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Mason Robinson



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ere, people from around the world come together. We have different backgrounds, different experiences and different histories.

Together, we begin a new chapter, piecing together a new story derived from new ideas and new experiences. Each individual acts as their own unique piece to the puzzle that is our greater existence.

We are all Spartans, contributing to the legacy of our institution, Michigan State University. ■

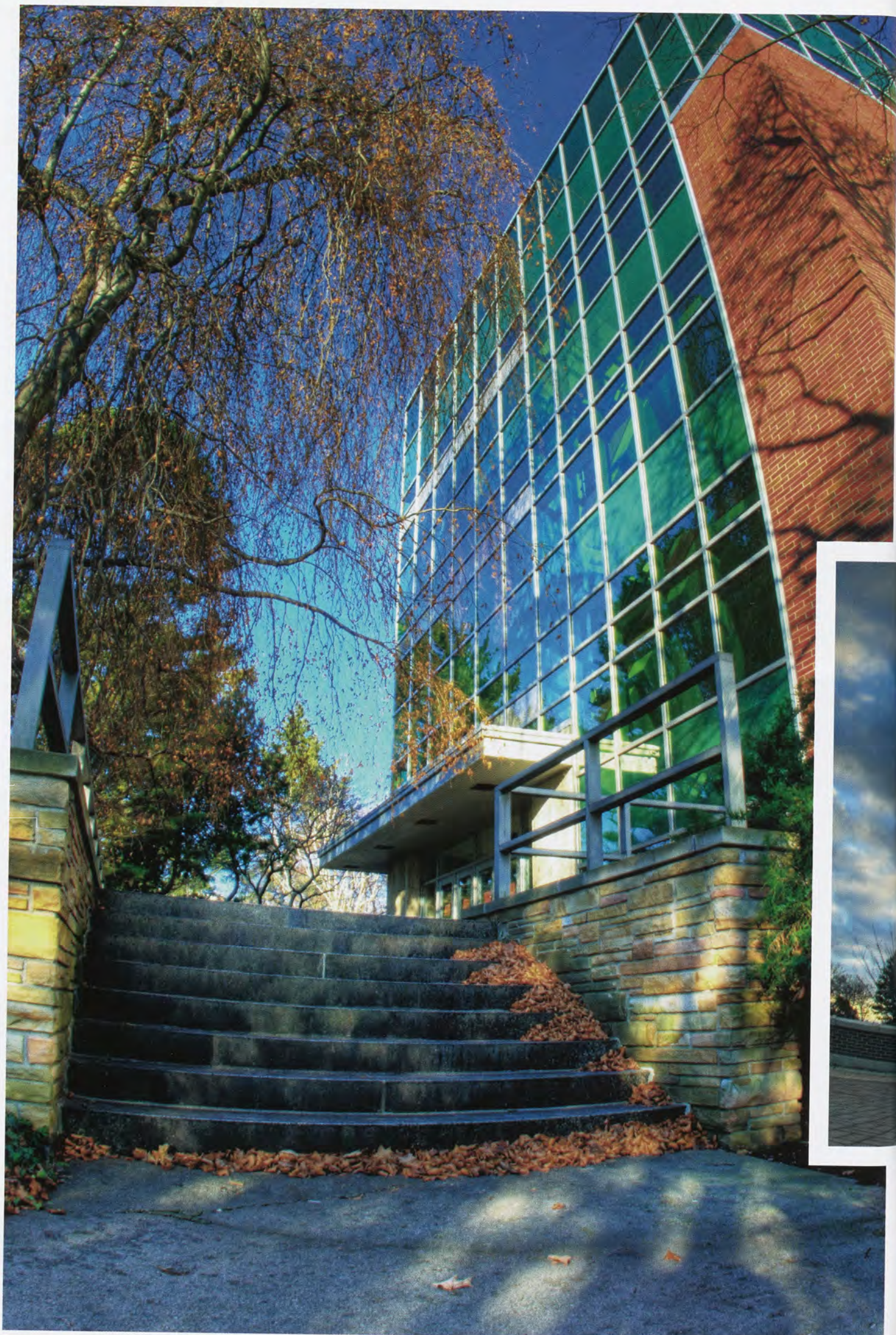




Alissa Lane



Lauren Wood





Mason Robinson





Mason Robinson





people

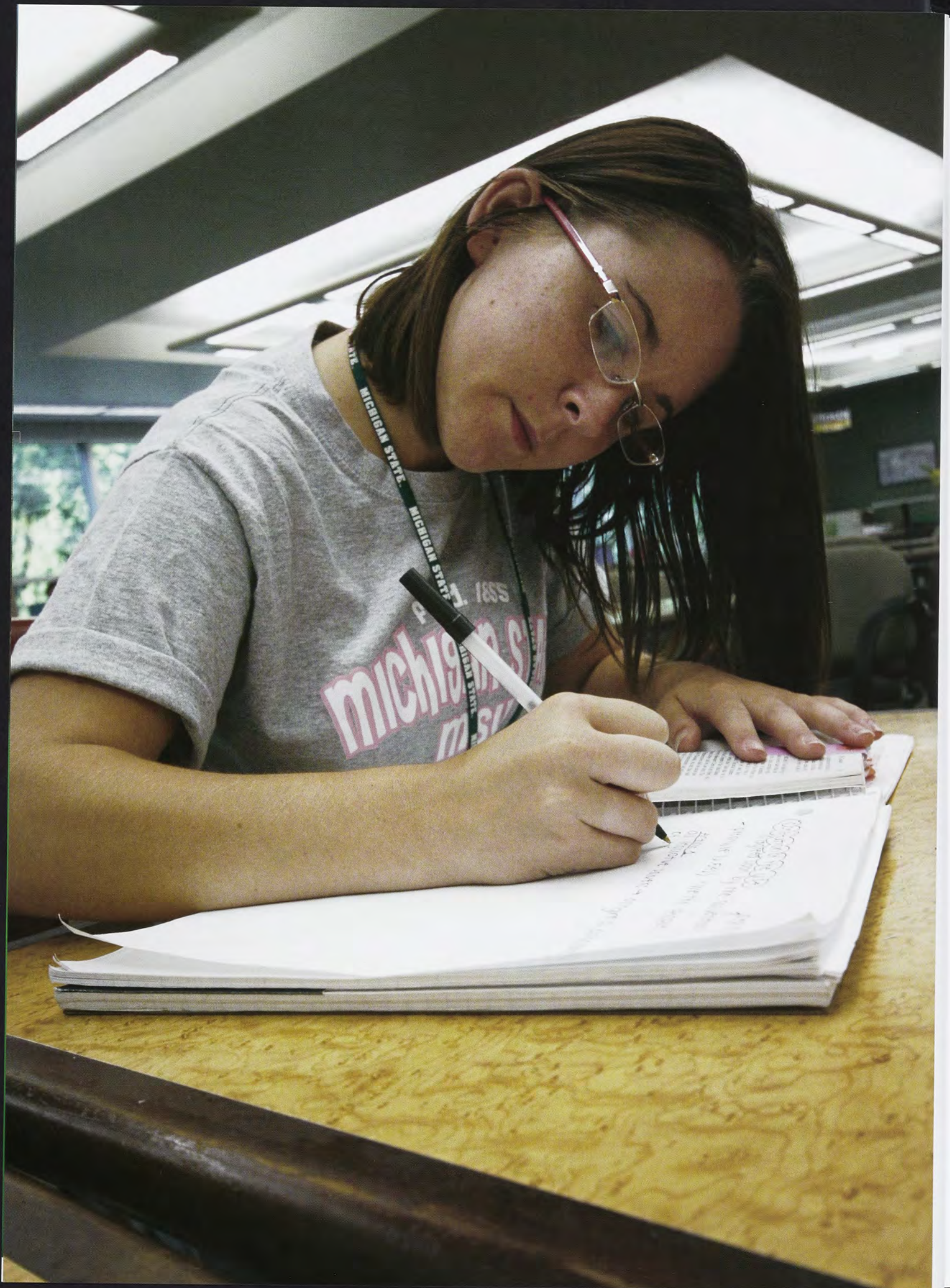
We find them in the classroom. We find them in their dorms and cafeterias. And we find them outside, exercising their bodies and minds. These are the individuals that make our university its own.

They are the friends we make through colleges, organizations, sports, residence halls and coincidence. They fill our classrooms with knowledge and curiosity. We celebrate and suffer with them.

We are the future athletes, musicians, artists, scientists, veterinarians, doctors, engineers, lawyers, and politicians that will change our world.

With over 33,000 students, we may not know all of our peers, but we are united through our experience as Spartans. ■

013



THE FRESHMAN PERSPECTIVE

Small town girl adjusts to life on campus

Adorned with overstuffed backpacks and t-shirts proclaiming their newfound Spartan pride, many eager first-years unpack their bags with good intentions. Despite their objectives, the arrival of over 7,000 freshmen this past August evoked an unusual reaction among upperclassmen, one primarily of frustration and annoyance. While these reactions are common, very few find it hard not to like 18-year-old Mara Willemin.

Armed with a contagious smile and infectious personality, Willemin is best described as anything but ordinary. Originally from Dewitt, a small town minutes outside of campus, Willemin vividly recalls her decision to become a Spartan, despite the close proximity to home. After applying to Central Michigan University and Grand Valley State, the avid C-SPAN viewer ultimately chose MSU for its prestigious James Madison program.

"I was intrigued by the political aspects of it," she said. "It helps that my sister is a sophomore here as well. It's good to see a familiar face."

Like most freshmen, Willemin spent the first several weeks at school in a confused state of transition. As late August arrived, move-in day came and went in what she referred to as a "chaotic blur." After spending eight hours unpacking two carloads of belongings, reality quickly settled in.

"I've been ready to move out for a while, but it finally hit me that I'm on my own," she said.

With a weeklong list of welcome activities catered towards freshmen, it was doubtful that Willemin would have any time to stress. Attending events such as Sparticulation and the Greek Welcome, she quickly became caught up in the numerous amount of activities on campus.

"I'm amazed at the number of involvement opportunities," she said. "If you have an interest in anything at all, there's probably a club for it."

Splitting her time between scheduled events and welcome week activities, it became evident that the once anxious freshman was gaining her foothold.

"It helps that my roommate and I have clicked so well," she said. "Expanding our social circle is much easier when we're working together."

As with most freshmen, the two were eager to fully embrace Welcome Week festivities by spending their nights migrating from different fraternity parties. It didn't take long for her to take notice of the obvious difference in social atmospheres compared to those back home.

