one of their friends was working the event. Both Weaver and Rancour said they enjoyed the blindfolded skateboard race.

"One person sits on a skateboard, and the other person pushes you down the track, blindfolded," explained Rancour. "It was our favorite event. We did it four times, and won every single time."

Leslie Tilson



Lauren Wood



Alissa Lane

Magic listens intently as Lansing residents Kelley and Yanni Tassopoulos read "Lucky Goes to School." The East Lansing Public Library's Read to the Dogs event gives children a fun way to practice reading.

1. 31. 09

Puppy Love

Jaws dropped in astonishment as Henry, a Black Labrador, swaggered into the East Lansing Public Library toting a basket of bookmarks between his teeth. With several giggles of approval and a few timid glances, children lined up awaiting the arrival of the other canines as the library hosted its highly anticipated Read to the Dogs program.

The program, hosted several times per year, brought in roughly 30 young readers, each hoping for a chance to share their favorite book with an interested therapy dog. Once both dog and reader were introduced and settled on several floor cushions, the two were able to engage in the child's book of choice for 10 minutes.

"Even if you can't read yet, it's a chance to just tell a story," said Lezlee Worthington, children's services assistant at the library.

From kindergarten to

2. 3. 09

Relying on Memories

Silence fell as the icy wind whipped somber faces. About 100 students gathered at The Rock on Feb. 2 for a candle vigil in honor of senior Don Ausman.

Organized by Ausman's peers and fellow members of Alternative Spring Break, students painted The Rock with the words "Dance on, Don" in honor of Ausman who died on Jan. 28 in his apartment in Spartan Village.

Shortly after the loss, his friends, family and peers gathered to commemorate the bubbly, free soul that was Don Ausman.

"Whenever we'd go out, you couldn't have a conversation with him for more than five minutes because someone else would always be like 'Don, Don!' He was a popular guy," political communications senior Jen Segal said. "He didn't care what anyone thought of him, and he wasn't nervous to try things. If he wanted to do something, he would just go. He was living life up to its fullest capacity."

Segal met Ausman through participation with him as an Alternative Spring Break site leader. Ausman was a participant in the Alternative Spring Program in 2008 in Mexico and planned to lead a project during Spring Break 2009.

Ausman was a lover of techno music and enjoyed spending fun nights out with friends. Ausman's future goal was to create a non-profit organization to raise awareness and money for HIV/AIDS and to prevent its effects on indigenous cultures in Africa. Ausman was also an active member of the International Volunteer Action Corps while at the university.

Ausman worked in the Holden Hall cafeteria his freshman year, and at the vigil, many of his co-workers spoke of how he influenced the working environment.

"He worked in the Green Cuisine station with me," food service employee Diane Jakovac said. "He was a real asset to Holden Hall. I never saw him without a smile on his face. He was a vegan, and he brought in cookbooks and would try to come up with recipes for vegans in the cafeteria."

Jakovac went on to describe how Ausman would never even eat the honey wheat wraps in the cafeteria because of the bees used for the honey.

Marissa Cumbers



Lauren Wood

International studies in social science and health studies senior Megan McCarthy and alumna Erica Bivens hold candles at the vigil held in senior Don Ausman's memory. Over 100 friends and family attended the event at The Rock, many of which recalled enjoyable memories had with Ausman.



Benjamin Lindstrom

2. 16. 09

Local Music Unplugged

American studies alumnus Ryan Waters sings during his band Irwin Vega's concert in the Record Lounge. The Record Lounge opened on Jan. 2, 2008.

With stock of everything from Elvis Presley to the Kooks, the Record Lounge is a small store with a large collection of vinyls and some CDs, too.

But the store, located on the corner of Grand River Avenue and Abbott Road, doesn't just supply records. Every Monday, the store's owner Heather Frarey featured any local band that was willing to play.

On Feb. 16, a show began around 7 p.m. with Bay City residents Andy Reed and Kevin Spear. That act was preceded by three student bands: Irwin Vega, Star, Star, Star and Truncated Lion.

"This place is like a little niche of records," said Gordon Fredericks, Irwin Vega guitarist and packaging junior. "Places like this help us out. There are not enough venues on campus, and there is a cool music scene around here."

Irwin Vega is an all student and alumni blues rock band. Ryan Waters, lead guitarist and alumnus, writes most of the music in collaboration with the other group members. The band released their first E.P. on Feb. 19 titled "Paper Flowers."

The intimate store created a cozy crowd experience, and the small audience was encouraged to buy music by their local favorites from the Record Lounge.

"Love supporting vinyl," said Dylan Rogers, Star, Star, Star guitarist and East Lansing resident. "It is great to have a place where the community can come support such an awesome hobby."

The Record Lounge opened in January 2008.

Marissa Cumbers

3. 1. 09

People dressed as cows, French maids and pirates joined together at the Hawk Hills Golf Course to take the plunge into the icy water to raise money at the fifth annual Polar Plunge.

Residents of the Lansing metropolitan area dressed up in costumes in the 10-degree weather to participate in a fundraising event for the Special Olympics of Michigan - an organization created to give intellectually handicapped children and adults the opportunity to participate in competitive sporting events.

Over 100 plungers waited in line to take the dive into the hole cut out of the frozen pond. Some jumped together, holding hands, while others did flips into the shallow water.

"I'm terrified I might throw up," forestry junior Ashley Wildeman said, while waiting for her turn. "Even if I'm sick, if I can do something for charity, I'll do it."

Once they jumped in, certified divers were waiting to assist them out of the water. The divers, firefighters and EMS personal were all there because, as Lansing resident Jessi Tyrrell said, "it takes your breath away and you have no idea what's going on." Tyrrell made the plunge for her fourth year, but even this seasoned plunger still had knots in her stomach before she jumped.

As soon as the participants popped out of the pond, the water was freezing to their bodies. They ran inside the clubhouse to change clothes and celebrate their accomplishments with a post-plunge party.

Jessica Dupnack

Sub-Zero Swim



Matthew Mikus

Ingham county resident Scott Berg dives into the icy water as part of the Polar Plunge at Hawk Hollow Golf Course. Berg dressed as a firefighter and jumped from a small ladder.



Computer engineering junior Ralph Paulk, alumni Jimmie Stewart and english senior Ken Jackson dance and sing during the Motown Review. The event was held in the McDonel Kiva, and proceeds were given to the City of Lansing Rescue Mission.

Lauren Wood

3. 20. 09

Selling Their Soul

Motown greats Ray Charles, Barry White and Michael Jackson were all present in the McDonel Hall Kiva on March 20, albeit in the form of imitators.

The McDonel Hall Black Caucus held the Motown Review benefit show to raise money for the City Rescue Mission of Lansing. As a part of the show, members of the group's executive board took up the roles of famous figures from the Motown era.

The City Rescue Mission of Lansing provides aid to the homeless and underprivileged in the Greater Lansing area. The event was part of an effort to raise money and awareness for the mission and collect donations such as toothbrushes, soap, blankets and non-perishable food items.

"We are trying to bring all races together for a common cause through song and dance," group treasurer Steven Clowney said.

Caucuses throughout campus helped with donations, and the concert was a way for the groups to show their appreciation and increase public awareness about their cause.

"We wanted to get the word out about our cause," Clowney said. "We all had such a great time putting this on."

Colby Berthume and Catherine Kelly

3. 21. 09

On the Cat Walk

The aroma of nail polish and perfume wafted throughout the Union at the university's Project Runway competition March 21.

Thirteen student designers each created three original clothing designs, which were modeled and judged before a packed audience, including guest judge and Bravo's Project Runway Season Two contestant Andrae Gonzalo.

"I'm just amazed at how creative and bold some of these [student] designs are," Gonzalo said.

Each student designer picked a specific theme, which was incorporated into the model's outfits. Themes ranged from the movie "Memoirs of a Geisha" to more abstract themes like "soft and hard materials."

"I was inspired by 'Memoirs' and wanted to do an ethnic design," said apparel and textile design senior Jamie Ueda.

Ueda's designs featured brocades with Asian designs, and shoulder garments in the shape of origami. Ueda ended up placing second for her exhibit, behind Spanish freshman Samat Siwek.

"I always liked designing," Siwek said. "The first dress I made was a prom dress for my friend."

Siwek's theme was "childish and dreamy." Each outfit was based on a different historical period, interwoven with aspects of a young child's dream world, she said.

"What is there to not like about pretty clothes?" Siwek asked. It was clear that Sewit's show grabbed attention when the audience broke its silence at the sight of Siwek's short midnight blue dress featuring an open-back sewn from lace.

"This outfit is bold, and I like it," Gonzalo said.

Aaron Miller

Lauren Wood



Apparel and textile design junior Jonathan Perez snaps a photo of apparel and textile design senior Angie Gonzalez, far right, and her models. Gonzalez designed three outfits for the annual Project Runway competition, which was held in the Union.



Allyssa Bostick

4. 3. 09

Stakes and Skates

Psychology freshman Kaitlin Reilly and pre-veterinary freshman Jordan Ooms try their luck at the slots set up on the concourse of Munn Ice Arena. Slot machines, bingo, craps and poker tables were each available around the arena.

The ice was cold, the dealers were hot and the food was free. On April 3, hundreds of students gathered at Munn Ice Arena for Dice and Ice, hosted by the Universities Activities Board (UAB).

"Some food, some gambling and some aspiration for winning," pre-nursing freshman David Winokur said. "I think it's set up really well, and I just won!"

The ice was open for free skate and students had the opportunity to choose from craps, poker, blackjack, roulette, bingo, slot machines and other casino-style games around the arena.

"A lot of people like the table games," said Dayna Hoopes, UAB art director and human biology junior. "It allows MSU students to gamble without using their money."

Qdoba, Cosi, Insomnia Cookies, Great Clips, Target and many other local businesses sponsored Dice and Ice and provided UAB with free snacks and prizes, including iPods and a flat screen TV.

"It's something to do that doesn't require partying," psychology sophomore Courtney Loughman said. "It's nice to plan something for everyone."

Dice and Ice began at 9 p.m., and students had the opportunity to enjoy the free events until 1 a.m. The crowd didn't die down until UAB began wrapping up the evening's events.

"The events and the planning are really fun," political science freshman and UAB member Katie Nye said. "It's good to have alternative events on campus that are free, and I feel that it's actually a lot of fun."

Marissa Cumbers

4. 5. 09

Celebration of Pride

Almost 2,000 students show their support for the basketball team after its loss to North Carolina during the NCAA Championship game. Police officers maintained a closer presence than in previous years, arresting anyone causing trouble before they had the chance to encourage others to partake in riotous behavior.

On April 4, students gathered at Cedar Village apartments to celebrate being Spartans for the infamous Cedar Fest block party.

From the Sweet Sixteen to the Elite Eight and then on to the Final Four, the men's basketball team made it further than anyone expected. And after the team won against University of Connecticut in the Final Four game, crowds began to gather in the streets at Cedar Village apartments. Approximately 2,000 students remained in the street for several hours following the game.

"Last year, the students were much more organized in their planning," Michigan State University police officer David Isabell said. "This year is much more tame."

Isabell said there were at least 250 police officers patrolling the area, including about 30 undercover officers. The officers left their Tasers behind, trading them in for tear gas launchers instead.

Police said they made "about 60 arrests," half of which were not university students. Those arrested faced charges of indecent exposure, assault and attempt at arson.

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) volunteers also patrolled Cedar Village.

"We come here just to protect students' civil rights," ACLU volunteer and English professor Theresa Melendez said. "There isn't a problem with students celebrating and having a good time."

Marissa Cumbers and Leslie Tilson



Benjamin Lindstrom

A pink pig hands out informational packets from PETA before a lecture by PETA representative, Bruce Friedrich. Student activists and students from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources packed the lecture hall to debate the implications of eating meat.



Allyssa Bostick

4. 9. 09

Contrasting Viewpoints

On April 9, two groups holding extremely contrasting viewpoints debated a very controversial and popular topic: animal rights.

Students Promoting Animal Rights (SPAR) hosted Meet Your Meat, a presentation on animal rights and the benefits of being a vegetarian, at Anthony Hall with special guest PETA vice president Bruce Friedrich. Friedrich invited the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources' dean Jeffrey Armstrong to a debate, but Armstrong declined. Even without Dean Armstrong, most of the college showed up to show their support and voice their own opinion; even outnumbering the animal rights activists.

"I expected, maybe naively, that there would be more curious people, but we really respect the viewpoints that the students of the agriculture school have also," English senior and SPAR president Andrew Winter said. "No matter what, it was still a successful event."

It started with a 20-minute presentation by Friedrich, followed by two hours of general discussion with the audience. Most of the discussion came from the agriculture students, and Winter said he believed that for the most part they were respectful, except for a few "low blows." After the discussion ended, animal science senior Paul Ayers gave a 10-minute rebuttal speech for the college.

"We aren't trying to persuade anybody. We all have diverse thoughts and everyone is entitled to that," Ayers said. "We just wanted to get our point out too."

Colby Berthume

4. 25. 09

Free for All

Free yoga, free snacks, free henna tattoos, free bike tune-ups, free cardigans, free blue jeans, free art projects and more

Everything was free at East Lansing's first annual Really Really Free Market, hosted by the East Lansing Co-Op community on April 25 at Valley Court Park.

"Everyone is just bringing all of their skills," landscape architecture sophomore Caitlin Taylor said. "Just the things they have to share. They come here and give them away without needing anything in return."

Free markets are held in hundreds of cities across the country and they are an opportunity for people to give up things they don't need to others who can make use of them.

"It's better than throwing it all away," advertising senior Kari Ryan said. "I had a lot of stuff I didn't want anymore and other people would love to have."

At East Lansing's free market, many students laid out their unwanted goods and invited fellow marketers to take anything, while others came to the free market offering their skills for, well, free.

Fisheries and wildlife senior Ben Phillips came to the market with some friends and tuned up bicycles all afternoon.

"We have limited tools and limited resources since it is free," Phillips said. "But I know how to tighten brakes pretty well and put chains back on."

The Co-Op community planned to continue the free market tradition in future years and expand the size of the market.

"A lot of other cities have free markets," anthropology senior Zac Buck said. "Everyone just has too much shit."