"We'd be lucky if 15 people showed up at a party in high school," she laughed. "Here, you have difficulty moving with your hands pressed to your sides."

Another aspect of college life that grabbed her attention was the lack of transportation. Without a car and clueless as to how to work the CATA system, she was left to traverse campus on her own.

"I definitely wasn't anticipating the amount of walking," she complained while throwing her head back in disgust. "I feel as if my legs are going to fall off."

With the start of classes quickly approaching, there didn't appear to be a solution for Willemin's walking dilemma but to hope for the best.

"I rushed to get quickly from class to class on the first day," she said. "Although I underestimated the amount of time I needed, I eventually arrived on time."

Upon entering her first class of the semester - a public affairs course - she

Text: Rachel Sylvester
Photo: Elise Lefere, Lauren Wood
Design: Vicari Vollmar

P

“Success came naturally for me, but now you find yourself surrounded by others who find it comes naturally to them too - that’s why they’re sitting next to you.”

was floored by the sheer size of the lecture.

“I come from a high school where no class size exceeds 25 students,” she said. “The size of my entire graduating class in one lecture hall was almost overwhelming.”

Without much help from her map, Willemin found that the walk to her second scheduled class proved more difficult.

“I had to stop and ask for help on multiple occasions,” she said. “I was expecting to be ignored, so I was surprised at the willingness of others who wanted to help.”

While the magnitude of course work is intimidating to most freshmen, she appeared to fear something much greater than reading assignments.

“The Federalist Papers,” she said with a laugh.

All honors college humor aside, Mara expressed concern at her academic standing as a new student among thousands.

“I didn’t have to try very hard in high school, so I’m going to put in a lot of effort to maintain my grades,” she said. **“Success came naturally for me, but now you find yourself surrounded by others who find it comes naturally to them too - that’s why they’re sitting next to you.”**

As the first week of classes came to a close, Willemin and other students campus-wide shifted their focus from homework to the opening football game against Montana State. Case residents were in for a shock as enthusiastic tailgaters set up camp at the nearby tennis courts while the band offered a morning rendition of the fight song.

“As much as I’m about school spirit, I’m anything but peppy at six in the morning,” Willemin said.

After a prolonged wait in line, she and six others acquired their colored wristbands and found themselves situated conveniently behind the end zone. Impressed by the complexity of the game - as well as the vulgarity of the cheers - her first college football experience was nothing short of enjoyable.

“I’m not really into sports, but it’s cool that everyone is part of that huge fan community,” she said. “Green and White, you’re all the same.”

In order to avoid the post-game chaos, the group left during the 3rd quarter with Mara saying, “I can’t wait to go back.”

Once back in her dorm, the prospect of a night out loomed before her. After contemplating the idea, the studious freshman chose to stay in due to her demanding workload.

“I wanted to spend the initial weekend getting ahead of assignments,” she said with a sigh. “But I’d rather spend two hours studying compared to spending those same hours trekking around campus in heels.”

With freshman year before her and Welcome Week coming to a gradual close, she became suddenly aware of the difficulties of adjusting to life on campus. Although no tears were shed upon her arrival to school, the reality of goodbyes hit suddenly while video messaging with a close friend back home.

“My best friend is at the University of Michigan and to see her on the screen allowed me to realize I’m no longer right down the street,” she said.

Having left behind more than just family and friends, she found especially difficult the task of saying goodbye to her high school boyfriend.

“It seems too ridiculous that he’s only 15 minutes away, yet my time is limited, so it’s hard to remain on the same page.”

With time devoted to academics, dance classes and study groups, the initial three weeks rapidly passed Willemin by. Aside from homework, she found herself focusing less on classes and more on her newfound sense of self.

“The most important thing for me is to become more independent,” she said. “Sometimes I’m tired and unmotivated, but I’m starting to get into the swing of things.”

Sluggishness aside, Willemin must also face the task of living on her own. With no one to put dinner on the table or do the laundry, she discovers the biggest lesson of all.

“I realize now you’re responsible for yourself,” she said. “No one’s holding your hand anymore.”



Lauren Wood



Elise Lefere

Mara Willemin eats lunch with new friends in the Case cafeteria. She said she enjoys time spent within South Complex.

Mara Willemin stretches before her weekly dance class. The freshman was interested in MSU's dance programs.

Senior Jameika Keller-Washington studies with her husband Senior Darryl Woods. Keller-Washington and Woods met freshman year in chemistry class.



“When you find someone who’s in line with what you want and who highlights your goals, it makes it easier to get married.”



Jameika Keller-Washington and Darryl Woods show off their wedding rings. The MSU seniors married two years ago.

Jameika Keller-Washington and Darryl Woods make food and put dishes away in their kitchen. The couple has been together for three years.

YOUNG LOVE

MSU couple ties the knot after meeting freshman year in chemistry class

He picks her up from her job at American Eagle Outfitters, it's late but he wants to go to dinner. He takes her to P.F. Changs, even though the restaurant has already closed. He has a plan. The couple walks in, to have a romantic dinner in a restaurant all to themselves. He is dressed up and she is wondering what is going on. They eat dinner, then comes dessert. On her plate is a ring, he gets down on one knee. She says yes.

This is the story of Jameika and Darryl Woods, two Michigan State seniors who found love freshman year of their college careers.

"We met in chemistry class and we both lived in Brody," Jameika explained. "We met through a friend, and we became chemistry homework buddies. We started talking that spring."

Although the couple found each other early in their college, they never expected to meet "the one" upon arriving at MSU.

"I came with a high school sweetheart," Darryl said. "It didn't work out. I got to college and met her. I didn't expect it when I first came."

Even at the beginning of their relationship, they didn't know they had just met their soul mate.

"We're total opposites, but opposites attract," Jameika said. "My weaknesses are his strengths and vice versa. When I might second judge things, he's that reassurance that says 'no you should do it this way.' Your husband is your mirror, you see things you don't wanna see, but it improves you."

Even though Jameika and Darryl say they are opposites, they do agree that they build each other up to be the best they can be.

"We were together for around two years. That time we were growing up and maturing together," Darryl said. "When you find someone who's in line with what you want and who highlights your goals it makes it easier to get married. I got to know her in a deep, intimate way. I based my decision [to marry her] off what I thought the future could be, and God too."

Even though marriage is a huge responsibility the couple feels that it has only enhanced their relationship and their lives.

"I was going to school and working before," Jameika said. "Now I'm going to school, working and taking care of a husband. It's not that it got harder, it's just more to balance. There is a lot more to look forward to, my life has more direction. Marriage takes work, it's not as easy as it sounds. I think people forget that, but it gives you the best return."

A year and a half into their marriage and three years into their relationship, Jameika and Darryl only hope to have their relationship continue to prosper.

"I just want to be happy and always growing, not average," Darryl said. "Working together to get better and growing together and making an impact on the world together. We have goals to be entrepreneurs together. And having kids, starting a heritage together. I couldn't picture being with anybody else."

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Elise Lefere
Design: Betsy Eber



Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Elise Lefere
Design: Jessica Halfyard

FRAT BOY: REDEFINED

Sigma Nu sophomore defines himself as an atypical "frat guy"

"But I'm not all about that popping your collar and spiking my hair stuff."

Sophomore Wade Johnston stands among his Sigma Nu brothers and rushes. While Johnston likes to be a part of his fraternity, he sometimes has to step off to the side for time alone.

Walking down Grand River, Wade Johnston feels as if there are eyes penetrating him. Not as if they are bad eyes, considering there are 52 Greek chapters on campus; just eyes. Eyes that look at him and stereotypically say, "Look at that frat guy."

Not to stereotype, but if you were to ask someone the three phrases that pop into their head when asked to describe a frat guy, whether in praise or criticism, the three things would likely be "gelled hair," "popped collar," and "cocky."

Fortunately for Johnston, he feels like he avoids the stereotype by being a different type of person.

"You don't have to fit the stereotypical profile of a frat guy to be a part of the modern day fraternity activities," he said.

Johnston walks around most of the time displaying the letters of Sigma Nu on his chest, a fraternity he says he proudly represents.

"Not throwing judgment on any other fraternities, but I feel that Sigma Nu is one of the best at having a nice mixture of guys," he said. "But that's not to say that we don't have our fair share of frat guys. But, they aren't so in-your-face as some."

But what about that other elephant in the room that typically goes along with being in a fraternity? The ugly act of binge drinking that most campus officials want to avoid but is heavily associated with fraternities.

"That, I have to say, is something I have had my fair share with," Johnston said. "You can avoid some stereotypes, but sometimes when you are around a frat environment, it

happens. I'm not proud of it, but it happens sometimes."

Johnston has had many nights out on the town but he still strives to be a normal guy, not a cookie-cut frat guy.

He is in his second year at State, and is trying to earn a degree in accounting. Most days he spends some time at the library.

While he likes to look good in his clothes, he avoids looking like he is trying to dress as the most outlandish frat guy on campus.

"If you were to see Wade on a normal day, or even at the frat, you wouldn't even know that he was in a fraternity," said friend and fellow fraternity member sophomore Rob Acho.

Johnston accredits that to what he believes being in a fraternity is all about.

"I like to go out and look nice. I wear polos," he said. **"But I'm not all about that popping your collar and spiking my hair stuff. I can enjoy myself without all of that."**

So yeah, Wade Johnston does enjoy walking down Grand River with his letters displayed across his chest. He will let those judging eyes penetrate him anytime and let those strangers who know nothing about him come to the conclusion that he is just another frat guy, because he knows that, along with many other members of the Greek community, he is nothing like the stereotype says they should be.

"Almost everybody who is a part of a fraternity doesn't fit the stereotype," Johnston said. "They just aren't as noticeable, so they go unnoticed."

Sounds pretty modest for a "typical" frat guy.





021

Wade Johnston stands apart from his fraternity brothers in front of the Sigma Nu house before rush. He credits his unique style for helping him shed the stigma of a typical "frat" guy.



Alissa Lane

Senior Nada Zohdy stands in front of the mural in her co-op, holding a sign that stands for cooperative living. The mural was painted by a previous resident of the co-op, adding to what Nada calls the "museum-like character of the house."

Nada Zohdy makes herself an omelette before class. They have both personal and community food at their co-op.

"It was kinda a hippie house. The co-op housing at MSU started in the 1930s and then started booming after World War II."



Alissa Lane

ARTIFACTS IN LIFE

New Community Co-Op holds strong to its past

Around every corner there is a new treasure: from road signs and bike parts, to old dishes and a piano, to a Xerox machine and a hand-painted mural on the wall. No one knows where it all came from, or if it even works, but everyone refuses to throw it away. Walking through New Community, the co-op on the corner of Division and Ann streets, is like walking through a museum. For senior Nada Zohdy, this museum is her home.

New Community was started in 1969 by a group of students who thought the other co-ops of the time were not counter-culture enough.

"It was kinda a hippie house," she said. "New Community is the original name my house got in 1969. The co-op housing at MSU started in the 1930s and then started booming after World War II."

Nada learned about co-op living from her sister, who also lived in a co-op while she attended Michigan State.

"My sister had a really phenomenal experience, so living in a co-op has been in the back of my mind for a while and now that I am a senior, I wanted to take advantage of co-op [living]," Nada said. "I think the perks of a co-op is the most basic thing about it: the house is democratically owned, so instead of having a landlord, we all own a part of the house so we vote to make decisions."

For Zohdy, not having to deal with a landlord was a huge selling point for the co-op. Because there is no landlord, the rent is relatively cheap because no one is making a profit off of renting the house. Last year, she lived in Chandler Crossings, but this year, she decided it was too far off campus

for the amount of money she was paying for it.

"Because I share a room, I pay \$315 a month, which for my location is awesome," Zohdy said. "Last year, I paid \$500 a month and it was so far off campus. So I have almost cut my rent in half, plus I love my living situation so much more."

"The other thing I like about the house, besides its location, is that the house has really good character," she said. "I was in a very typical off-campus student apartment last year. It was really nice and spacious and everything, but I felt like I had to do a lot to it to give it character."

There are roughly 250 students living in co-ops in East Lansing, and according to Zohdy, most are "people who are really socially conscience and environmentally conscience."

According to Zohdy, co-op living is entirely based on a sense of community, in that everyone must chip in and do their part in order to make the household run efficiently. Each person has a specific job that they must do each week in order to keep up on the housework, which helps keep everyone on the same page.

"We are becoming closer friends," Zohdy said. "Not knowing each other was a little bit awkward in the beginning, but I am definitely creating stronger relationships with people in the house. There was a small part of me that was apprehensive about it, but this year for the majority of us it was our first year living in a co-op so we could all relate to being in an unfamiliar situation. I am really happy with the way things have been working out."

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: John Gelardi, Alissa Lane
Design: Brendan Prost



Each member of the co-op gets a designated spot on the pantry shelf and a shelf in the fridge to store the food items that are not provided by the house. The house buys basic groceries such as butter, eggs and milk that the members of the co-op share.

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DOUBLE BOND

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Brendan Prost

Freshman twins mirror looks, likes and life

Everyone has a best friend, but not everyone has one who can finish your sentences, whom you have known for 18 years and who happens to look exactly like you. Sophomores Joe and Steve Broderick, best friends and twin brothers, spent 18 years of their lives under the same roof and have both become kinesiology majors here at State.

"I decided to go to State first," Joe said. "We applied to all the same colleges, but if he had gone somewhere else, it wasn't a big deal."

"Eighteen years is long enough to live with someone. We are not roommates," Steve finished for Joe. "A lot of people suggested that we live our own lives and not go to the same school."

When the brothers applied to MSU, they listed Lyman Briggs as their majors, but then changed to psychology, then James Madison and finally settled as kinesiology majors.

"I made the exact same moves," Steve said, "but Joe did them first. I was born first, though."

As freshmen, Joe lived in Case Hall and Steve lived in Snyder-Phillips Hall. The brothers decided not to be roommates because they wanted to start their own lives.

"It was a good 25-minute walk," Joe said. "All our family was like, 'Don't you wanna be closer?'"

"It was a good buffer zone though," Steve added. "It is way too easy to get on someone's nerves when you know them that well."

Although the brothers said they are not attached at the hip, their lives will always overlap due to their like-major. Joe and Steve ended up in the same physics class freshman year and liked it. After that, they intentionally took another class together.

"We're taking all the same classes, so our schedules overlap," Steve said. "In middle school and elementary school, they would split us on purpose so the teachers were not hassled with it, but once we got to high school, they couldn't really do anything about splitting us up all the time."

Joe and Steve discovered that there are some benefits to taking classes with their twin, such as having a study partner.

"We have the same study habits, I'm pretty sure," Joe said. "Makes the class easier to study for. Sometimes we'll buy one book and share to save us money."

Even though Joe and Steve are identical twins, their close friends are able to tell them apart. However, when they first meet people, there is a bit of confusion.

"We're so used to it, it's not a big deal when people confuse us," Steve said. "When we are

apart, people have a harder time telling us apart."

When people confuse the twins, sometimes they like to joke around and respond to each other's names to confuse their friends even more, but they have only actually traded places once in their life.

"Last year, we were eating in Steve's dorm and one of our friends' friends told him that she thought the twin in the green shirt was cute. It was me," Joe said. "So after we left, we traded shirts and Steve went to talk to her and she had no idea that it was a different person. Our friend told her later and she was so embarrassed."

Steve added that although people always tell them they should switch places more often, they never do. Even though they are incredibly similar, they do have some distinguishing personality traits, and of course, there is no fooling their mother about who is who.

"Our mom and dad kept our hospital bracelets on us for three months to tell us apart," Joe said. "They never tried to push on us that we had to be exactly the same, though."

When the boys were younger, their parents had a color system for their outfits to tell them apart.

"Sometimes, our parents mess it up if they are looking at the back of our heads," Steve said. "But that's the only time."

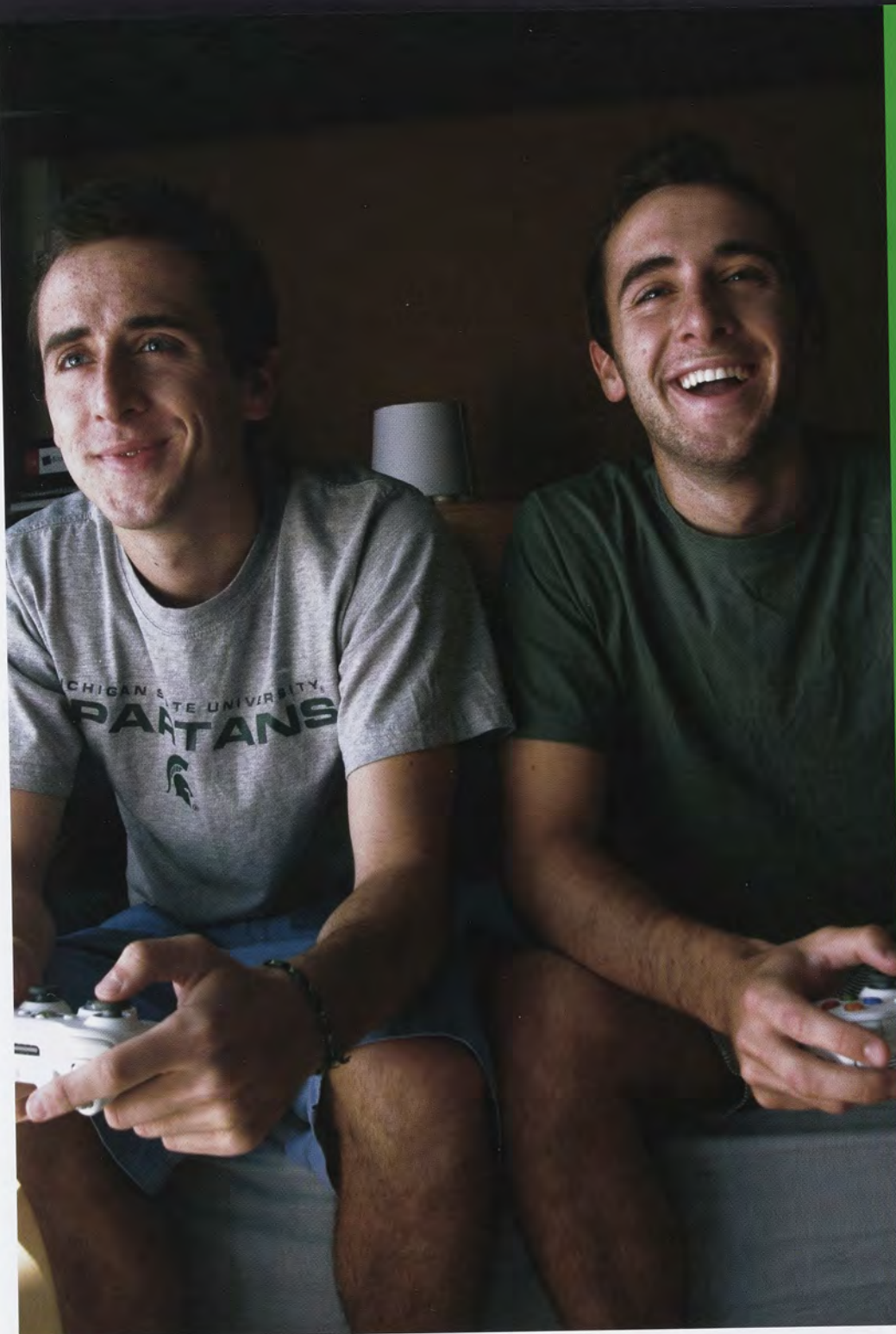
Steve and Joe said they grew up using words such as "we," "us," and "ours" more than other people, which brought them closer together. Sometimes, it seems as though they have some sort of telepathic communication.

"It's like we have ESP," Steve said.

"But it's not like we have a secret language," Joe added. "At the football game against Central, we were sitting in different rows and different sections, and our friend was watching the game in his room. He told us after that we were both texting him the exact same thing, asking the same questions and giving the same responses. He thought we were playing a joke on him, but we didn't talk the entire game."

Thus far in their college careers, the brothers have not lived together, but they are considering getting a house together. Even though they have no idea where their careers will take them after college, they say they won't make decisions based on each other. At the same time, they are certain that they will remain as close as ever.

"People always ask us what it's like to be a twin," Steve said, "but we don't know what it's like not to be a twin. It would probably be a lot different. I wouldn't like it if I didn't have a twin."



“People always ask us what it’s like to be a twin, but we don’t know what it’s like not to be a twin.”

Sophomores Joe and Steve Broderick battle each other in X-Box 360. Although the brothers said they rarely fight, they enjoy playing against each other in video games.



Joe and Steve reminisce over an old Halloween photo. The boys were crayons, but they don’t remember who was what color.



Elizabeth Toy transitioned from being homeschooled to MSU with over 44,000 students. Toy found her place at MSU in the music department and performing in operas.



When Toy was homeschooled, she circled her curriculum around history and music. At MSU, she continues both with her music performance major.