Marissa Cumbers

Lauren Wood



Chemistry sophomore Joe Urda, chemistry freshman Jackie Lucas, nursing sophomore Missy Shaner and biochemistry freshman Katie Coureille paint a community art piece at the Really Really Free Market. The market was held for the first time this year, but was cut short due to stormy weather.



Megan Peters

5. 8. 09

A Good Note

Hodge Heckaman, a professional writing junior, stands alone at the Sparty's School's Out Party at Mac's Bar. "We are labelmates," he said about lead vocalist Joe McAndrew, referring to the jobs they hold at a local record store.

On Friday May 8, bands Ahmad Naboulsi, Truncated Lions and Empire! Empire!, Sybris and the Ben Keeler Band took the stage at Mac's Bar for Sparty's Schools Out Party.

"I am glad to see all 112 people who RSVPed on Facebook here," social relations and policy junior Ahmad Naboulsi said. "They must be really tiny people."

Naboulsi said he figured the crowd would be pretty sparse due to the fact that the show was during the end of finals week.

The musicians of Sybris, hailing from Chicago, ended their tour in East Lansing. They had just recently toured the U.S., playing in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and Ohio.

"We are on tour and this is our last show," Angela Mullenhour, Sybris vocalist and guitarist said. "We've never played Lansing before, so we figured, 'why not?' We heard Mac's was pretty cool."

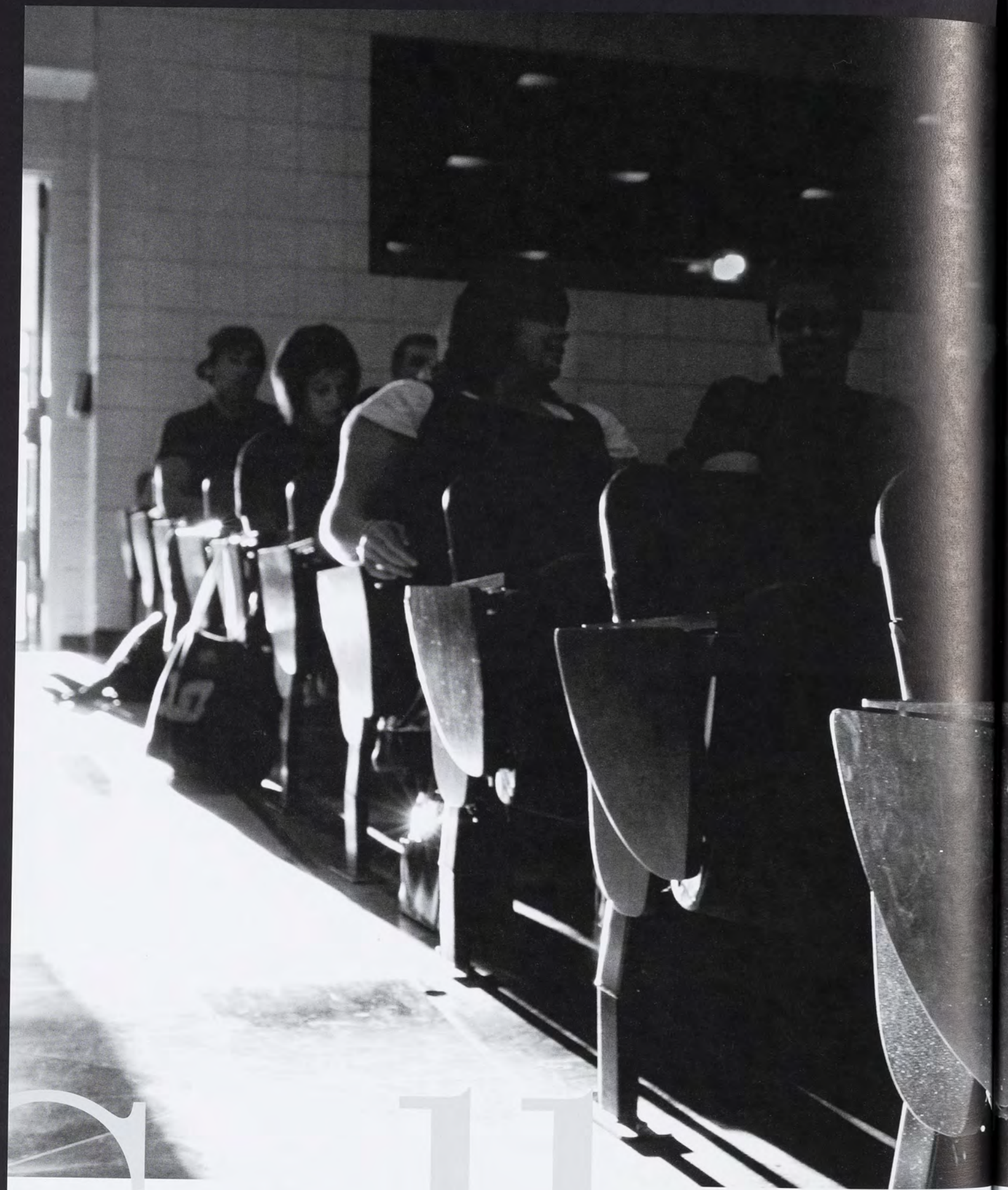
Although the attendance was not what many of the bands were hoping for, they were still excited to put on a show.

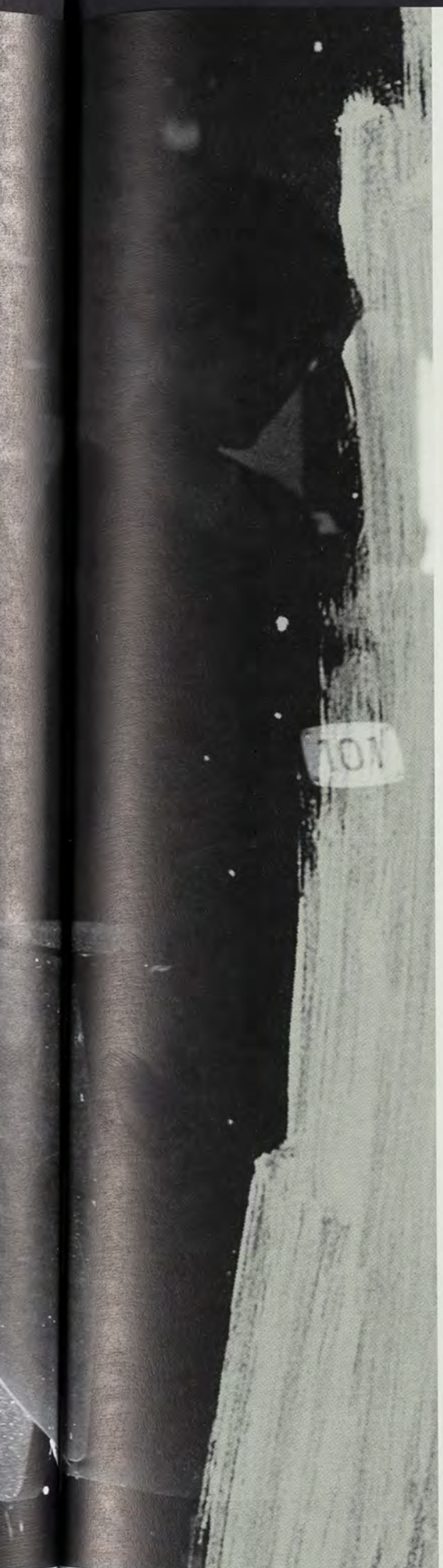
"We were hoping for a good built-in crowd and to get some local flavor, and to get some good Friday night party time," Mullenhour said. "We're definitely going to get the party time, but it seems good, hopefully more people will start to trickle in."

Even though the crowd was small, Sybris got some of the atmosphere they were looking for.

"I am label mates with Ahmad and Truncated Lions," professional writing sophomore Hodge Heckaman said. "I've seen them play every week for the entire semester."

Leslie Tilson





11.09.08 | Kedzie Hall | Photo by Megan Roney

Leaving behind their warm beds and blankets, students trudged, drove or biked

through the snow to make it to their 8 a.m. classes to open their minds to interesting new concepts. Whether they crammed into an enormous room in Wells Hall or in a smaller classroom setting in Wilson Hall, students were given the tools they would need to be successful. Many students had detailed visions of where they would be in 10 years- others were just along for the ride, hoping to stumble across an area of interest to study while at the university. Colleges, majors and specializations provided students with guidance and the opportunity to tailor their education to their specific career goals.

Colleges

College of Natural Sciences

College encourages looking beyond the Earth

Sitting enthusiastically in the darkness, surrounded by community members and other interested students, members of the College of Natural Science gathered twice a month to host public observing nights.

The Observatory, located south of central campus near the corner of Forest Road and Farm Lane, offered the use of its main telescope to the public in addition to smaller personal telescopes.

On Sept 5., these telescopes were directed at Jupiter and its four moons, the Earth's moon and various other constellations. Despite an overcast day, hopeful stargazers made their way to the Observatory and were rewarded with clear skies.

The Observatory has been the site of the 0.6 meter telescope since 1971. The instrument has contributed to many research projects by students in the Physics and Astronomy Department, but on the nights when the facility was open to the public, its purpose was much less serious.

"It's nice to show people that science isn't boring and far away," said astrophysics graduate student Philipp Girichidis. "You can show people that physics is not something no one can see. Science happens far away but here people have the chance to watch it."

Horace Smith, a professor of physics and astronomy, has participated in the public observing nights since 1981 and greets anyone who wanders up the stairs into the glowing red light of the Observatory.

"The best view is through the side," said Smith to a fellow stargazer who entered the small dome. "That's Albiero, a double star in the constellation Cygnus. I do hate to look at this star because it does have the colors of the University of Michigan. The blue star is hot and the yellow star is cooler."

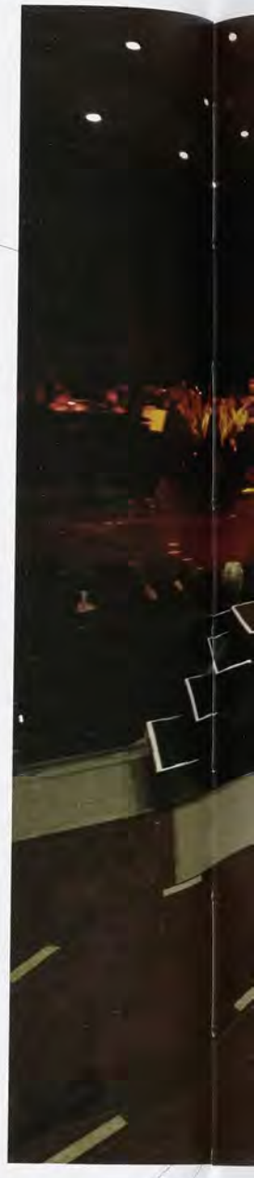
The physics and astronomy department one of 24 departments in the college, which is comprised of 4,780 students total. Along with running the Observatory, the College of Natural Science assists with programs at the Planetarium, which is the site for weekly shows, astronomy lecture series and night sky viewing opportunities.

The college hosted other outreach programs including the Bug House, Bug and Insect World Science Camp, Astronomical Horizons Lecture Series, Joint Institute for Nuclear Astrophysics, Michigan Science Olympiad, Grandparents' University, Science Theatre and the Cyclotron.

The Cyclotron competed with Argonne National Laboratory for a new $550 million funded nuclear facility. U.S. Representative Mike Rogers said the facility will create "good paying jobs for Michigan" and "provide outstanding educational opportunities for our next generation of scientists, and open the door for scientific breakthroughs." The announcement was made Dec. 11 that the university was awarded the grant to build a Facility for Rare Isotope Beams.

"There are plenty of things that go on at the departmental level," said Kathy Doig, associate dean of the college of natural science. "We have been initiating the growth of undergraduate research, growing study abroad and study away options, and developing new majors."

Marissa Cumbers





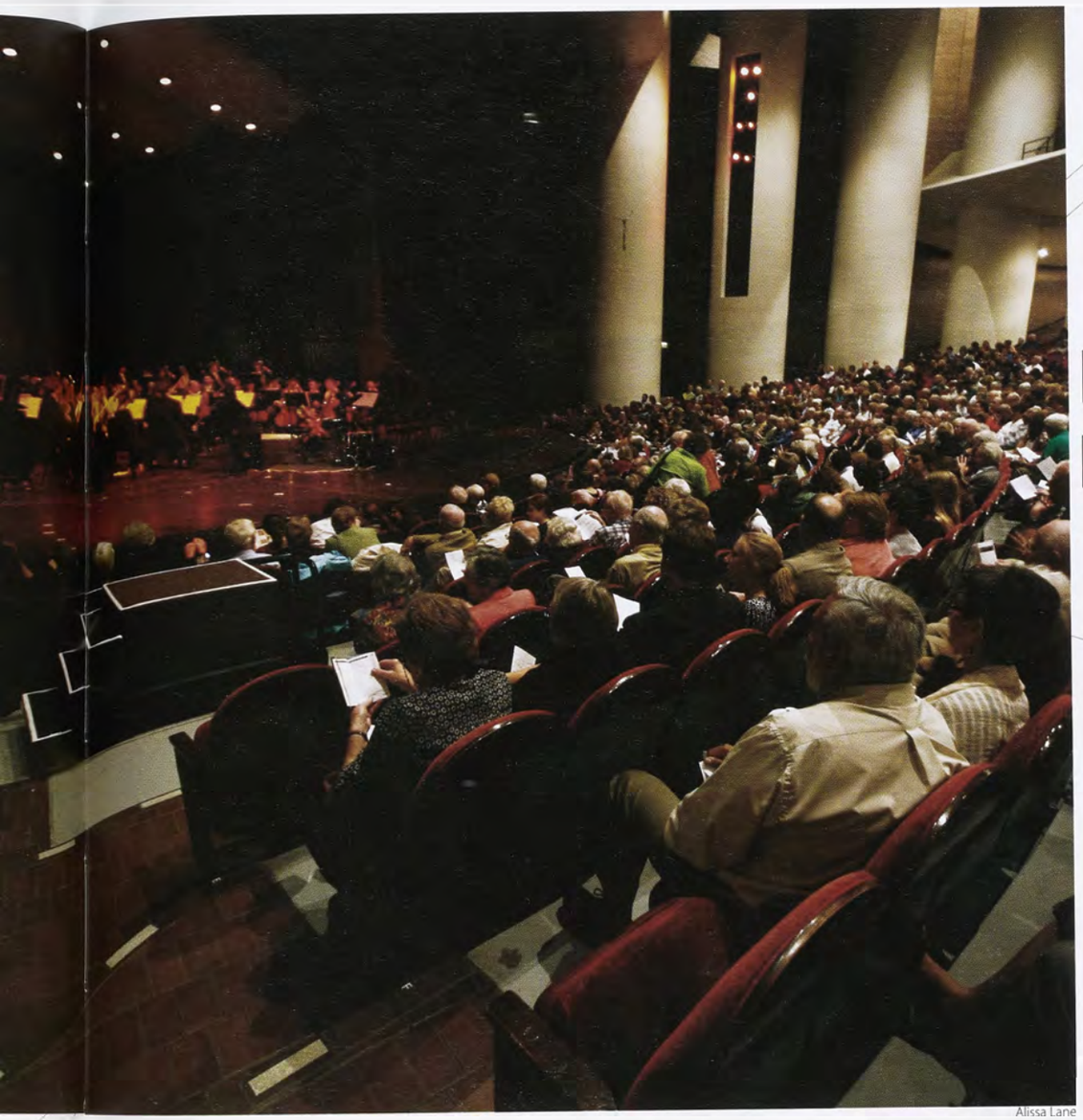
Alissa Lane

Astrophysics and geophysics senior Hariri Samer reads his star and planet locator by the light of his cell phone. Samer attended every public viewing event at the Observatory.



Dave Guerne of the Astronomy Club helps astrophysics doctoral student Eric Pellegrini set up a Newtonian telescope in the parking lot near the Observatory. Pellegrini was showing a live feed through the telescope onto a computer monitor to display different stars and planets in the sky.

Lauren Wood



Alissa Lane

The audience waits as the Symphony Orchestra takes the stage following intermission. The orchestra began Act Two with the overture to "Let 'Em Eat Cake."

Director of orchestras Leon Gregorian leads the Symphony Orchestra. The Collage Concert was the first of four parts in the College of Music's Showcase Series.



Alissa Lane

College of Music

Students with significant stature

The mission statement of the College of Music states that their purpose is "to instill in students a dedication and desire to achieve excellence and understanding in all aspects of their musical education and to develop their abilities to the highest professional standards." And from the look of awe on faces in the audience during the Showcase Series College Concert, the college has done just that.

The concert was held Sept. 19 at the Wharton Center.

"The concert was to showcase the College of Music to the community as well as the college administration and maybe investors," said music education and performance senior Eddie Goodman. "I thought the concert was a complete success. All the groups were extraordinary."

During the concert, the 653 students of the college's 28 different musical groups displayed the prestige that came along with being a student in the College of Music.

"It really showed the multiple strengths of the college, and how strong our performances are," music education senior Katie Kilgone said. "It was so cool that the audience literally got to see it all."

Goodman and Kilgone both chose to attend the university after they heard about the College of Music's reputation at the university.

"They have a killer music education program," Kilgone said. "When I found out who I'd be working with I knew it was the place for me."

Directors and professors at the college made it clear they also shared the same pride and love for their college as the students do.

"My job is very diverse," said John Madden, associate director of bands and director of the Spartan Marching Band. "I direct the symphony band, the marching band and teach conducting classes. I work with both undergradate and graduate students, so no two days are ever the same."

The prestige that comes from being a student at the College of Music extended beyond the undergraduate program. The graduate program hosted one of the best records in the nation for job placement and also for placing graduate students in tenure stream university positions.

Although music students from the College of Music knew they would enter into a competitive field, they were a step ahead of their competition.

"From a resource stand point, I am benefiting from the excellent College of Music faculty which has taught me effective techniques in teaching and learning," Goodman said. "The same can be said for the education department. I think that MSU will be an ongoing resource when I enter the working world."

Madden and Goodman agreed that being a graduate of the College of Music is something to be proud of.

"We don't just teach music, we also serve at the university," Madden said. "We play at athletic events and at commencement. We are not just a place for music majors, but also students who just want to take a music class. We really are a visible and important resource for both music and non-music major students. I am a MSU grad myself, a very proud one, and to come back and lead the band and teach is a big deal to me."

Leslie Tilson



ren Wood

James Madison College

College creates endless opportunities

Environmentalist, corporate lawyer, National Public Radio correspondent, Supreme Court Justice – each year, the James Madison College swoops up timid freshman and molds them into one or more of these positions.

The James Madison College is one of nine residential colleges on campus and combines public affairs and international relations into a vigorous curriculum available through more than 40 courses.

The liberal arts focus within the program makes it possible for James Madison graduates to pursue many fields. The college offers four majors to its 1,200 enrolled students: comparative cultures and politics, political theory and constitutional democracy, international relations and social relations.

On Oct. 13, the college provided tours to interested high school students as faculty emphasized the benefits of being part of a residential college and its small class sizes.

"Madison College is a fairly small community where students and faculty have similar interests," said the college's director of academic affairs Jeff Judge. "Being a smaller place, we get to know the students pretty well."

In speaking to prospective "Madisonians," Judge stressed that graduates of the college's program had one of the highest rates of job placement compared to other university graduates, with a 90 percent employment rate immediately following graduation.

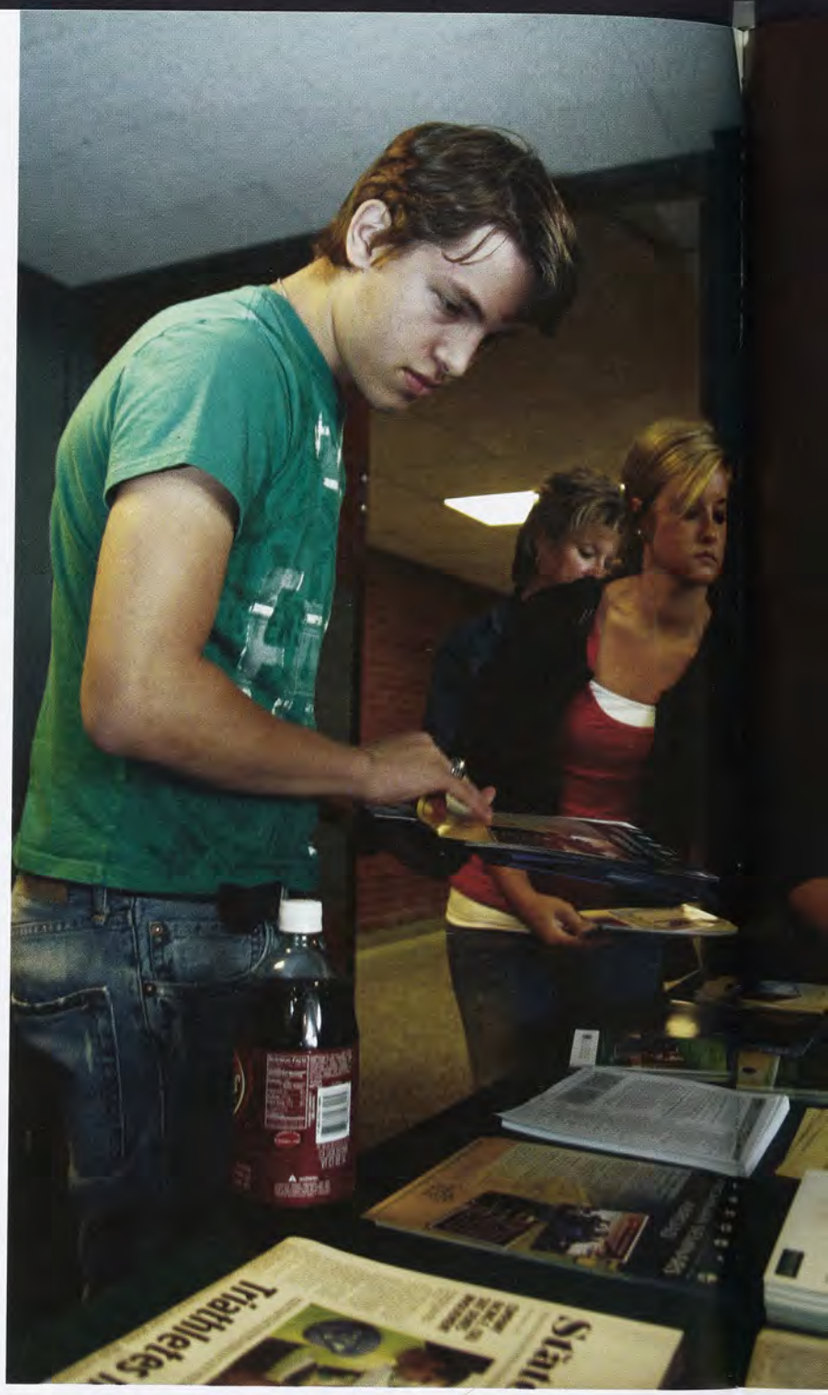
Judge spoke highly of the college's demanding writing requirement in which freshman "Madisonians" are required to take beginning first semester and continuing through their second.

"There is a myth going around that your first Madison paper, you will fail," said James Madison freshman Mitchell Rivard. "I don't think it is necessarily true. The critiques from teachers in James Madison are tough, but they really improve your writing skills."

James Madison College is also known for the prestigious speakers the faculty invites to the college for guest lectures. In November, the news editor of the *New York Times*, Jerry Gray, and author Jack Santino addressed students in different seminars.

"In one of my classes we were actually reading this book about Northern Ireland," said James Madison sophomore Adam Stone. "After about a week or so, our professor announced that the author was coming into talk about the book. He gave me some personal help with a project I'm doing, and he really helped me focus me research."

Marissa Cumbers and Dustin McNees



High school seniors Shane Wechsler and Jessica Backus pick up some information before the start of the James Madison College Visit Day. It was Backus' first visit to the campus she said.



Political theory and constitutional democracy senior Carrie White takes a group of perspective James Madison College students and their parents on a tour of Case Hall. White spoke to her audience about why she chose to be a member of the college.

Alissa Lane

A plastic template is analyzed in a polariscope to show the stress patterns in the plastic. A computer was then used to record the patterns and analyze the data for interpretation.



Alissa Lane

College of Engineering

Students continue to innovate

Prospective students attended the College of Engineering's Open House on Oct. 11 for a chance to gain hands-on knowledge of what the college had to offer.

The goal of the open house was to address the ever-changing role of engineers in an increasingly global society and to show students the wide range of career opportunities available for engineers.

Following a welcome ceremony featuring keynote speakers Dean Satish Udpa and Drew Kim, the open house's coordinator and assistant to the dean, students attended workshops and module demonstrations in their chosen concentrations.

High school senior Becky Bender attended the open house with her parents to gain more information about the university before making her final decision.

"I want to get an idea of what programs differentiate MSU from other schools," Bender said.

Jim Cotter, the colleges director of admissions, gave students and their parents words of encouragement during his presentation about the opportunities offered by the College of Engineering.

"'Give me a place to stand and I will move the world.' MSU could be your place to stand," Cotter said as he quoted the ancient Greek mathematician Archimedes. "How far you move the world is in direct proportion to your effort."

The open house also stressed the importance of acquiring specific skills and gaining experience before students enter the work force. Due to cheap labor costs in Mexico and Asia many in the engineering community feared American jobs will continue to be outsourced.

"More than likely they will enter a company that will send them abroad," said Maggie Blaire-Ramsey, administrative assistant to the dean.

As a result, the college encourages student involvement in the study abroad program and offers 14 programs to help students gain confidence living outside of the U.S.

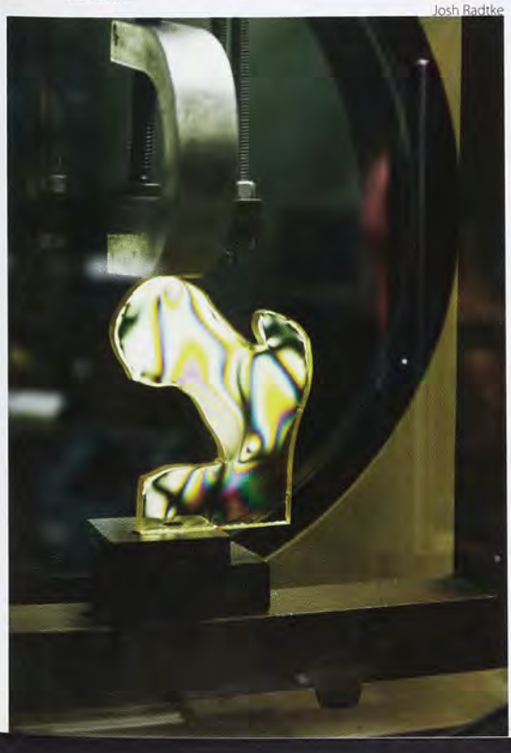
Beginning in 1885 with the study of mechanic arts, the College continues to affect the world with its research. Past projects included the second computer ever built on a college campus, built by Dean Lawrence Von Tersch in 1956, and the civil and environmental engineering sector has recently undertaken the task of finding more adequate water sources around the globe.

Despite the abundance of new programs and research, the college has continued to expand. The development of the Spartan Engineering Residential Experience was a main focus. In the future, engineering students will be able to live in Wilson Hall among students with similar interests in an environment that will help them to think analytically and thrive in the college.

"[We intend] to develop a community of scholars that are technically grounded but have much broader perspective from having lived in a community that will attempt to engage both engineers and non-engineers around important themes such as energy, health, sustainability, etc.," said Thomas Wolff, associate dean for undergraduate studies.

Jess Dupnack

Josh Radtke





Josh Radtke

Mechanical engineering junior Marshall Mendoza cuts out a template in the experimental mechanics lab while kinesiology doctoral student Keke Yang looks on. The template was to be placed in a polariscope to anazlyze stress patterns in the plastic.



Veterinary technology freshman Sarah Liechty grins as some of the dogs in the Vivarium dog play area show their affection for her. The play area was built with funds from the College of Veterinary Medicine Hill's College Feeding Program.