Toy is very involved with the musical department at MSU. She starred as Juliet in the Romeo and Juliet Opera during spring semester.



Text: Jacob Kancierz
Photo: Ellina Stein
Design: Vicari Vollmar

HEAD START AT HOME

Student attributes home schooling to her good habits at MSU

Back in high school, classmates usually held the same general stereotypes regarding home-schoolers. Some figured they slept in everyday and probably were awkward socially. With these principles in mind, how could someone who learned at home since third grade survive at a public university of more than 44,000 students?

Actually, according to senior Elizabeth Toy, the home schooler in question, it wasn't really that much of a hassle at all.

"It wasn't that difficult to adapt to university life," Toy said. "I don't feel like the transition that I went through from being home-schooled to being at a university was that much different than people that go from a public high school to a university."

There goes that myth. But what about all that relaxation time home-schoolers had while other students slaved away for 7 hours? That's not entirely true either.

Because Toy kept track of her own grades and didn't cheat herself, she developed a sense of discipline early on. So instead of slacking off outside of a school environment, Toy thinks she got a head start on the big factor that can make a college career: self-reliance.

"One of the things I think people struggle with when they come to school is that they don't have someone telling them how to manage their time," Toy said. "Being home-schooled really helped me to know this is what I want to do, this is what I need to do, I can fit in both and be balanced and be happy."

Toy pointed out several advantages to learning at home. For her own case, it was easier to plan the courses with her mom-turned-teacher to center around her interests in history and music. It also allowed for more practice time for her musical aspirations, an important factor considering Toy is working towards becoming a professional opera singer.

In addition to essentially learning what she wanted to learn at home, Toy was aided by outside resources provided to home-schoolers to round out her education for college. A group called Team Works in

the local area (Toy grew up on the west side of Lansing) offered classes for home-schoolers where she was able to take computer classes and a course about how to keep proper grades in order to produce a proper transcript. Another group, called the Home School Music Association, allowed Toy to get involved with the choir and orchestra aspects.

Many of these programs are a result of the growing trend of more kids being home-schooled in the past ten years, a result of the flexibility it provides along with allowing kids to excel in the areas that they choose, according to Toy.

All of these extra-curricular activities helped Toy avoid the apparent social disaster that is missing out on making friends in the public school setting.

"A lot of people have a lot of misconceived ideas that home-schoolers are socially awkward because they didn't grow up going to school with other people," Toy said. "But if you know how to take advantage of the resources that are available to home-schoolers, that's really not the case."

Still, as a result of her learning at home, Toy became more attached to her family, and that bond is hard to break.

"I don't think friends can ever really come close to family," Toy said. She did note that amongst her many acquaintances, she does have one good close friend, and that's what suits Toy the best.

So where has all that home schooling led Toy? Well, she's getting closer to her dream of singing opera professionally. She's due to graduate in May, and at the time of the interview, was accepted to three of four graduate schools for vocal performance that she auditioned at.

Toy obviously enjoyed many benefits that helped her later on in college and are still helping her towards her career today, as a result of working hard and learning self-reliance early. However, Toy did say she that if she needed a day off every once and awhile, it would be granted. But she always made up for it in the summer.

"A lot of people have a lot of misconceived ideas that home-schoolers are socially awkward because they didn't grow up going to school with other people."

Green blood runs deep in junior's family

GENERATION FIVE

As Spartans, we say that we bleed Green. It is a strong bond between us that runs through the veins of current students and alumni alike. It is a sense of pride that extends beyond the athletic fields and even the campus. It is a pride that is passed down from parents to children to grandchildren. But for junior Elaine Bristol, saying her family bleeds Green is an understatement.

Elaine is a fifth-generation Spartan.

All of Bristol's family is part of the agricultural field; they all have a strong appreciation for the environment as each generation was raised by parents in some sort of agricultural field.

"A lot of Michigan State pride comes from my family," Bristol said. "We bleed green. We used to come to a lot of games, and I always felt a connection to the ivy on the buildings and the rolling lawns. It just felt like home, just because everything we are about is green."

Bristol's great-great-grandfather attended the university when it was known as Michigan Agricultural College. Her great-grandfather attended the university when it was known as Michigan State College. Elaine's grandmother and grandfather graduated from Michigan State College with degrees in Home Economics and Horticulture Shortcourse, respectively. Her father graduated from Michigan State University in 1981 with a degree in Livestock Production.

"I think a lot of it was to learn as much as he could by coming to school," Elaine said, "but also to learn from other students about what they did at their farms and incorporate it at his own farm."

Although the current-day Bristols' lives are busier than their great-grandpa's, they still enjoy making time to come back and visit. This is especially because of the family's strong connection with MSU's resident agricultural fraternity.

"My family is pretty involved in Alpha Gamma Rho," she said. "My great-grandfather was the 17th member of Alpha Gamma Rho, and there were 15 founding fathers. I don't know the exact number of Bristols that have attended, but in addition to my grandparents and parents, I know my dad's brother had five boys who

all came here, and my sister graduated from MSU in December."

To this day, Elaine's parents enjoy coming back to support their alma mater for the Homecoming game, and although their Spartan pride runs deep, they never pressured her to attend State.

"Both my parents inspired me to study what I wanted to study at any school that had the best program and could set me up with the right connections," Elaine said. "I think MSU pretty much does that across the board by having opportunities to meet faculty and join clubs."

She wanted a degree in something related to agriculture because it's her passion.

"Agriculture right now is at a critical point. Less than two percent of the population [are] farmers," Elaine said. "Being involved with 4-H and FFA (Future Farmers of America) really inspired me to be in Agriculture Communication because less and less of the population is in agriculture."

Although she paved the way for her career in agriculture through her experiences growing up on a sheep farm and her involvement in 4-H and FFA, Bristol has no idea where she will end up working.

"That's the thing about agriculture; I don't know where I'll end up," Elaine said. "Of course, I would love to live in Michigan and be close to MSU, but MSU sets you up for anywhere, and it would be nice to experience a different climate. But either way, it will be fun to be able to come back for Homecomings."

No matter where Elaine ends up, there is no denying her love and pride for campus. Even though her Spartan family didn't push her to attend State, she knows that it is the right place for her, and of course her parents and grandparents are proud.

"I think my grandparents on my dad's side are really proud of the MSU heritage," Bristol said. "When my sister graduated last December, I sat by my grandma and she turned to me and said, 'You know, this is our first granddaughter to graduate from MSU.' I think they were really excited for her."

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Text: Leslie Tilson

Photo: Alissa Lane

Design: Jessica Halfyard, Vicari Vollmar

Junior Elaine Bristol has a long family history in the agriculture program at Michigan State. Her family has been attending since the 1890s.





Junior Kate
Mortenson
practices for the
halftime show.
She says that
practice allows
for her to be
perfect.

MARCHING BOND

Spartan Marching Band member adds to the spirit of Spartan pride

Sitting at a table on the first floor of The Union, Kate Mortenson's black shirt with yellow collars on the sleeves showed no sign of green. As a matter of fact, nothing about her showed Green... on the outside. But as soon as the junior opened her mouth and started talking about being a member of the Spartan March Band, she began to bleed nothing but.

"I think we are closer to the football team than most people," Kate said with a smile. "We are there until the end for every game. We make a lot of sacrifices to a dignified Spartan, and everything the team feels, we also feel it."

Kate grew up in Brighton, where she played tenor saxophone for her high school marching band. She used to come to Adams Field to watch the Spartan Marching Band on game days and felt that being a band member was always in her future.

"My dad was in the Spartan Marching Band, and my whole family always hung out on Adams Field before games," said Kate. "I just knew that I wanted to end up playing for the band at Michigan State."

But when Kate decided that she actually was going to come to the University, it wasn't a forgone conclusion that she would be in the band. Every marching band hopeful must audition in the summer.

"I had to come to the school and play a

solo in front of the band director," Kate said. "And after I was accepted, I had to meet with my section leader and I was given a huge packet detailing stuff I had to do to prepare. It was just really crazy."

Along with having to play an instrument well, Kate said that to be a part of the band, she also has to be able to manage her time well. Monday through Friday, the band rehearses from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., and every Monday the band held practices from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Each Saturday, the team has to wake up about six hours before the game starts to prepare.

"A lot of my family and friends think I'm crazy for doing all of this just for one credit," Kate said. "But it's about more than just a credit; it's about being a part of such a huge family. I have over 300 people in the band that I share a bond with and I call 'family.'"

And then Kate got a serious look in her eyes. She wanted to make sure that she got across what it truly means to be a part of the Spartan Marching Band.

"I will never forget my freshman year when we beat Penn State to go to a bowl game. All the seniors were crying and I didn't really understand it, but now I do," Kate stated proudly. "While some fans think they bleed Green, I can say that I, along with all the other members of the band, truly do bleed Green."

"But it's about more than just a credit; it's about being a part of such a huge family."



Members of the tenor saxophone section perform during halftime. Mortenson feels that her section is one big family.

A CHANGE OF HEART

Ex-Wolverine embraces new role as a Spartan

Brittany Griffin's earliest recollection as a Spartan began decades before her acceptance into State. As a child, both Griffin and her sisters accompanied their parents to football games, tailgating in front of the Old Horticulture building.

Fast forward 15 years, and the once dedicated Spartan faced a dilemma. The conclusion of senior year brought about the choice between two rival Big Ten universities: one that boasted of top national rankings and the other offering a more desirable college atmosphere. Having once lived in East Lansing, Griffin moved to Ann Arbor in hopes of a change of scenery.

"I was too familiar with State, and felt Michigan would be something new," she said. "Since UofM is more competitive, I thought it would be more challenging. I've learned that's not true - I'm going to dispel any rumors of that now."

Upon arrival in Ann Arbor, Griffin encountered difficulties commonly associated with freshman year. The first of these obstacles involved her roommate, whom she met online through a Facebook group.

"Her profile wasn't an accurate representation of who she really was," she said. "She was obsessed with the prestige of a Michigan degree and miserable with the distance from her boyfriend."

Choosing to look past her living situation, Griffin made futile attempts to find her footing at Michigan. Despite making several new friends, she still sought a feeling of acceptance.

"I knew from day one that it wasn't for me," she said. "It wasn't where I belonged."

Three days into the semester, it was clear that her freshman year was off to a rocky start. After spending her week in lectures, Griffin began a routine of splitting time between campuses. It was only after spending a Welcome Week in East Lansing when she returned home, aware of a need for change.

"I went back to Ann Arbor and admitted to myself that I didn't want to stay there," she said. "I didn't see myself staying for four years, let alone one."