Benjamin Lindstrom

Lester tries to squeeze out of his pen in the play area. He was very anxious to play with visitors after everyone left him alone.



Benjamin Lindstrom

College of Veterinary Medicine

Expanding through outreach and research

The day job of the College of Veterinary Medicine dogs was to help students interact with them and learn how to care for them, but even the dogs needed a vacation.

The Sponsor-A-Dog Club gave these dogs an opportunity to be outside in the college's designated play areas. It was created in 2004 and now sponsors 40 dogs from the College of Veterinary Medicine. They ranged from Beagles to Papillions. Some come from loving homes, others rescued from shelters and taken to the college.

The dogs are normally kept in the Vivarium where all of the other research animals live and are cared for by the staff and students.

The club members agreed that the dogs made great stress relievers when they were busy with school or homesick for their own dogs. Each member acquired a couple of favorites that they spent the most time with in the play yards.

"I saw how great it was for not only the dogs, but the students as well," said club president Rachel Mullins, veterinary medicine sophomore.

The College of Veterinary Medicine consists of veterinary, veterinary technician, Ph.D., and masters students. The four-year veterinary and veterinary technician programs include five semesters of core classes and labs that are mostly in the science field. The following three semesters, students do three week rotating clerkships, which concentrated in various areas of study. At that point the students are able to focus on their specific careers choices.

"The course schedule is very strenuous," said Brent Poikey, environmental zoology junior. "Organic chemistry and physics kills me."

The college provided an umbrella of career pathways that went beyond the typical view of veterinary medicine.

Associate dean of research and graduate studies Dr. Susan Ewart said the college is on a campaign to get their people to realize the various fields of study in which they work in.

The college was also involved with several research programs that studied both human and animal conditions, like the Isle of Wight Birth Cohort which studies the effects of asthma in humans, originating from the study of respiratory problems in race horses. The program was part of the Respiratory Research Initiative that included research from several colleges on campus.

"What we learn in one species effects the knowledge in another," Dr. Ewart said. "We use the term 'one medicine' because there are so many similarities among the species when we make advancements in one, we make advancements in all."

Jessica Dupnack



Eli Broad College of Business

Real world experience advantageous for students

The Eli Broad College of Business is known throughout the business world for the opportunities made available to its students and is the largest college at the university, made up of eight majors as well as many clubs and social organizations for students to participate in.

The most well-known aspect of the college is its study abroad program.

"Since business is becoming so international, study abroad for me personally is something that I think will help with experience," hospitality business junior Jonathan Riddle said. "I haven't been yet, but I am planning on going this summer."

The college faculty sponsored the many study abroad programs.

"We have wonderful summer study programs lead by MSU faculty," Andrea Terry, academic adviser and Coordinator of Broad Freshman Program Undergraduate Academic Services said. "They take the students to study international business. It is great for the students to see how well connected the faculty are abroad and see how they work [there]."

Students also agreed the vast network of Broad graduates set them apart from other programs.

"The network we have is so large and diverse, no matter where I go there [are] always going to be MSU grads to help," supply chain management senior Adam Wolocko said.

Both Wolocko and Riddle were members of the Broad Student Senate, the student-run organization that represented the undergraduates of the business college to the university.

"If the deans have questions, they come to us," Riddle said. "We take care of all the philanthropy and things like the Broad picnic and the 'Road to Broad' 5K run."

The college hosted its first 5K run and hoped to then make into an annual event.

"We wanted to sponsor an event where all the proceeds went to a charity," retailing junior Mara Sculler said. "We wanted to get the college and the community involved in something, and we wanted it to have a good cause, so we chose the Make-A-Wish Foundation."

Terry, who acted as the advisor to the student senate, said the group coordinated the race on their own and believed that doing so helped them to gain experience needed in the business world that could not be learned in a classroom.

"I was there to sign the paperwork, but they did everything else," Terry said. "You can read the textbook all you want, or listen to lectures all you want, but until you actually coordinate an event you have no understanding of how to coordinate an event, and handle the budget. I think it's very important that these students are getting these experiences."

Many faculty and students agreed the Eli Broad College of Business does not just have a good business program, but also gives students opportunities, real world experiences, international connections and a large network of graduates that will beneficial long after graduation.

Leslie Tilson



Lauren Wood

Zoology junior Brian Shain stretches to prepare for the Road to Broad 5K race. The course was 3.1 miles long and followed the river and ended at the Farm Lane bridge.



Lauren Wood

Biochemistry, molecular biology and biotechnology sophomore Andrew Bruce and supply chain management senior Mike Keller run pass the halfway mark of the Eli Broad 5K race. All proceeds from the event went to the Make-A-Wish Foundation

College of Communication Arts and Sciences

Working for the students and the community

As one of the first colleges of its kind, the College of Communication Arts and Sciences has continued striving for perfection since its founding in 1955.

Distinguished programs including the Knight Center for Environmental Journalism and the department of advertising, public relations and retailing - the only department of its kind in the nation - embodied the ethics and excellence that drives the college.

"Clear communication is an essential skill for any citizen, and the college is a great place to learn how to do that well," said director of the School of Journalism Jane Briggs-Bunting.

The common but essential tool of communication was celebrated and perfected through various events and programs sponsored or held by the college.

One of the goals of the college is to prepare students for rewarding careers, through working with innovative technologies and through shaping the professional practice of communication. The college offered an array of degrees including: public relations, journalism and retailing. Briggs-Bunting said current and past students of the School of Journalism have had great success in receiving internships and jobs at news organizations around the world.

The college also integrated students in programs aimed towards helping people and the environment.

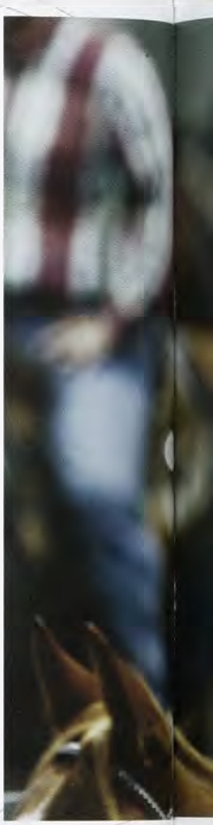
"We are particularly proud for the department of advertising, public relations and advertising recent recognition by the National Child Abuse Prevention Movement for supporting anti-child abuse activity and for its commitment to ethical treatment of children," said professor and department chairman Richard T. Cole.

One of the college's nationally renowned and one-of-a-kind programs, the Knight Center for Environmental Journalism, helped present Green on the Big Screen in November. Green on the Big Screen was an environmental film festival and fair held to entertain and offer information on how to improve the state of the world's environment.

Along with the School of Journalism, the College is also comprised of the departments of communication, communication sciences and disorders, telecommunication, Information Studies and Media, and Advertising, Public Relations and Advertising.

With over 3,000 students, the College continues to be one of the largest of its kind.

Aaron Miller





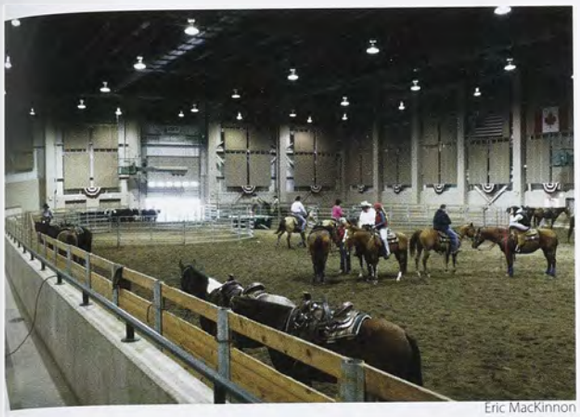
Benjamin Lindstrom

Reels of film from the 1976 football season sit on a shelf in the media storage room of the Communication Arts and Sciences building. Many old recordings of Spartan athletic events were stored there over the years.



Benjamin Lindstrom

Tall metal shelves disappear into the distance in the storage room at the College of Communication Arts and Sciences. Everything from brand new programs on DVD to old sports broadcasts on film were stored in the room.



Eric MacKinnon

Competitors wait while event staff rotates in a new herd of cattle. All of the cattle had numbers on their sides to help competitors know which cattle needed to me herded into the second pen.

Alma resident Rochelle Rondy, with her horse Hickory, talks to Hallie Peterman, on Doc, while the judges prepare their materials. Rondy and Peterman worked as a team to herd a set of cattle into a second pen during the Team Penning Finals held at the Pavilion.



Eric MacKinnon

A horse and rider wait for their turn to compete at the Team Penning Finals, held in the Pavilion's main show area. Each team of two riders worked with their horses to move selected cattle into a second penning area.



Eric MacKinnon

College of Agriculture & Natural Resources

College hosts horse show for everyone

For animal-loving students, leaving furry friends at home is one of the challenges of college. Fortunately, students in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources had the opportunity to participate in hands-on events and projects that often included university animals and their own personal pets and livestock.

The college, along with the Horseman's Club, hosted the Green and White Horse Show, which allowed students, faculty, alumni and friends of the college to participate in 31 different events, including English-style equestrian, Western-style equestrian and showmanship.

"Having the opportunity to be part of these livestock clubs has been a great experience," horse management freshman Ashley Jabrocki said. "The Horseman's Club is a good way to get together with other horse-oriented people at MSU."

The Green and White Horse Show was a fundraiser for the Horseman's Club and the Equestrian Club and involved about 50 contestants. About half of the competitors were alumni of the college. Jordan Hewitt graduated in 2006 with a degree in animal sciences and was thrilled to be back at the Pavilion.

"I like coming back here to support this program," Hewitt said. "The department really prepares you for a experience. I just got a job doing exactly what I want to do because of my education."

While many of the members of the college find comfort in the opportunity to continue equestrian, riding and other animal hobbies, the programs and fieldwork are also known campus-wide.

Animal science junior Danielle Palermo hoped to pursue a career in horse racing management and appreciates the college's curriculum, activities and clubs.

"I've been riding for 11 years and I love horses," Palermo said. "My major and the horse shows made this an ideal school. The program here is known worldwide. You always hear about some breakthrough or record the department has made."

The college had many new projects underway, including some important alternative energy initiatives. One new project to research technology is going to convert animal waste into usable heat and is receiving more than $3 million in federal and state grants. The college is also establishing large programs involving biofuels.

Marissa Cumbers

Food science junior Nick Boyd adjusts the recording of a distance learning program in the media control center for the WKAR public television station. The neighboring WKAR studios were not recording at the time, but Boyd still had plenty of work maintaining other programs.

photo by Benjamin Lindstrom

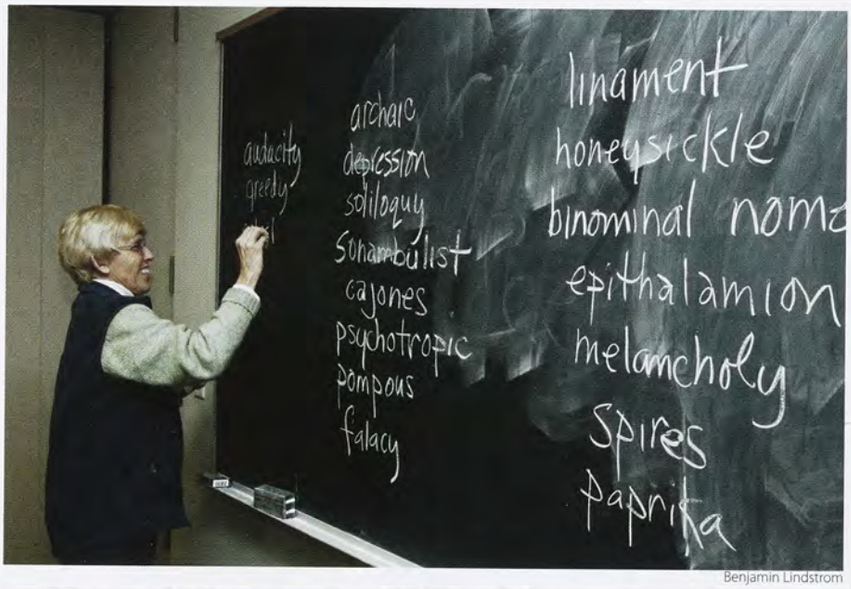




Benjamin Lindstrom

Stephanie Glazier, assistant to the director of the RCAH Center for Poetry, explains a concept before the start of the Read a Poet, Write a Poem workshop as English junior Courtney Hilden listens. The workshop was put on for people to analyze and learn from the style of writing presented in Kay Ryan's book of poems, "The Niagra River."

Anita Skeen, director of the RCAH Center for Poetry, lists words on the chalkboard that participants suggested be used in poems. The participants then wrote their own poems using many of the words on the board to break up their own personal tendencies when writing.



Benjamin Lindstrom



Residential College of Arts and Humanities

New college incorporates co-curriculars to enhance education

In 2007, the university asked Dean Stephen Esquith to head the Residential College of Arts and Humanities (RCAH). Two years later, the program had doubled in size with about 225 students, and continued to expand. Esquith hoped for it to grow to 400-500 students in the coming two years.

"I enjoy teaching; it's the most important function of the undergraduate program in a university," Esquith said. "A residential program, while not for everyone, provides an opportunity for students to get excited about their education. Before RCAH, there were programs like this for students in natural and political sciences, but not for students interested in the arts and humanities."

The college is set up so students take a broad set of core courses over their first two years, and then during their third year they pick an area of specialization, called a "pathway," that will help lead the student to a second major, a minor or a career.

"The pathways are very broad so students have options," Esquith said.

Esquith believes that because the students and teachers work in a smaller environment, they are able to work on a more personal level and create a stronger support network within the college.

RCAH freshman Hayley Stevenson enjoys being a part of the smaller setting.

"I like culture and history and the idea of a closer community sounded good," Stevenson said. "I thought it would be a good transition to a big university."

In addition to providing the small college feel, RCAH offers many co-curricular and extra curricular activities to its students.

"An important responsibility of the college is to provide career planning and guidance for students," Esquith said. "Creating co-curricular activities that interact with the community can help with field experience or an internship."

One opportunity that the college offers to help students interact with the community is the Read a Poem, Write a Poem workshop. This workshop gives students the opportunity to study a poem then write one in a similar format.

"This program was modeled after the One Book, One Community program," said Stephanie Glazier, assistant director of the Center of Poetry. "We wanted to incorporate poetry into the students lives."

The Center of Poetry picked Kay Ryan as the year's poet because they felt her work would not be too intimidating for students. The first night's purpose of the workshop was to bring people together to talk about poetry, and the second night gave attendees the opportunity to write a poem based on Kay Ryan's style.

"We pulled a lot of community members in with this event, but in the future we hope to have more RCAH students attend the event," Glazier said. "We hope to make this a yearly event because one of the main focuses of the center is to bridge the gap between the university and the community."

As the college continues to grow, people like Esquith and Glazier hope that opportunities for students will expand as well, bringing more student involvement and interactions with the community.

Leslie Tilson

Studio arts senior Phillip Timko creates a yarn holder at one of the pottery wheels in the ceramics room of Kresge Art Center. Timko said pieces like the one he created sell for $50, but instead of selling it he planned to give it to his mother as a Christmas present.



Megan Roney

Fine arts senior Elizabeth Meyer shapes the ear of a cyclops cookie jar she is creating for her ceramics class. Meyer said her inspiration for the cookie jar came from artist Odilon Redon's painting "The Cyclops."



Megan Roney

College of Arts and Letters



Megan Roney

Visiting assistant ceramics professor Jeremy Brooks loads his students' clay creations onto a cart as his class prepares to do a group kiln firing.

As more and more students found themselves interacting within a culturally diverse society on a daily basis, the College of Arts and Letters implemented a new global studies initiative as part of its curriculum.

Aimed at creating a community, despite barriers like language, the global studies program was intended for students who wish to enhance their understanding of cultural justice, ethics and affairs.

Located in Linton Hall, the College of Arts and Letters provided an array of diverse programs geared towards the study of language, art and writing.

"The majors are really flexible, and make you well-rounded," said junior East Asian language and cultures major Courtney Whitmore.

The Department of Art and Art History offered majors in various fields, such as apparel and textile design or art education. Students in the department exhibited their work in the galleries of Kresge Art Museam throughout the year.

The college also boasted an impressive study abroad program, which offered more opportunities for foreign study than any other college on campus.

Guest speakers were a substantial feature of the college as well, with lecturers ranging from novelist and Nobel Prize winner Orhn Pamuk, to noted ceramist Jeanne Quinn. These frequent lectures attracted both community members and students who sought knowledge outside the constraints of the classroom.

Dean Karin Wurst said he believed the lectures brought faculty and students together.

"They expose our students to varying viewpoints, and provide a sense of discussion between students," she said.

International studies junior Sarah Blakeley said the college distinguishes itself from others on campus.

"It is the most diverse and applicable college around," she said.

Rachel Sylvester

Lyman Briggs freshmen Yuvanesh Rajeev and Klye McDonald drop water that was seperated from the ferrofluid mixture into a different beaker. Rajeev and McDonald both live in Holmes Hall, which is home to the Lyman Briggs residential college.

Lyman Briggs College

More than just classrooms



Lauren Wood

Studying the sciences at a big university can leave some students feeling discouraged and defeated. But, there is a way to become close to professors and study with students in the same courses and in the same residential hall in the same facility.

"It's really helpful to live in a residential college," physiology freshman Emi Bulica said. "Especially during the cold winter months. Also, I like the fact that most people in Holmes Hall have similar interests as far as future plans are concerned".

On campus, there are other residential colleges, but Lyman Briggs College (LBC) prides itself on student-faculty unity and developing interpersonal relationships.

"Incoming students are put on common ground and can assist one another, considering they live in the same hall and relatively on the same floor," LBC recruitment coordinator Anne Schrock said.

Founded in 1967, LBC continues to be the university's largest residential college. All of the new students to LBC are required to reside in Holmes Hall.

"Lyman Briggs is unique," Schrock said. "It focuses on the study of various sciences, but it also gives the students a well-rounded education in humanities as well."

LBC is an elite science program. The courses are relatively small compared to general university sciences courses. Some opportunities are not available in traditional university courses, which sometimes have class sizes of about 500 or more.

"I feel like there is a big support system here at LBC and everyone is supportive of one another," Bulica said. "Also, the professors are more inclined to help students succeed because the class sizes are much smaller than in university courses".

Anthony Harvey



Lauren Wood

Physiology freshman Minjel Shah and Lyman Briggs freshman Beverly Dillard slowly add ammonium to their ferrofluid mixture as it is heated. Shah and Dillard's lab was supplemental to their Chemistry II class, so they got hands-on experience.



Lauren Wood

Anthropology graduate student Terry Brock looks over a ceramic mug in his Laboratory Methods in Archaeology class. "Archeologists hold (ceramics) near and dear," said Professor Lewis, the instructor of the class.

College of Social Science

Professors know more than you think



Lauren Wood

Anthropology senior Kiel Chamberlain examines a plate that was made to replicate an older style of ceramics. Chamerblain is one of 6,300 undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in the College of Social Science.

Incoming students sometimes do not have a specific major in mind; they may choose sociology, criminal justice, psychology or even anthropology. A student in the College of Social Science, however, has these options, plus many more,

The professors and the administrators of the college come from many different areas of expertise and bring outside knowledge to the classrooms.

"Students can relate to their professors more when they have had personal experiences with the subjects they are studying in class," anthropology gradaute student Chris Stawski said.

There are 13 disciplines within the College of Social Science. It can be expected that professors, as well students, come from a variety of subjects from physical anthropology and history to political science and criminal justice.

"The College of Social Science gives students many opportunities to explore various disciplines within the same college", anthropology graduate student Jane Wankmiller said. "Students are well prepared for these fields because most of the social sciences within the college are hands-on."

The entire community of the College of Social Science focuses on students becoming involved in their particular area of interest.

"I know people in the main office of the College of Social Science and the professors definitely promote various types of research, including studying abroad, in the specific interests," Stawski said.

As the largest college at the university and one of the most diverse, the College of Social Science has more than 6,300 students enrolled and stresses the importance of the globalization of social, behavioral and economic processes.

According to the College of Social Science Web site, the college also prides itself on providing students with an opportunity to serve the state of Michigan and the nation by conducting research, developing curricula, and preparing students in an international context.

Anthony Harvey

Nursing senior Lynzee Arnold reads over a procedure sheet in preparation for her upcoming exam. Arnold practiced and tested on the mannequin in the Life Science building.



Eric MacKinnon

The student auscultation mannequin waits to be needed. The college was home to some state of the art training equipment used by its students.



Eric MacKinnon

College of Nursing

Small college enjoys high job prospects

With only about 60 nursing students in this year's graduating class, the students in the College of Nursing have the opportunity to get very close.

"I love that MSU's nursing program is a small college within the large university," nursing junior Laura Woldyk said. "It's really nice to get to know everyone, and it's kind of like a family environment with everyone trying to help everyone get through."

The students in the program need each other's support. With some nursing classes being worth up to eight credits, the university's accredited program is one of the most difficult nursing programs in the state.

Due to the nursing shortage in the United States, the need for nurses would to increase by 20 percent by 2020. To cope with these expectations, The university expanded their undergraduate and graduate programs and regularly hired new faculty to help the college grow.

"The number of nurses needed according to the nation's population continues to go up and up," said associate professor Bill Corser. "The number of nurses graduating continues to go up, but it isn't enough to meet the demand."

Due to the growing nursing shortage throughout the country, the university also offered an accelerated nursing program that brought an average of 50 nurses into the workforce each year. The program targeted students who had already earned a bachelor's degree and allowed students to earn a BSN within 24 months before becoming a registered nurse.

"I wanted to go into a medical field where I would have an opportunity to help other people," nursing sophomore Lauren Blaine said. "It is a field where there is something new everyday, and it requires you to keep learning."

Throughout the nursing program, students completed 735 hours of required clinical time.

"Because we get a lot of clinical experience, this program is very challenging and will prepare me for a great career," Woldyk said.

Many nursing students became involved with organizations offered by the college. The Nursing Student Association (NSA) had the largest involvement among nursing majors on campus. NSA created opportunities for nursing majors such as monthly hospital volunteer projects, career networking and student support.

In February, NSA members attended the Michigan Nursing Student Association conference in Dearborn. The conference was an outlet of information for students on entering and succeeding in the nursing field in the future.

Marissa Cumbers

College of Education

Experience sets students apart

When it came to experience, College of Education graduates had it, and what set them apart was the sheer amount of expereince they had under their belts. After graduation, all education students had to complete a full-year internship in a classroom, while taking a few teaching methods classes.

"The students see a classroom from the beginning, they help get the classroom ready and they co-teach," Lansing area team coordinator Sally Labadie said. "They receive eight months of mentoring from the collaborating teacher."

Labadie said she thinks this long-term experience made the college's graduates more competitive job candidates.

"Schools love MSU teachers. I have talked to many principals, and they all say our interns come across as more mature and ready to teach," Labadie said. "I get calls from all over the country looking for interns."

The reason why alumni were so strongly sought after was because of the College of Education's reputation for being the best, a reputation that came from the large network of graduates and interns in the education field.

"It's a great program," elementary education and integrated science senior Michelle Smith said. "We got a lot of experience in class from the 200-400 level courses, and that all happens before our full year internship."

Smith was originally from New York, but chose to come to the university because the College of Education had been ranked first in the nation for ten years when she began her college search in high school.

Smith was also involved in a club called Students of Michigan Education Association.

"Being a member of this club provides a lot of professional development opportunities," Smith said. "It teaches us to incorporate special ed in the class room and become more rounded teachers. It also helps us understand No Child Left Behind."

Special education junior Thomas Renner also appreciates all the opportunities the college has to offer.

"There are so many opportunities to join clubs here," Renner said. "It's great for making connections.

Renner said he was looking to join a club now to get some classroom service in before he starts his internship.

"Having a full year internship is much more intensive than just six months," Renner said. "You actually get a chance to teach."

Labadie agrees that it is important to get classroom service in before the full-year internship starts.

"The internship is full-time, so we recommend other service things during school, this helps get experience even before the internship," Labadie explained. "We also offer study abroad trips before the internships."

Labadie said that a study abroad trip also gives graduates a step ahead, because students who work and teach in a foreign country get a better perspective of the world and encourages them to bring diversity into the classroom.

Leslie Tilson



Lauren Wood

Elementary education senior Robert Heber talks to other students in the College of Education about Friendshop, an after school program for elementary school children. Friendshop is a program that education majors can get involved with to gain real world experience.



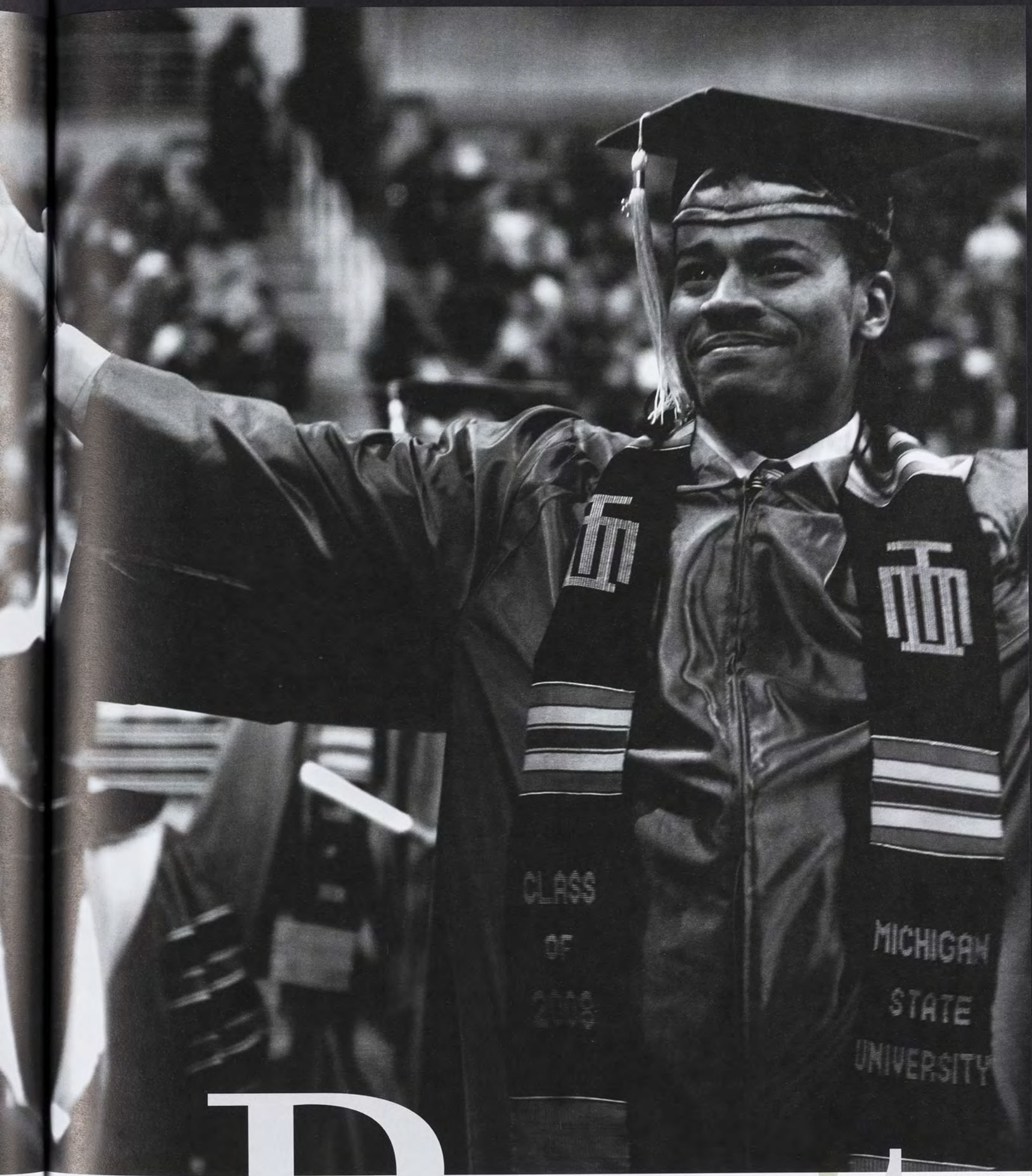
Lauren Wood

Gary Scott, elementary education sophomore and vice president of Student Michigan Education Association (SMEA), promotes his group at the Welcome Junior event in Erickson Kiva. SMEA was a group within the College of Education.