With the decision made, the effort of telling friends and family remained. Not surprised with the support provided by her parents, Griffin's

choice to "go green" was met with opposition by classmates.

"The common reaction was disgust," she said. "That attitude is exactly why I chose to leave in the first place."

Confident with her decision to transfer, Griffin made her move between semesters. Moving in the dead of winter made adjustment difficult and she complained of the amount of walking, as most people do.

"State definitely has much more of a campus feel compared to Michigan," she said. "Michigan's campus is integrated more within the city of Ann Arbor, so you interact with more residents compared to students."

Armed with both a new roommate and positive outlook, Griffin quickly embraced her fresh start through involvement in various clubs and activities. The James Madison sophomore became a member of the MSU Democrats and Scout BANANA, a global non-profit group on campus.

"Everyone I've encountered has been incredibly friendly," she said. "They recognize that I saw the light and made the right decision to transfer."

A year after her move and she has no intentions of leaving. With her younger sister the newest Spartan addition, it's clear that the Griffin family doesn't show signs of their once-Blue blood.

"I'm so much more comfortable here," she said. "At Michigan, students were more high-strung and competitive. Here, it's more relaxed and down to earth."

To those applying to Michigan in hopes of becoming a Wolverine, Griffin warns with a chuckle, "Don't do it."

Despite her unpleasant experience, Griffin recognizes the silver lining in her brief stint in Blue and Maize.

"If I went straight to State, I wouldn't appreciate it as much," she said. "Part of me would always wonder if Michigan would have worked out."

With the past behind her, Griffin is ready to embrace her next three years as a Spartan.

"Now that I'm here, I can't imagine being anywhere else."

Text: Rachel Sylvester

Photo: Mason Robinson

Design: Betsy Eber, Vicari Vollmar



Sophomore Brittany Griffin gets rid of some old Michigan apparel. Within her first semester, Brittany transferred from UofM to MSU.

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ffin gets
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her first
ransferred
M to MSU.

“If I went straight to State, I wouldn’t appreciate it as much.”

BRIDGING THE GAP

Office of International Students and Scholars helps students feel at home in a foreign country



Senior Daniel Chen picks up empty water bottles and replaces them with fresh ones. Chen and roughly 150 other MSU students were attempting to break the Guinness record for the most participants in one soccer game.

Senior Ken Chiu waits for his team to kick off after being scored on. Soon after, Chiu had to call in a substitute because of an intense leg cramp.



For many of us, home is just a two hour car ride or very short flight away and not a long, exhausting 14-hour plane trip priced at \$1,500.

Yet this is the reality for many of Michigan State's international students.

"I will be going home over Christmas holiday," Communications freshman Caiwei Zhu said. "The flight to China is long and expensive, but I want to see my family."

In an effort to shrink that distance between home and school, the university's Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) is a resource made available to all international students.

OISS offers services in setting up social security numbers for international students to find employment, advises in immigration services, and provides links to foreign embassies and government agencies.

"OISS will send information to other schools, advise us in our major, give us information on going home for the holiday... they make life easier for international students," said Zhu.

Along with all of these services, dozens of international student clubs can help students find a voice among 40,000 other students. Some of these clubs include: the Japan Club, Muslim Student Organization, Russian Club, Thai Student Organization, Filipino Club, Chinese Undergraduate Student Organization, and the International Student Association, which automatically accepts are international students.

In April, one of these groups, McGlobe, held a weekend-long soccer tournament in hopes of breaking a world record. McGlobe aims to plan events that relate to the background of many international students. The previous record was 36 hours with 50 players, but McGlobe shattered that with 152 players engaged for 37 hours. In the end, McGlobe raised over \$400 dollars for UNICEF, an international organization that helps needy children worldwide.

State takes pride in its international diversity. We're ranked among the top 10 universities for international student enrollment, according to a report conducted by the Institute of International Education.

With such diversity, the university can only benefit. This is part of OISS's mission statement, to "provide opportunities for growth through cross-cultural interactions."

"My father told me that State was one of the best schools in the country for international students," General Management freshman Teng Cao said. "I thought that maybe with more international students, I would feel more at home."

The burning question, however, is why do students from all around the world choose Michigan State?

"You don't need a reason to party here. It's more fun. The studies have more freedom, activities, flexible and creative projects," said Cao, comparing the American school system to that of the Chinese. **"Here, they guide you to learn, not force you on one track."**

Text: Jessica Whitmill
Photo: Erica Treais
Design: Brendan Prost



"Here, they guide you to learn, not force you on one track."

Junior Jose Ramirez rests after playing three consecutive hours of soccer, with freshman Thomas Raya and Jose R. Ramirez. The three students participated in the organization's attempt to break a Guinness record.

baby OF THE BUNCH

sixteen-year-old student living at MSU

Most college students look forward to landmark birthdays that happen during college: 19, legal to drink in Canada; 21, legal to drink in the United States... but 16, legal to drive? Undoubtedly, this is not a landmark birthday for college students. This is a birthday that they experienced in high school. However, Lyman Briggs freshman Matt Maksimoski can say that he turned 16 during college.

"I skipped fifth and sixth grade and my mom started me early in pre-school," Maksimoski explained. "I was in a different school district up through fourth grade, and when I changed school districts, I had to take a placement test and they decided they wanted me to skip grades. They actually wanted me to skip three or four grades but my mom said no. I'm really glad that she did that."

Although he has been the youngest in his grade for many years, he never really noticed the age difference between him and his classmates.

"I think seventh and eighth grade were the years I adjusted to it. After that, it's not been bad. It's normal for me now," Maksimoski said. "In my high school, it was like freshmen hung out with seniors, so I was 12 hanging out with 18-year-olds. It's not really a big deal."

Maksimoski came to Michigan State with 24 advanced placement credits from classes he took his junior and senior years of high school, meaning he could technically be a sophomore after his first semester at school.

"I'm gonna graduate in four years. I can have my masters degree by the time everyone my age has their undergrad. It would give me a leg up in work. I think I'm going to get a job and work on my master's at the same time and then decide if I want to get a doctorate."

Maksimoski is clearly a very ambitious student, but he said it's not something he has always pushed himself to be really good at.

"I've always understood things easily, but I can't just walk into a test and get an 'A,'" he said. "It was easier for me to learn, but I still had to learn. The first test I had to take in high school was tough 'cause I never had to study before. But after that, I got with the program pretty easily. My dad always wanted to make sure I always worked hard and my parents gave me

responsibilities at a young age."

Since Maksimoski is the oldest of three kids and both his parents work long hours, he has always had responsibilities around the house. He knew he had to mature a little bit faster than most kids for the sake of his younger sister and brother, but his parents still worried about him being so young and away at college.

"My dad trusts me, but he said be careful with it," Maksimoski said. "My mom is more worried about it. She still texts me on Saturday night around 10 p.m. like 'Hey, what are you doing?' But she's not overprotective or constantly calling. She trusts me that I will not screw up."

Although Maksimoski is significantly younger than the rest of Michigan State's population, his maturity level is right on par, and his modesty is even more so.

"I was really surprised when I found out I'm the youngest student here," Maksimoski said. "I didn't think I would be. I'm definitely not the smartest person. Just because I skipped a few grades doesn't mean that I'm any smarter than anyone else."

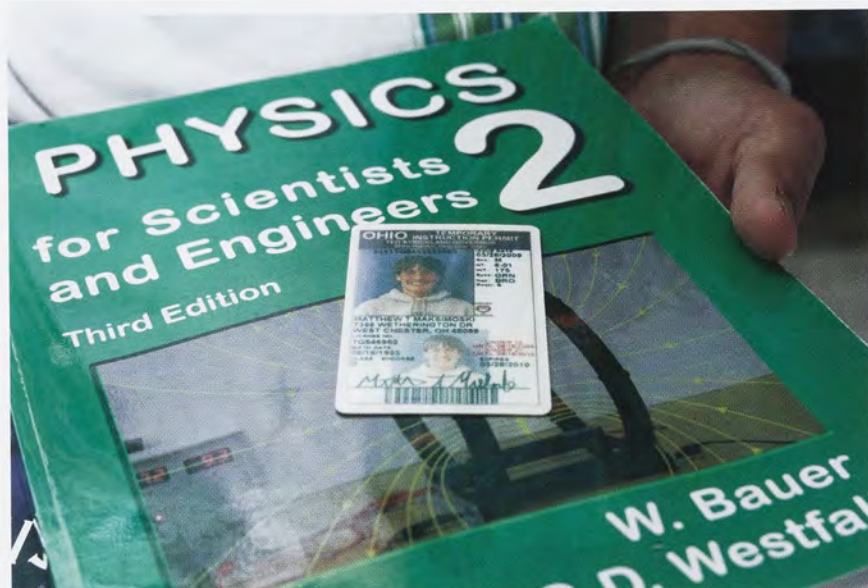
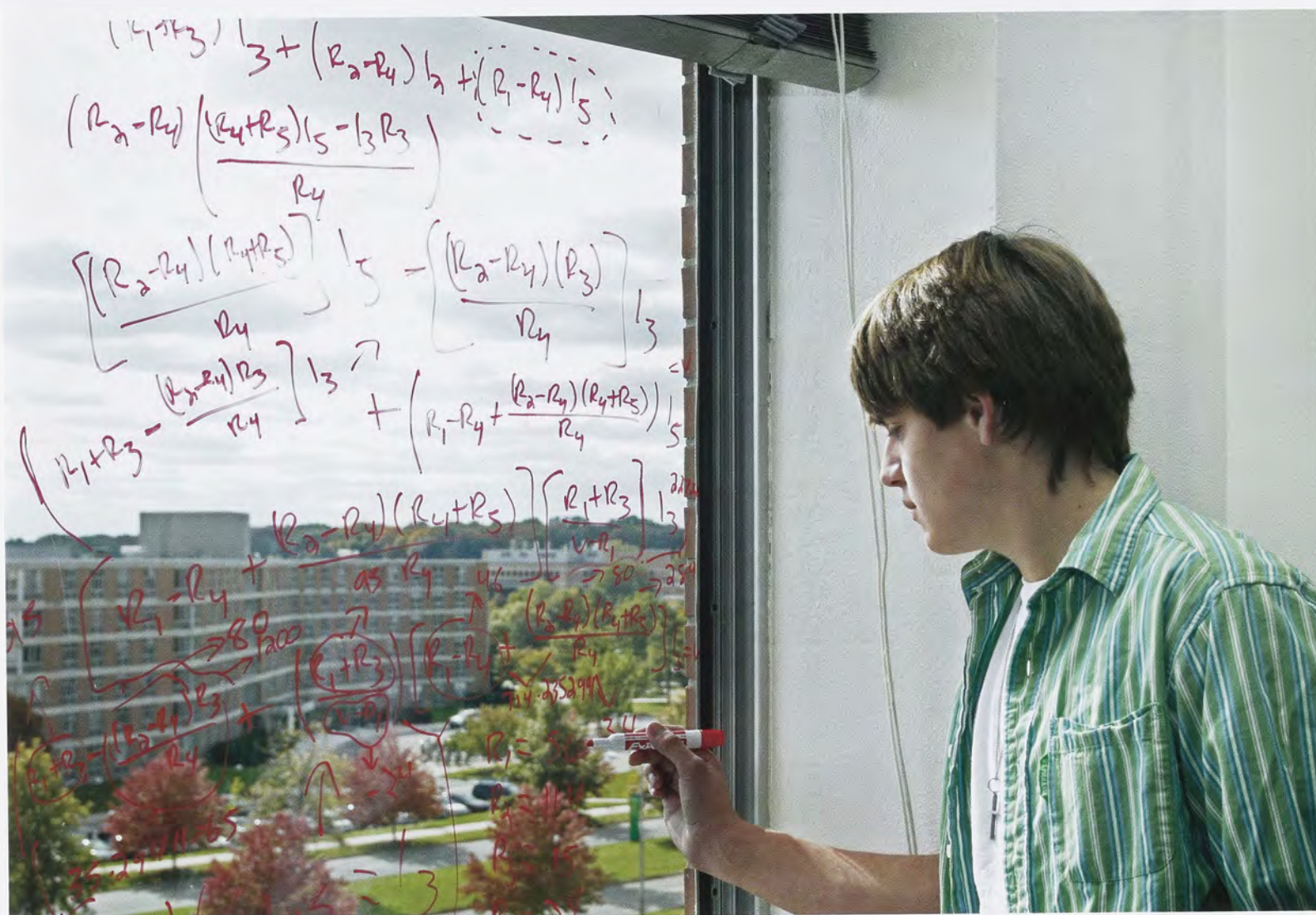
Maksimoski had a pretty easy transition from high school to college. He attributes it to his college preparation throughout high school. Although he appreciates the fact that his intelligence has jumpstarted his life, he is usually happy to just live in the now and enjoy how things are going for him.