When we graduate, we take away a stronger sense of self while still leaving a little piece of us on the campus; a piece that helped mold us into who we became. The years instilled in us a strong sense of pride in our school, and the memories stayed long after we finished our last exams and accepted our diplomas. We had terrifying first experiences but also memorable opportunities we'd never dreamed of having as we grew up. We met people who would shape and impact our lives forever. As we enter the world beyond college and step out of East Lansing, the knowledge and values we acquired will help us in each endeavor we encounter while we still carry our love for green with us everywhere we go.

Senior Portraits



12.06.08 | Breslin Center | Photo by Lauren Wood

Port

Ahmad Abdullah
Rachael Brittany Abler
Assem Abzakirova
David Ackerman
Dominic Ulysses Adams
Jamal Xavier Adams



Rhonda Lynn Adams
Eziaha Chizurum Adibe
Ashley Nicole Adkins
Chol Makol Agoot
Katelyn Danielle Aitken
Oluseyi Akinpelu



Waheed Albasrawi
Timothy James Alberta
Heather Nicole Albrecht
Stephanie Lynn Albrecht
Muna F. Alchaer
Dua S. Aldasouqi



Adam Joseph Alderman
Katherine Elizabeth Alexander
Randi Alexander
Thomas Richard Alexander
Nicholas Anthony Alfonso
Mehran Ali



Tanvir Ali Ali
Andrew Wade Alwood
Derek Ambs
Yong-Woo An
Rebecca Ann Anders
Bridget Marie Anderson



Leslie Jane Anderson
Marquita Vershaun Anderson
Natalie Eleanor Anderson
Stephanie Marie Anderson
Tiara Anderson
Stephani Angelina



Chelita Anthony
Drew William Arends
Allissa Marie Arent
Georgiana Maria Arhip
Rachel Lynn Armock
Kaniesh Armster





Christopher Arndt
Melissa Lynn Arney
Kristen Lynn Arnold
Hazel May Atienza
Raven Anne Atisha
Heather Atkins

Daniel Attenberger
Lisa Atufunwa
Dianne Austin
Guillermo Avilez
Shanell Nicole Aye
Robyn Badon

Hee Jin Bae
Craig William Baer
Stephanie Nicole Baer
Rabia Baig
Alayna Laura Bailey
David Douglas Bailey

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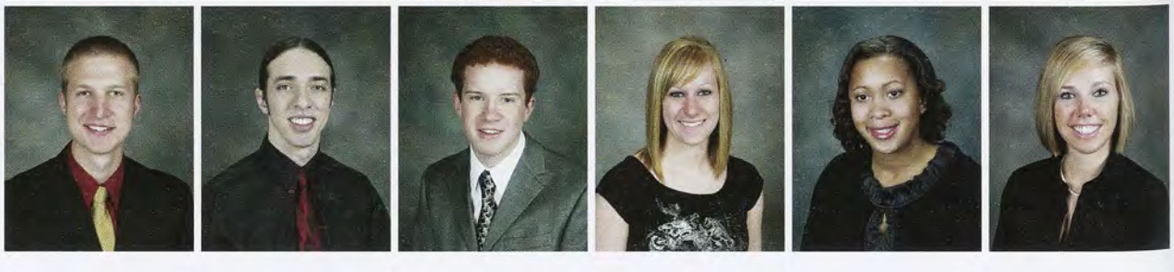
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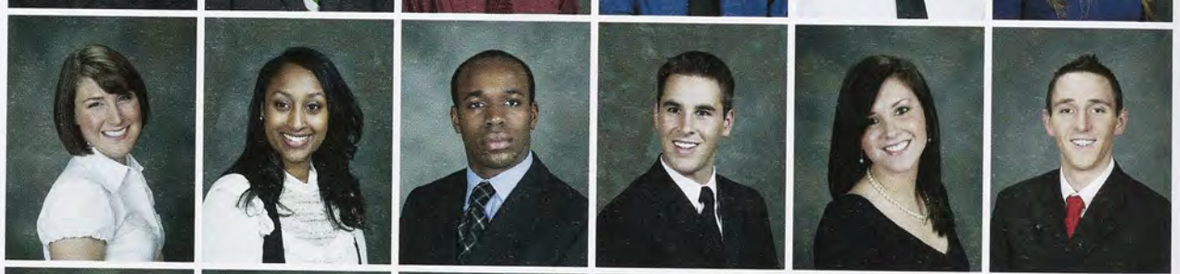
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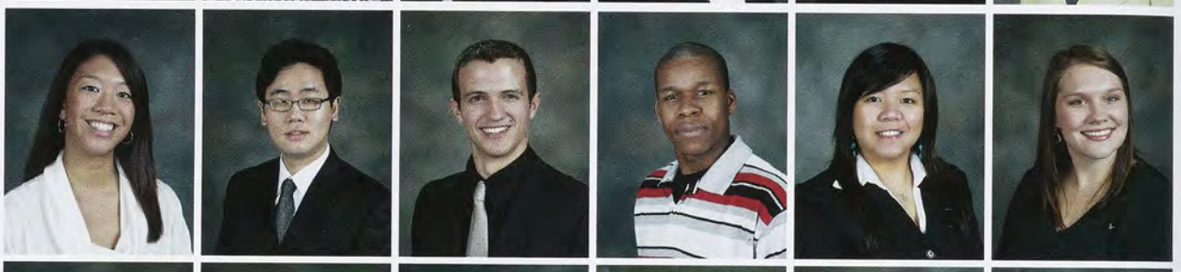
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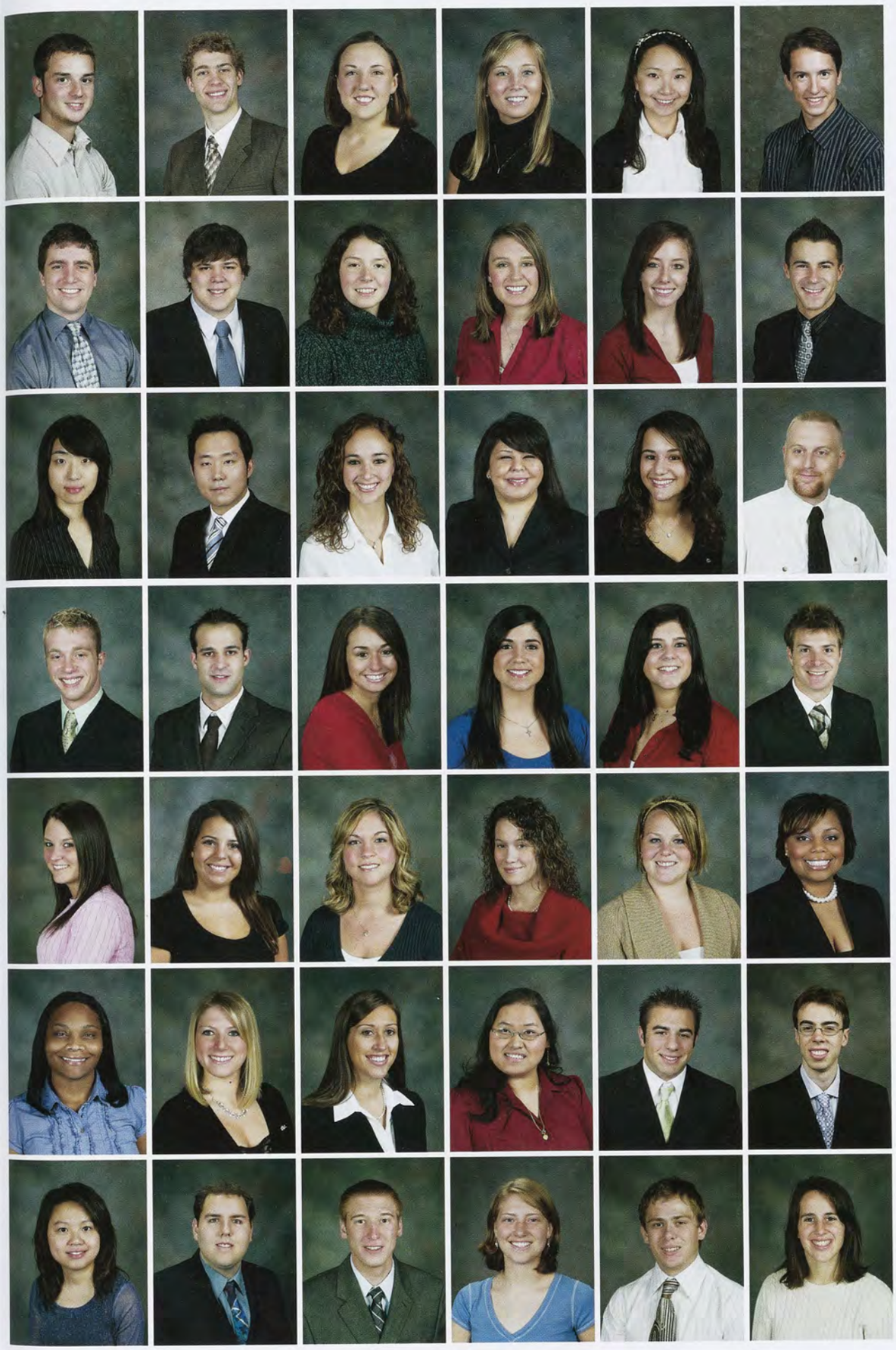


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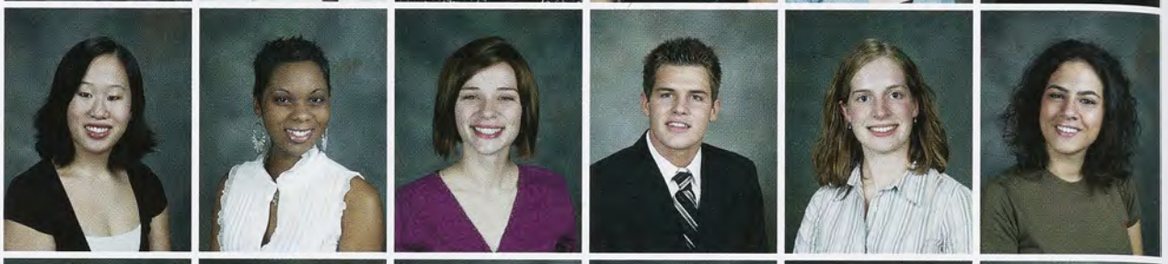


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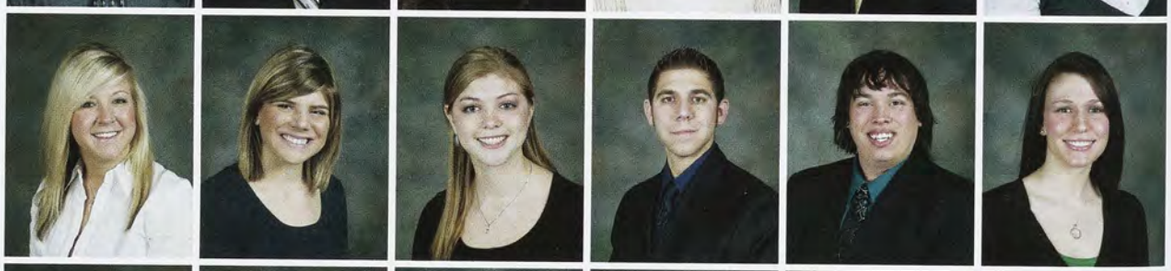
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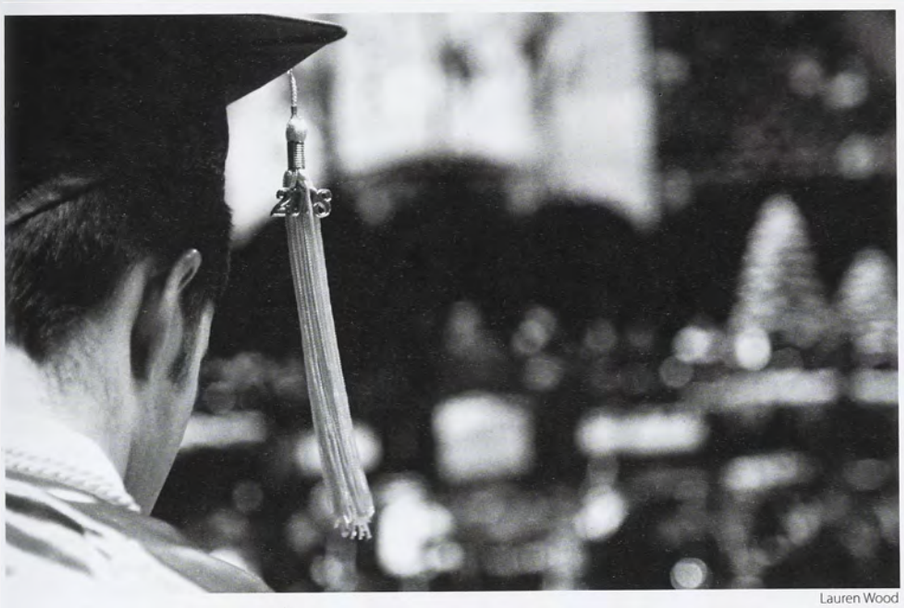






Benjamin Lindstrom

Marching band members become little more than blurry blobs while dancing at Sparty Watch. Telecommunicatons junior Alex Beachum was so still that he stood out among the crowd while he filmed Sparty for a class project.



Lauren Wood

A senior in his cap and gown watches the winter ceremony with his fellow graduates. Both the winter and spring commencement ceremonies were a time for the graduates to reflect on their time on campus before leaving to start the next chapter of their lives.



Alissa Lane

Members from the writing and design staff examine the pages of the Michiganensian, the University of Michigan's yearbook at the Jostens plant in Clarksville, Tenn. The trip took veteran yearbook staff members as well as new members to the plant to see where and how the Red Cedar Log is produced.

Alissa Lane and Megan Rooney purchase their favorite fall goodies inside Andy T's. The group enjoyed carmel apples, cider and donuts on their trip and were able to take home pupkins.



Brian Laskowski

2009

Red Cedar Log

The Red Cedar Log is an award-winning, professional publication run by students-students who have a passion for writing, photography, design, business, editing and producing a yearbook that many students and alumni will hold onto and look at years down the road.

Each year brings its own unique challeges, and 2009 was no different. After the first semester, our Editor-in-Chief, Brian Laskowski, chose to accept an internship which created an opening for a new editor in the spring semsester. During the transition, the editorial staff came together to address each new hurdle with determination. Editors and staff members worked as a team until a new editor could be formally announced. Matthew Mikus, former Photography Managing Editor accepted the position of Editor-in-Chief. Undaunted, staff members continued to complete tasks and deadlines to create this book.

Theme building for the 2009 RCL began in spring 2008. The "Go Green" initiative on Michigan State University's campus had a major impact on the book's theme. As the staff began to plan for the 2009 book, printing on recycled paper, offered by Jostens, seemed like the right decision. While the price to use recycled paper was more expensive than materials used in the past, the staff thought it was important to reflect the environmental movement throughout campus, and how we at the Red Cedar Log were being "green." Not only are the pages more environmentally friendly, but the pages and color palette were designed with a natural feel in mind.

Lisa Ermak headed the journalism staff as the Content Managing Editor and strived to cover every aspect of student life for Michigan State University, a challenging task that she handled with amazing skill. Her assistant, Dustin McNees, as well as copy editors Alicia Linn and Catherine Kelly helped to provide the best coverage of the school year.

Alexis Bunka, the Design Managing Editor, was extremely pleased with the quality and creativity of the design staff. Their hard work and dedication helped meet deadlines with ease. Not a day went by when Bunka wasn't declaring in the office "I love my designers!"

Matthew Mikus and Alissa Lane headed the photography department. Although a change in leadership created an opening at the Photography Managing Editor position, Lane brought new perspective to the photography as she headed the staff.

And none of this would be possible without the professionalism and efficiency of our business manager, Rio Lyn Vito. Always donning a smile, Vito helped our staff with all financial dealings, as well as marketing and media passes. Her energy and joyful antics in the office filled the long nights with a little bit of delight.

Our staff faced many challenges, but with hard work and dedication, we pulled through together. Take pride in this book, you deserve it.



Brian Laskowski

Jessica Dupnack and Eric MacKinnon make their way into the corn maze at Andy T's Farms. The weather was perfect for a fun Sunday trip to the farms.



Brian Laskowski

The Red Cedar Log poses with Andy T from Andy T's Farms in Saint Johns, Mich. The staff took a trip to the farms at the start of the year so everyone could become aquainted with one another.



Lauren Wood



Alissa Lane

Staff members check out a print test from a high school yearbook. The plant in Jostens uses printers imported from Japan and buys their ink in large barrels to cut down on the amount of waste they generate.

The design staff poses in the Red Cedar Log office. Designers were busy all year working to make sure everything in the book came together cohesivley.

Design: The Red Cedar Log was produced completely on Macintosh computers for page layouts, photo editing and word processing. All computers were networked through a LaCie 19" Rack NAS Ethernet Disk. Software used included Adobe CS3 and Microsoft Office 2004. Additional work was completed on three MacBooks and one MacBook Pro. Other software included Spyder3Elite 3.0.1.

Type: All copy was within the Myriad Pro Light family and the AYT Bodoni family.

Photography: The photography in the Red Cedar Log, with the exception of Senior Portraits, is wholly the original work of the photographers that worked on this issue. No photographs were accepted from organizations or sports information. The cameras and flash units used were from the Canon product line, with a combination of Canon and Sigma lenses. Some photographers chose to use their personal, equivalent equipment.

Advertising: Educational Services, Inc. was the Red Cedar Log's advertising company. They provided the yearbook with 16 pages of black and white advertisements.

Finance and Operation: The Red Cedar Log is an entirely student-run publication, designed, produced and managed by students. Each semester, every student enrolled at MSU paid a $3.00 tax through ASMSU towards the publication of this yearbook. As students returned to school in August, the previous years' yearbook could be picked up at various local book stores and in on-campus building. For a small fee, alumni could have the book shipped to them. All expenditures were paid for with funds earned through partnerships the Red Cedar Log has with Herff Jones Studio and Educational Services, Inc. Places in the yearbook were determined by the Editor-in-Chief, the Content Managing Editor and the Photography Managing Editor, with a consideration of requests from student organizations to be featured in the publication free of charge. There were no funds received from the university. A total of 17,000 copies of the 400 page, full color yearbook printed from Jostens Inc., costing about $142,000.

Copyright: The Red Cedar Log is copyrighted by Matthew Mikus, Editor-in-Chief. No part of this book may be reproduced without prior consent.

Acknowledgements: Thank you for all your help. We couldn't have done this without you.

Mike Lafferty, Tim Ross, everyone from the Jostens plant, Joe Durinzie, everyone from Herff Jones' photography division, Debra Gleason, Brian Jeffries, Shannon Spainhower, Garrett Faulk, Michael Webber, Chris Schotten, Mike Gwozdek, Kyle Dysarz, Dave Gross, Macheal McAlpine, Kyle Hartwig and Jesse Spears.

Alicia Linn, Alexis Bunka and Lyn Vito enjoy a night out on the town in New York City. Several editors traveled to New York in March for the College Media Adviser's conference.





Matthew Mikus

Lisa Ermak, Matthew Mikus and Alissa Lane hold the weekly staff meeting. The Red Cedar Log staff gathered every Monday evening at the Student Services building to assign the week's events.



Ben jamin Lindstrom



Alexis Bunka

Lyn Vito, Alexis Bunka, Lisa Ermak and Alicia Linn pose at an East Lansing bar while celebrating Bunka's birthday. The editors found time outside of the office to have fun and bond with fellow staff members.

Editor-in-Chief Matthew Mikus tests out the life size piano at FAO Schwartz in New York City. FAO Schwartz was one of the stores Red Cedar Log editors visited while on their trip to the College Media Adviser's conference.



Alexis Bunka



Alexis Bunka

Copy Editor Alicia Linn looks over the Jacqueline Onassis Reservoir at the edge of Central Park in New York City. As a break from walking, the group stopped at this area to take in some site seeing.



Alissa Lane



Alexis Bunka



Alissa Lane

Content Managing Editor Lisa Ermak stands next to shelves of yearbooks in the library at the Jostens plant. The plant catalogues one yearbook from every school they publish.

Vicari Vollmar, Alicia Linn, Jessica Halfyard, Dustin McNees and Lisa Ermak watch the in-plant representative from Jostens as he shows them the process the book goes through to be printed. RCL was able to take two trips to the Jostens plant throughout the year.



Alexis Bunka

Business Manager Rio Lyn Vito poses with her Princess Monkey sleepmask and Mr. Bear, which the group found at Toys 'R' Us in Times Square.

Editor-in-Chief Matthew Mikus records a pigeon walking down the sidewalk as part of his documentary of the staff's trip.



Writer, Leslie Tilson waits for her food at the Red Cedar Log's end of the year party. Tilson was always willing to pick up an event at the last minute and take one for the team.

Designer, Vicari Vollmar goofs around in the library at the Jostens plant. The Red Cedar Log was treated to an abundance of green and white memorbilia on their trip to Clarksville, Tenn., which happened to take place during the men's basketball NCAA playoffs.

Matthew Mikus

Writers, Colby Berthume and Rachel Sylvester sit and wait for events to be assigned during a staff meeting. Writers were often given the opportunity to pick which events they wanted to cover for the week.



Benjamin Lindstrom



Alissa Lane



Matthew Mikus

The writing staff poses for a silly photo shoot, over-exaggerating what a typical day was like in the office. Despite what the photograph depicts, the writing staff was very busy balancing their work for the Red Cedar Log with other jobs, extra-curricular activities as well as classes.

2009 RCL Staff | **Editor-in-Chief:** Matthew Mikus | **Business Manager:** Lyn Vito | **Design Managing Editor:** Alexis Bunka | **Photography Managing Editor:** Alissa Lane | **Content Managing Editor:** Lisa Ermak | **Assistant Content Managing Editor:** Dustin McNees | **Copy Editors:** Alicia Linn, Catherine Kelly | **Journalists:** Marissa Cumbers, Leslie Tilson, Aaron Miller, Rachel Sylvester, Colby Berthume | **Photographers:** Ben Lindstrom, Megan Roney, Lauren Wood, Eric MacKinnon, Megan Peters, Allyssa Bostick| **Design Staff:** Vicari Vollmar, Jessica Halfyard, Hannah Emmert | **Distributors:** Ryan Sullivan, Alex Irrer, Mike Gruszynski | **Special Thanks To:** Brian Laskowski, Anthony Harvey, Josh Radtke, Jessica Dupnack, Ruben Zaimi, Megan Roney

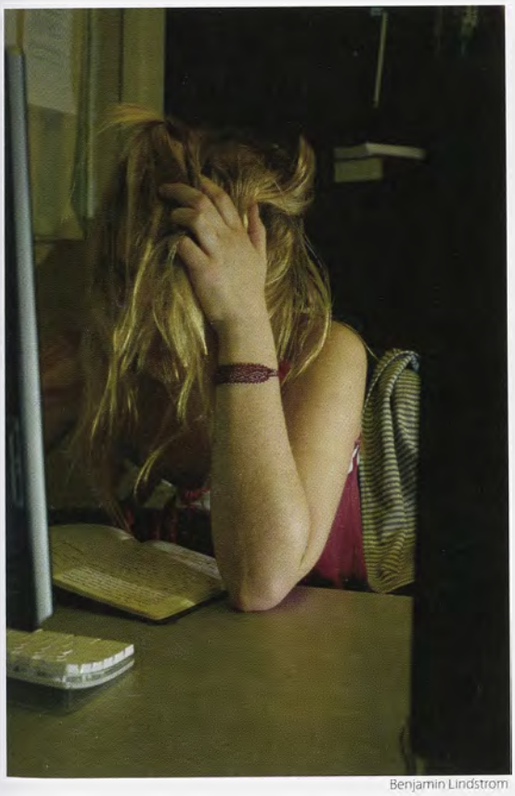


Benjamin Lindstrom

Photographer, Eric MacKinnon works on his computer during the last staff meeting of the year. Meetings took place every Monday night and usually lasted about an hour.



Alissa Lane



Benjamin Lindstrom



Matthew Mikus

The writing staff poses with Editor-in-Chief Matthew Mikus at the last meeting of the year. The writing staff worked along side the photography staff on strict deadlines and did an impeccable job covering hundreds of on- and off-campus events throughout the school year.

Eric MacKinnon, Colby Berthume and Aaron Miller gather while waiting for the burgers and hot dogs to finish grilling. Editor-in-Chief, Matthew Mikus manned the grill and made sure everyone was well fed.

Photographer Lauren Wood smiles while the rest of the Red Cedar Log staff enjoys cupcakes and cookies at the end of the year party. Everyone brought a dish to pass and enjoyed sharing stories about the year.

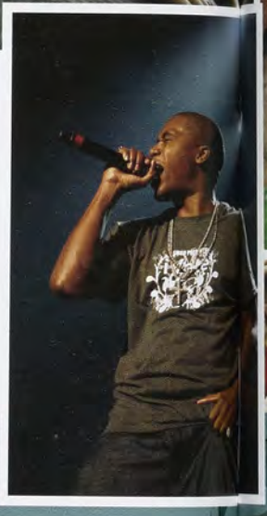


Matthew Mikus

Photographer Megan Peters sits at a computer in the Red Cedar Log office, frustrated. Staff members sometimes found themselves in the office fixing stories, writing captions or designining pages early into the morning hours.



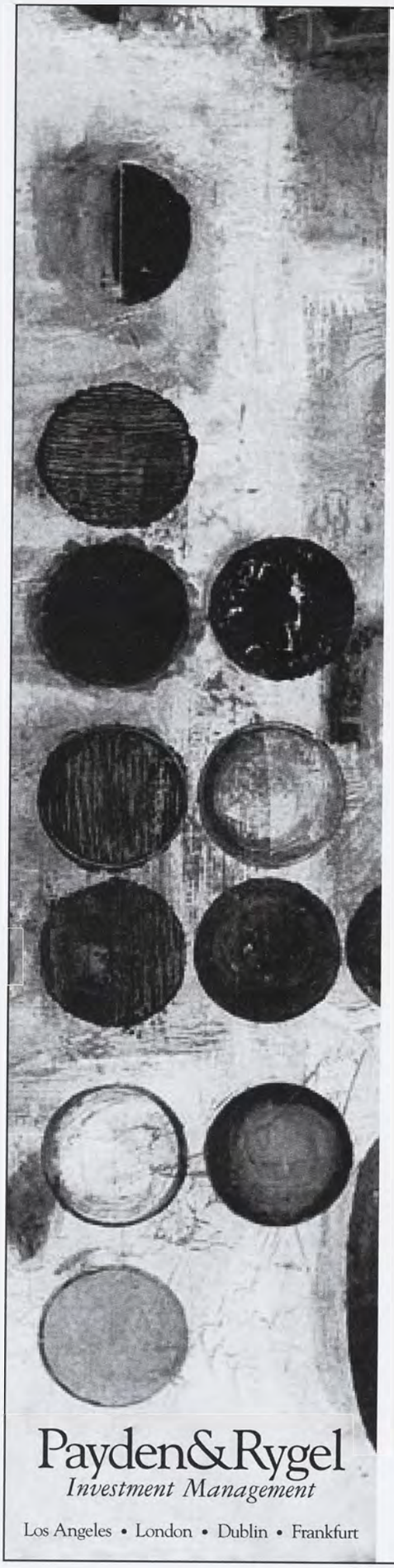




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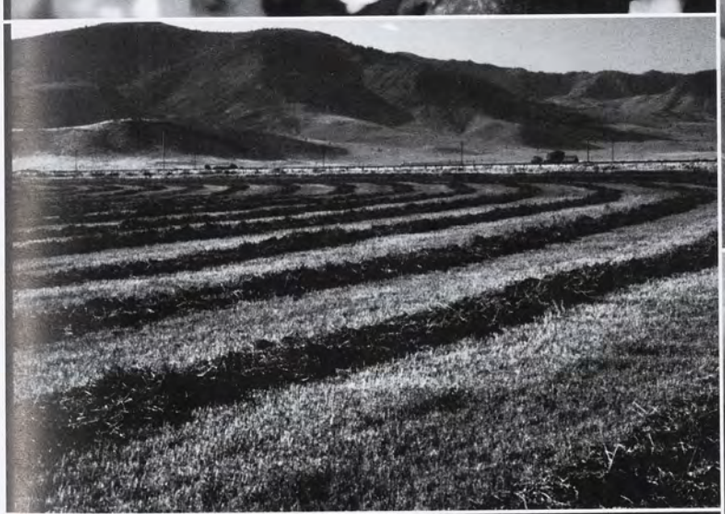
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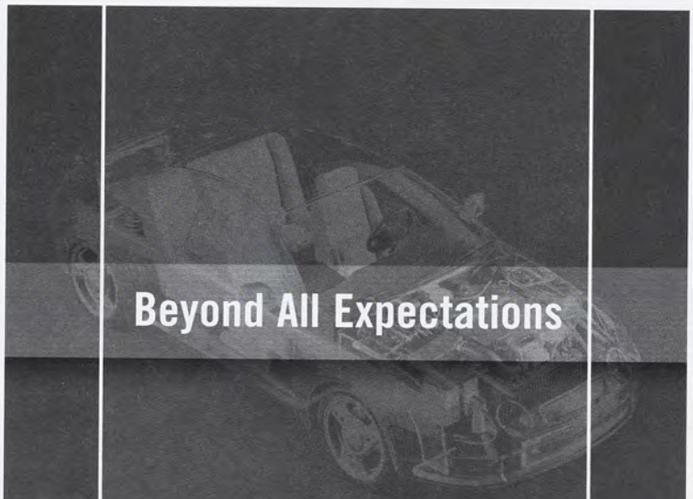