"There are some times when it hits me, but for the most part I'm glad I did it," he said about starting college at such an early age. "Like I said, there are moments when I wish I hadn't done it, like right before I was leaving. I was like, 'I could have two more years with my friends,' but 98 percent of the time I don't give it a second thought."

"The biggest change I have had was learning to do my own laundry. The first time, I had to do the wash cycle two times because I put way too much soap in. Other than that it's pretty similar to high school. I took a couple AP classes so I came in with the thought that all the classes I'm taking are AP; that helped a lot. So far I'm doing well—I have a 4.0 in all my classes."

People: Youngest Student

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Elise Lefere
Design: Brendan Prost



Freshman Matt Maksimoski solves a physics problem on his window. He and his roommate were having a "Beautiful Mind" moment.

"I can have my master's degree by the time everyone my age has their undergrad."

Matt Maksimoski received his drivers licence roughly a month before entering MSU. His card contrast most of his fellow students, who look forward to their horizontal drivers licence.

THE MILK OF HUMAN ENDEAVOR

MSU Dairy Store employees yield fresh ice cream, cheese daily from Anthony Hall dairy plant

The air reverberates with the rumbling of the giant silver machines that fill the room and yet it is tinged with the subtle scent of fresh milk. Students in lab coats and hairnets scurry amidst the chrome behemoths, filling brick-sized boxes with a rich creamy mixture and carting said boxes off into a giant freezer. In one corner of the room, a pair of students spray down a dormant machine with soap and water, readying it for another run.

This is the side of the MSU Dairy Store that most students never see – the dairy plant at Anthony Hall. This is where the delectable ice creams and cheeses, sampled by students all over campus, are made.

"Our mission is pretty straightforward – we're here for the students," John Engstrom, the dairy plant manager, said.

"The whole purpose of this facility is to make and produce products to sell in our two stores (the dairy stores at Anthony Hall and the MSU Union), and we do it with student labor," he said. "We also supply all the dorms on campus if they wish it."

We typically have anywhere from 30 to 40 students working for us, and typically, once they hire in, they stay with us all four years."

Sarah Fink, a biosystems engineering sophomore who has been working in the plant for three semesters, said that she and other plant employees assist in producing ice cream and cheese.

"We make sure everything is sanitized, we monitor the cheese process, add all the ingredients into the cheese, package the cheese and ice cream products, and we stock the fridges out in the store," Fink said.

"The best bit about working here is that we also do quality control, which means we get to taste all the ice cream and all the cheese," she said. "Fresh dairy store ice cream is the best!"

Lindsey Farah, a food science junior, said that she came to work at the dairy store because it pertained to her major.

"By working here, I learn how to make cheese and ice

cream. It's really great," Farah said. "But I also learn the safety aspect side of it—what we need to do to prepare equipment and what to do once we're finished with it."

"The worst part about working here is having to work in the deep freezer," she said.

"We need to take three-gallon tubs (of ice cream) into the transfer freezer everyday so that it softens up for the dairy store people, and it can get really cold in there. Sometimes you're in the freezer for a really long time, and you're dragging around tubs that can weigh up to around 15 pounds."

The storefronts are the side of the operation with which students and visitors to campus are more familiar. Ellen Hystead, the student supervisor at the storefront in Anthony Hall, said that she first visited the Dairy Store as a freshman and thought that it would be a fun place to work.

"The best thing about working here is the people that work with me," Hystead said. "After working here for three years, they're kind of like my second family."

"It can get really busy at times, especially when it gets hot out and schools come in on field trips. You have lots of little first-graders in here who all want ice cream," she said. "It is exciting, though. I don't think there's any bad part about working here."

"We serve the best ice cream anywhere in the country," Hystead said.

The clock on the wall strikes 11, and a lunch-hour crowd starts filing into the dairy store as the store workers busy themselves scooping out ice cream and grilling cheese sandwiches. Just down the hall, the rumbling of the machines continue, as plant employees remain hard at work; it is the steady rhythm of these unsung purveyors of dairy delights underlining the din of the eager crowd.



Juniors Lara Ejups and Lindsay Farah, both employees of the MSU Dairy Plant, work on a Wednesday morning. The Dairy Plant employs a mixture of Food Science and Biosystems Engineering majors.

MSU's Dairy Store in Anthony Hall serves ice cream, as well as grilled cheese sandwiches and soup. A second store is located in the MSU Union.



A view of Anthony Hall's dairy plant, showing the equipment used to produce ice cream and cheese.

People: Dairy Store

Text: Isaac Hee

Photo: Mason Robinson

Design: Jessica Halfyard

A view of the Dairy Plant in Anthony Hall. The plant's ice creams and cheeses are distributed to their two locations, as well as residence halls.



“The best bit about working here is that we also do quality control, which means we get to taste all the ice cream and all the cheese.”



Senior Emma Ulrich studies in the library. After eight years of working toward her undergraduate degree, Emma said that she has accumulated her fair share of textbooks.

Emma stands in front of the Spartan Marching Band as they practice. Emma has been a member of the band, either playing an instrument or helping out during all their events, since she started her undergrad at Michigan State.



Emma looks up at her favorite spot on campus. Emma visited the Beaumont Tower after every defining moment in her college career.



ALMOST TO THE *FINISH LINE*

Super-senior spends sixteen semesters studying at separate schools

After two years at Indiana University, two years at Michigan State, one year at Lansing Community College, followed by three more years at Michigan State, senior Emma Ulrich is proud to say that she is close to graduating.

"I've been getting my undergrad for a really long time," Ulrich said. "I get to walk in May, but I don't get my diploma until after the first summer session because I have one more class requirement to fill."

Ulrich started at Indiana University as a music education major in 2002, and then transferred to Michigan State after two years.

"I always wanted to come to Michigan State, but I didn't get in," she said. "I applied seven times. I was denied six, but lucky number seven, I got in. I'm a rather persistent person I would say."

It was her persistence that got her into Michigan State, and it is what helped bring her so close to her undergraduate degree. Not only did she switch universities, she also changed her major after two years of hard work toward a music education degree.

"I was sort of a lost soul for my first two years at Michigan State," she said. "I didn't have the skills to continue in music education, so I didn't do so hot in my classes and I was recessed. The University basically told me that I needed to take a year to reevaluate my future."

Ulrich struggled through two years of her undergraduate degree only to realize that she just wasn't cut out for her current major.

"My whole life I thought music education was what I wanted to do," Ulrich said. "When I realized I didn't have the skills on my French horn, I swallowed the huge humility pill and decided to try early childhood development because a family friend recommended it to me. I started taking classes at LCC and I loved it."

Ulrich was able to raise her grade point average to a 3.8 in her two semesters at Lansing Community College, which was high enough for Michigan State to readmit her.

Her eight years of undergraduate work was incredibly emotionally stressful on her, she says, but she has stayed strong with the help and support from family and friends.

"I got lucky with my set of parents who were able to deal with eight years of undergrad, financially and emotionally," Ulrich said. "My parents have been nothing but 100 percent supportive the entire time. Sometimes I feel embarrassed because I stretched their parenting responsibilities out a few years, but my parents always tell me they are really proud of me. Plus, my mom always tells me that I've never done anything the easy way. It's always been my own road."

Most students find four years of undergraduate classes stressful enough on their bank accounts, and she felt the effects of twice that amount; however, she stayed positive and tried to not stress herself out over her finances because she realized that finishing her degree and never giving up was what was truly important to her.

"As far as finances go, there's a part of each day that gets set aside for worrying about [it]," she said. "But after that part, I don't think about it. Otherwise, I would just suffocate myself."

For Ulrich, the hardest part of the whole experience wasn't the hefty tuition bills, or even the decision of what she wanted to do with her future, but seeing her friends graduate and move on without her.

"Sometimes, it's emotionally hard to see all your friends move on with their lives," she said. "They are getting married, having kids, but I'm still stuck in my undergrad."

Even though her undergraduate experience was not easy, she gained many assets that enhanced her already positive personality.

"I think I have gained an understanding of people's efforts," Ulrich said. "I am not as quick to judge as some people may be. I know the meaning of 'perseverance' on a different level, because I have persevered more than one time. It has taught me a lot about patience, and if I really want to do something, I can do it."