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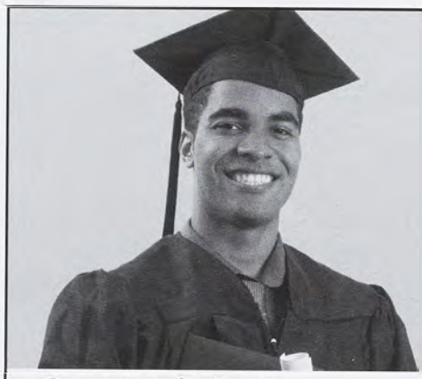
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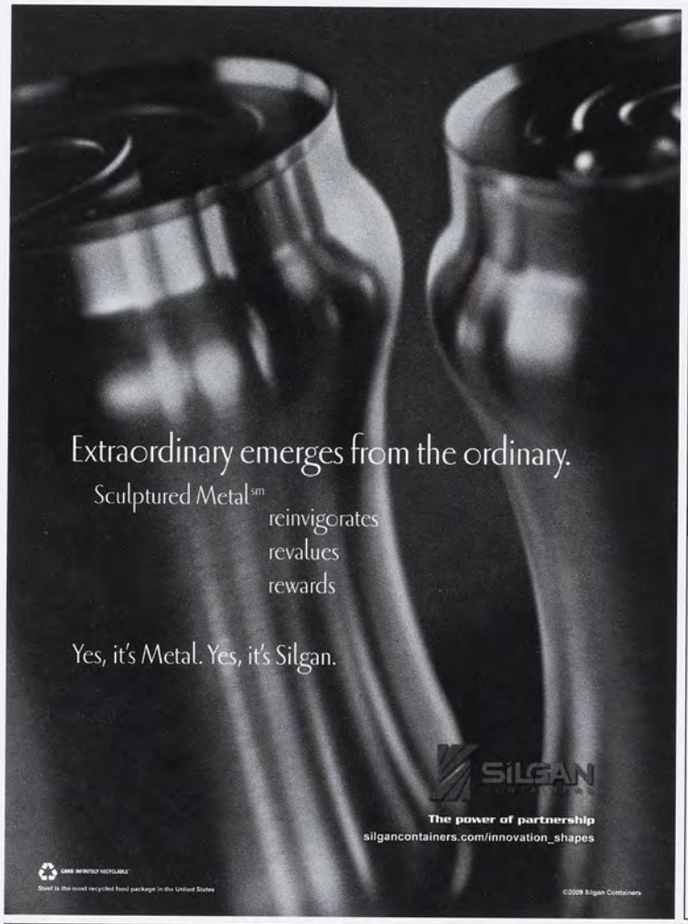
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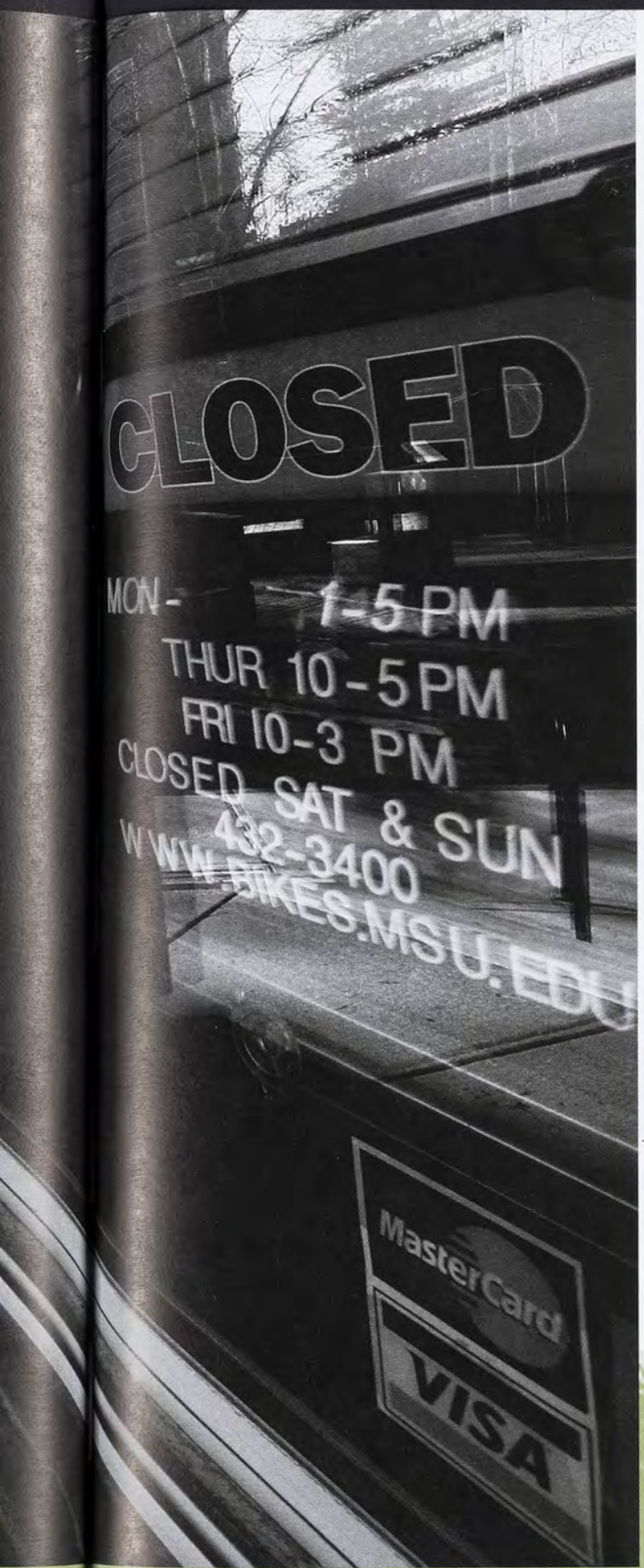
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3.30.09 | Michigan State University Bike Store | Photo by Lauren Wood



As the school year came to a close, a new chapter opened in the legacy of Michigan State University. Staying true to its green roots, our school has always strived to be environmentally responsible, and with the construction almost complete on a new recycling facility, we are ready to take this responsibility to a new level. On-campus recycling of white paper, mixed paper, newspaper, cardboard and plastic must double to make the facility self-supporting, and if anyone can go green it's Spartans.



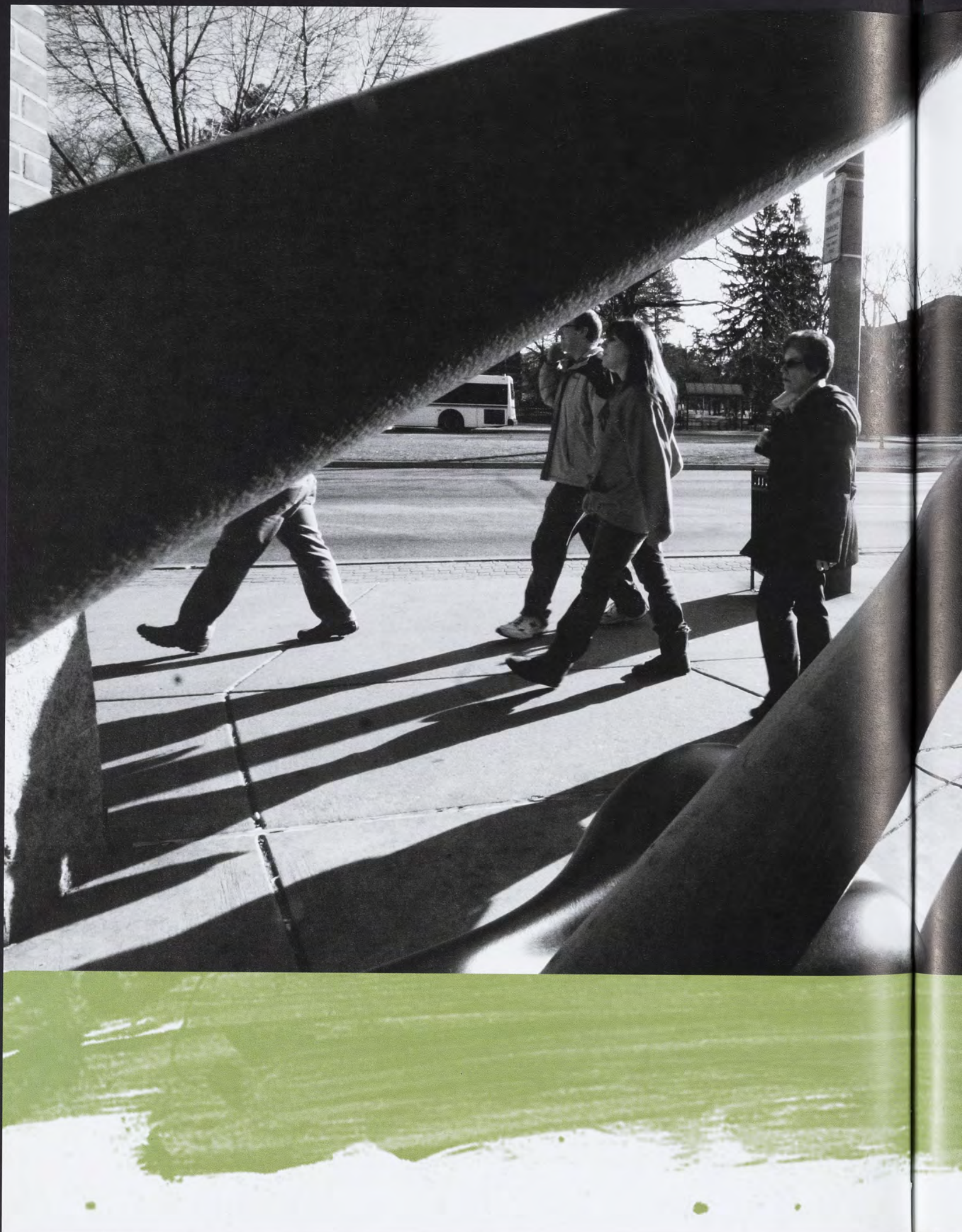


03.25.09 | Beal Botanical Garden | Photo by Eric MacKinnon





3.30.09 | Giltner Hall | Photo by Benjamin Lindstrom





3.30.09 | Splash of Color on Grand River Ave. | Photo by Megan Peters

"MSU has brought hope to Michigan and the world"



Josh Radtke

To the Class of 2009,

Congratulations on your graduation from Michigan State University! What a wonderful accomplishment. You successfully met the challenges of balancing classroom and extracurricular activities with career enhancing and research opportunities. You leave here having received a solid foundation that will allow you to use your education to serve the world.

Though you are leaving our campus in the midst of difficult economic times, we hope you can remember your last year here as an example of how MSU has brought hope to Michigan and the world and that you will strive to do the same. One example of this is MSU's sincere efforts into becoming environmentally friendly, or "Spartan Green;" even the pages of this yearbook are made of recycled paper. On a larger scale, winning the $550 million Facility for Rare Isotope Beams project from the U.S. Department of Energy brought the prospect of innovative research and new jobs to the campus of Michigan State University.

In the academic arena, four MSU students, one Truman Scholar and three Goldwater scholars, were nationally recognized and honored for their academic excellence this year. Across the ocean, MSU-Dubai engaged in its first full academic year, contributing to MSU's goal of advancing knowledge and transforming lives on a world scale.

Our athletic teams have also had a successful year. This December the Spartan Football team finished its winning season by participating in the Capitol One Bowl in Orlando, FL. During March Madness, both the Women's and Men's basketball teams made everyone at MSU proud to be a Spartan and proud of our home state, especially as the Men's team participated in the Final Four and National Championship games hosted by our very own city of Detroit.

These are just some of the events that have marked your time here at MSU and the pages of this Red Cedar Log contain even more examples of how you have shaped and have been shaped by the rich land-grant traditions of Michigan State.

As you go beyond these pages, I wish you well in every endeavor and certain success. Know that your graduation is another chapter in the rich land-grant history of MSU and a step forward in MSU's world-grant vision. I challenge you to be a great citizen leader and write the next chapters and verses that will impact the world.

Best Wishes,
Lou Anna K. Simon, Ph.D.
President

versity 