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Betsy Eber

"I got lucky with my set of parents who were able to deal with eight years of undergrad."



Senior Yong Jai Kim pins Junior Amar Jaswa in a defensive drill. The MMA club is open to participants of any experience level.

Freshman Brandon Wallace kicks a bag being held by senior Yong Jai Kim. The MMA club meets twice a week to practice and share different techniques and skills.



042

“We’re just there to train and get better; we’re not there to hurt each other.”

SPOILIN' FOR A FIGHT

People: Mixed Martial Arts Club

Mixed Martial Arts Club offers members a chance to train, learn different fighting styles

When Austin Gregory and his friends got together to spar in the gym back in his freshman year, it was all for fun and recreation. Nowadays, Gregory still does it for fun, but he also has a lot more people around him now.

Enter the MSU Mixed Martial Arts Club, which grew from a few friends training in a gym to an organization that meets twice a week in IM West. The process to become an actual club was a chore, so it took some persuasion by Gregory and his friends.

"The IM Department didn't like the idea of an MMA Club at first because a lot of people don't really know that much about martial arts or MMA for that matter, but they know what they see on TV, and on TV they see people beating the crap out of each other," Gregory said, a senior this year. "It took us awhile before we convinced them it was safe, it's a very controlled environment. **We're just there to train and get better; we're not there to hurt each other.**"

Mixed Martial Arts, thrust into the spotlight for its use in the Ultimate Fighting Championships (UFC), is basically a fighting style that combines several fighting styles. In short, if you know a martial art, go ahead and use it. Common fighting techniques seen in MMA fights range from jujitsu, taekwondo and judo to karate, boxing and wrestling.

While a lot of members are there just to train and stay in shape like Gregory, some members use the club to learn more MMA and also to train for real fights. Sophomore Erik Butterfield, a longtime wrestler, was training to fight in one of the local amateur leagues in Michigan this year, and won his first two fights in January and February.

While the club doesn't require its members to sustain a huge commitment, they are definitely in for a workout when they get to a session. Gregory broke down a typical day at the

MMA club: It starts with a simple warm-up of running and lots of stretching to get the blood flowing, followed by over a half hour of conditioning, which is usually pretty rigorous, according to Gregory. The group moves into standard drills and techniques, and for the last part of practice they work on sparring and rolling, the actual combat. The practices aim to improve technique and endurance; the latter factor a crucial one in MMA.

"Endurance is 50% of the fight," said Gregory. "I've seen a lot of fights where the only reason the winner won was because he outlasted the other guy. The other guy got tired first."

Gregory has gotten a lot out of the MMA club besides physical fitness.

"MMA for me personally teaches me control, to be relaxed even when something's going on. Because when you're fighting, the worst thing you can do is get worked up and get stressed out and get mad, because you're going to make a lot of mistakes."

"I enjoy teaching other people that come into the club [for free]. I get a personal kick out of that," Gregory said.

Butterfield also enjoys the teaching aspect of the MMA club.

"I've gotten to the point where I've been able to teach a lot of new people that don't know too much," Butterfield said.

So potential mixed martial artists, the word is out: There are people on campus that can and will help you train to learn the ways of MMA. Even with the last of the founding members graduating this spring, the new president for next year, Butterfield, expects the continuing growth of MMA.

"A lot of people have interest in it but don't know about it," Butterfield said. "Everybody I talk to says 'Oh man, that's awesome, I want to train and stuff,' but I don't know if they'll keep training if they find out what it's about."

Just wait until they hit the conditioning.

Text: Jacob Kanclerz
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Vicari Vollmar



Senior David Laughlin helps Ali Eldessouky tie his boxing gloves. Sparring with protective gear helps team members hone their skills.

Junior Amar Jaswa practices a defensive drill with Senior Austin Gregory. Gregory has been involved in martial arts since a very young age.

**“You
don’t go
home and
do three
hours
of math
homework,
you go
home and
develop a
character.”**

Caitlyn Knisely first began acting in high school. By the time she began her college career, Knisely had already been involved with at least 10 plays.



SPOTLIGHT ON CAITLYN KNISELY

Actress, singer, dancer, choreographer and director

Caitlyn Knisely is not unlike any other college student. She hits the books and does her fair share of research. She has considerable amounts of homework and comes to class ready to practice.

The only difference is, Knisely is reading plays to find the perfect monologue for her next play audition. Her homework consists of memorizing lines in preparation to perform and be evaluated in front of her classmates and professor on a regular basis.

For Knisely, it's only part of being a sophomore theatre major.

"It's a little bit harder than other majors," Knisely said. "I feel like it's different because it's so creatively-based."

"You don't go home and do three hours of math homework, you go home and you develop a character."

In addition to being part of MSU's exclusive bachelor of fine arts program, (only about 15 students a class can make it after trying out at the end of freshmen year) Knisely sings regularly with the co-ed accapella group Capital Green and is consistently part of the university's main stage performances. Coming off her first college musical role in "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," Knisely already has her sights set on auditions for "Rent" in November.

Knisely's resume doesn't stop there. A dancer since she was two years old, it took trying out for one high school play to get her into acting. By the time she arrived on campus, she had already been involved in at least 10 plays. However, Knisely didn't limit herself to just acting, she also choreographed and co-directed two plays.

"By the time I was a senior in high school we had a new director, and he didn't really know a lot about our department. I was the president of the drama club, and he decided he really wanted someone there to help, so I ended up co-directing with him," Knisely said.

Knisely drew experience for her role from a job she already had as a choreographer for the Children's

Theatre in her hometown of Northville, MI during the past two summers.

Despite having this wealth of experience at her age, Knisely is still working to hone her craft. Knisely says that her strengths include contemporary and comedic styles, she's often typecast as the "ditz" character, but she is working on her classical Shakespearean sing, she is still learning to branch out into all areas of acting.

"Being an actress, you have to be able to do everything and anything," Knisely said. "If you're not good at Shakespeare or something then that limits your choices for jobs."

Knisely thinks that going to a school the size of MSU still gives her advantages to diversify her acting.

"The one thing I do like about this school's program is that they help you with everything you need to be helped with," Knisely said. "If you have a weakness in something, they target it because they want you to be a better person and to get more jobs."

However, Knisely, not unlike many other students, still has to decide where she wants to be after college is over. When asked what her career intentions were, she smiled and said, "Ahh, my favorite question," to which she quickly retorted, "Actually, it's not."

In terms of acting, Knisely plans on "definitely trying to go for it," but also plans on going to grad school to become a teacher in her field.

"I want to eventually act, I'm going to act, but I like other stuff too," Knisely said, referencing her background in choreography and directing. "I've always had a passion for being on the other side of the table."

Where Knisely lands in show business is yet to be determined. But regardless of that, Knisely will have enough exposure to the stage and a bulky resume to show off to potential employers. As for now, she's still just an everyday college student, busy reading plays, researching monologues and developing characters.



Lauren Wood



John Gelardi

Knisely is currently pursuing a bachelor of fine arts. The program is very exclusive, accepting about 15 students each year.

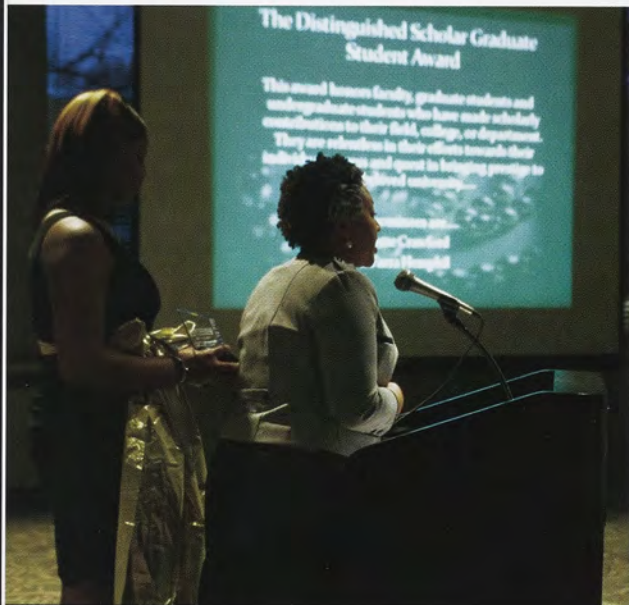
Sophomores Krista DeLong and Caitlyn Knisely act out a scene during their Contemporary Acting class. Caitlyn played the role of Izzy from "The Rabbit Hole".

9

045

Senior Tiffany Ingram announces the winners of Black Student Alliance awards. The group recognized individuals, groups, and groups for their involvement in the black community during the school year.

Desiree Tucker and Tiffany Ingram, both seniors, give an award to the distinguished scholar graduate student. BSA's Black Pearl Gala gave thanks to all those who worked hard over the year.



“If you are a black student here on campus, then no need to register because to us, you are already a member of BSA.”

Extending their membership to those outside the organization, the Black Student Alliance views all black students as instant members of their large extended family.

"We are a committed to promoting academic and political awareness in order to strengthen the black community at Michigan State University," president Desiree Tucker said. "And if you are a black student here on campus, then no need to register because to us, you are already member of BSA."

The organization, operating out of the multicultural center in the basement of the Union, serves as a forum to ensure black minorities experience on campus is enriched through weekly meetings, rallies, speakers, and other educational venues.

"Our executive board consists of 14 members, and we usually have around 30 to 40 participants at all of our events," special events coordinator Tiffany Ingram said. "However, at our big events that we throw each year we usually reach maximum capacity."

According to Ingram, the BSA held three big events throughout the course of the year. During the fall they held their 36th Black Power Rally on campus. The event reached its capacity with over 600 people in attendance.

The BSA also held its annual Mr. Black MSU scholarship, which is available for any black male at the University.

"Our events throughout the year funded by ASMSU," Ingram said. "We also associate with RHA, OCAT, and are involved with several black caucuses."

To end the year, the BSA held the Black Pearl Awards. The award ceremony honored significant students and faculty, along with registered organizations such as fraternities and sororities, who contributed to the improvement of the black society.

"There is so many wonderful people who are a part of this organization, and it is great to see them recognized," said Tucker. "We truly do care about just giving the black students their best possible experience while in college."

**Group provides
forum for black students**

PROMOTING CHANGE



Members enjoyed a dinner before the award ceremony. The Black Pearl Gala celebrated all of the year's achievements.



Brother Jed points to the sinners, letting them know that repentance is but a knee-drop away. Jed's controversial preaching drew large crowds outside Wells Hall.

Mason Robinson

PIOUS PROPHET

Wells Hall Preacher Jed Smock delivers off-color Christianity

Text: Dustin McNees

Photo: Elise Lefere, Mason Robinson

Design: Betsy Eber, Vicari Vollmar

It was a sight that would have made Jesus himself green with envy. Dozens gathered around outside of Wells Hall hanging onto every word that the man with pepper-colored hair spoke or, quite often, yelled. With a staff in his hand and a fire in his stare, the 66-year-old mobile minister easily angered and entertained the crowd, perhaps falling just short of enlightening them.

It's undeniable that Brother Jed Smock, one of the infamous Wells Hall preachers, knows how to grab people's attention.

Brother Jed, who travels from campus to campus nationwide, stopped by MSU on Sept. 22, and it didn't take long for people to take notice.

With exclamations like "All non-Christians are going to H-E-double-L!" and "Socialism is a sin!" Brother Jed garnered the attention he obviously was striving for, and students were constantly amassed around the Indiana-native for the whole six hours that he graced them with his presence - pun intended.

After luring students in with his - what can only be described as - bold statements, Brother Jed guided the conversation into a more personal, intimate direction.

"After all, this isn't church," the self-professed former "whore-mongering frat boy" said.

"Young men like this," Brother Jed said, pointing to a man in the crowd while looking through the crowd in search of women listeners, "will tell you anything to get in your pants. Of course, he'll probably prematurely ejaculate before he gets there.

"Boys on this campus look as you as nothing more than a piece of A-S-S!" he yelled, to which a female student ran up next to him and mockingly shook her "A-S-S."

"You girls," he continued, "would rather have an orgasm than a bright idea!"

To prove his point, Brother Jed took listeners on a trip back to the days of drugs, hugs and free love, when a young man named George Edward Smock was a sophomore at Indiana University.

"Did you hear about the girl I dated in college?" George "Brother Jed" Smock asked. "This is not the one with crabs.

"We never needed the heater," he said, referencing the cold winters he spent with his main squeeze Margaret at their local drive-in theater.

"We had our own heat. It was hotter than ever in the back seat of my father's 1954 Chevrolet Bel Air with leather seats!"

Soon, the whole crowd was chanting "In the back seat of my father's 1954 Chevrolet Bel Air with leather seats!" each time Brother Jed would share another one of his collegiate sexcapades.

"These stories," Brother Jed explained, "are to teach you self-control."

>>Continued on pg. 050

P

“You girls would rather have an orgasm than a bright idea!”

Eventually, the topic of conversation transitioned from sex to secularism, and soon thereafter opposing sacred texts.

Hoisting a Qur'an into the air, Brother Jed began reading passages from the Islamic holy book. When he was done reading scriptures that, according to him, called for the murder of Christians, Brother Jed gave his take on the Muslim faith.

“Not all Muslims are terrorists,” he said. The crowd around him looked pleased and surprised at his uncharacteristically warm statement.

“Good Muslims are terrorists.”

After the crowd audibly displayed their displeasure with Brother Jed's statement, he quickly moved to defend himself.

“I had some Muslim girls at the University of Minnesota try to steal my Qur'an and kill me,” he said in a matter-of-fact tone.

“Give us your Qur'an, or we'll cut you into a thousand pieces,” he said in a raspy, butchered-Middle Eastern voice. After that, the Muslim women moved in and strangled him, and just before he gasped what could have been his last breath, the police came and the women scattered, never to be seen again.

Man, could he tell a story.

And as with any good storyteller, his tales and philosophies were full of twists and turns. Take, for instance, his stance on homosexuality.

“I'm all for homosexual marriage,” Brother Jed admitted, again to pleased

and surprised applause.

“If a good homosexual man wants to marry a lesbian woman...”

Behold Brother Jed, the raiser of hope and crusher of spirits.

When junior Dion Green joined the conversation and referenced a book that claimed many Christian leaders were homosexuals, Brother Jed pulled two gems out of his bag of tricks.

He said the first with a disgusted look on his face: “It was probably written by some homo.”

The second came when someone was talking during Green's follow-up question.

“You just interrupted a black guy,” Brother Jed said to the man who spoke when Green, an African-American, was asking his question. “You gotta give him some Affirmative Action!”

Despite Brother Jed's seemingly sporadic, random and out-of-nowhere comments, he did have a set goal and clear mission in mind for his day at MSU.

“I want to start an army of preachers!” he yelled. “We Christians want to take over the world!”

If passersby didn't know any better, the Army-like crowd around him was proof enough to the success of his mission. Unfortunately for Brother Jed, however, not everyone in the crowd was as gung-ho as their militant counterparts.

“This isn't religion,” someone from the crowd lamented. “This is bullshit.”

Brother Jed thumbs through The Bible in preparation for his next diatribe. Some students commended Brother Jed and his message, saying, “Brother Jed is the MAN!”



Mason Robinson



Brother Jed's main home-boy Jesus hangs out for a while as Brother Jed spreads the good news. Brother Jed used his Jesus staff to point to the modern-day sinners.



Mason Robinson



Elise Letere

Brother Jed preaches to the crowd of students with signs emphasizing the horrors of Hell backing him up. Students gathered to hear Brother Jed's stories.

A group of students, some of whom identified themselves as homosexual, attempt to hug Brother Jed during an anti-homosexual rant. Brother Jed was not amused.

Freshman Andrew Doane and his teammates take their boat to the dock for the start of the head of the Grand Regatta. The team practices 26 hours a week for events.

The men of MSU Crew pose with the national championship trophy. The whole team earned finals in a record seven events.



Submitted by Mike Bailey

MAKING WAVES

MSU Crew's new coach brings a new direction to program

Its 5:45 a.m. and the MSU Crew is at Grand River Park, ready to begin practice. After a warm-up and stretch, they are in boats rowing up and down the river in pieces, rowing a specific time or distance, at different rates.

8:00 a.m.- the team comes off the water and heads to their classes.

5:00 p.m.- the team reports to Demonstration Hall for the second practice of the day; weight training for two to three hours. They go home to work on homework and go to bed, then wake up the next day to do it all again.

Each rower puts in at least 26 hours of practice each week, all for a race that lasts no more than eight minutes.

The hours of practice take dedication, ultimately perfecting each stroke made during a race. The team started the season with a new head coach, Mike Bailey, who revamped the program and taught the rowers a new technique that has paid off on the water.

"The new coach we hired is incredibly knowledgeable, he has coached for 13 years," senior club president Karl Harshe said. "His last program, he started from scratch and they went on to win a national championship. The training changed, his coaching style is completely different."

Although such a big change in the coaching style may have proved a difficult transition, the team has seen the results.

"The fact we're walking away from the first regatta of the year that gives out medals, with medals, that just hasn't happened," Harshe said.

The team has also showed their strength

in the dual meets of their season.

"We finally got the states cup back from Ohio State this year," senior Laurissa Gulich said. "We beat them in 10 of the 13 races. We have not had the cup in a while."

After winning back the states cup, the Crew's season only continued to improve as all the boats showed faster times on the water. Eight of the team's boats earned a spot in the American Collegiate Rowing Association National Championship Regatta, with six boats earning a spot in the grand finals.

"We exceeded our expectations," Harshe said. "Last year we only had one boat make it into the grand final and this year we had six. The men's varsity eight, which is the highest profile race, posted the fastest time we have ever posted in a national event. We have had Olympians on the team and have not been able to post faster boats."

With only five seniors and five juniors of 65 total athletes, the young team earned finals in a record seven events, qualifying for finals in four of their five eights races. The team also took home a silver medal in the lightweight women's 4.

The club's hard work and improvements has not gone unnoticed, leaving next season even more promising than this one.

"This season is a jumping walk for next season. Being able to finish on the top of the clubs means that we have a lot of potential," Harshe said. "All I can say is that I am really proud of the steps the team has made both individually and collectively. Between student leadership and the coaching staff, there is really not a whole lot more that I could have asked for."





Alissa Lane



Alissa Lane

People: Club Rowing

Text: Leslie Tilson

Photo: Alissa Lane, submitted by Mike Bailey

Design: Vicari Vollmar

“The fact that we’re walking away from the first regatta of the year that gives out medals, with medals, that just hasn’t happened.”



Alissa Lane

The Spartans compete during the head of the Grand Regatta. The regatta took place on the team's home waters.

One of the women's boats glides swiftly over the water during an early morning practice. The team maintains a rigorous training schedule, practicing twice each day.

053



ALL ABOUT PRIDE

One student takes the definition of “fan” to a whole new level

As Joe Oginsky walked out of the stadium, he couldn't believe what he had just seen. He had just witnessed Michigan State beat Michigan in a 26-20 overtime thriller.

“I've witnessed a lot of games. I was at the Final Four game when Michigan State beat Connecticut. I saw Michigan State beat Notre Dame last year in football, but this was one of the most special games I've been to,” Oginsky said with his voice cracking from screaming for four straight hours. But he didn't have much time to think about what happened because he had to get his voice better for another week of cheering. After all, that is what a super-fan does.

This is what THE super-fan does.

It all started three years ago when he arrived in East Lansing as a freshman, coming from a close-knit school in rural Owosso. In high school, Oginsky said he was known for his pride, and that's not something he wanted to lose when he got to State.

“My freshman year, I realized that not a lot of people actually went ‘all out,’ and I felt like I needed to continue my super fan identity from high school and show my Spartan pride,” he said.

Oginsky started the tradition at his very first football game of his freshman year when Michigan State played Alabama-Birmingham.

“I walked into the stadium for my first game dressed with a State flag as a cap and a Spartan helmet,” he said. “And the costume has kind of evolved from that into what it is now.”

Fast-forward to 2009, Joe's junior year.

At 7 a.m., the alarm rang through his ears and jolted him out of bed. He had exactly five hours to prepare for one of the biggest games of the year.

“It was Michigan baby. What kind of super-fan would I be if I didn't go all out for this one?” said Oginsky with a smug smirk on his face.

His routine consists of waking up five hours before every kickoff to apply makeup. For basketball games, he always arrives a half-hour before the gates open to ensure he gets front row lower bowl.

“After I apply my makeup I head to the stadium, and I have no time for tailgating because I have to get in line to get a seat,” he said. “I usually hang around after the game for two hours or so to tailgate with my friends and family. And drunk people usually like to take pictures with me.”

But a super-fan has to get some attention, right?

Oginsky has evolved his role as a super-fan throughout his three years at the school. What started out as a simple cape and helmet has transformed into a staple at home games.

“I get a lot of support from random fans who love it. I'm in the same spot for most games so people tend to know where I am going to be,” he said.

Oginsky has been pictured in the Detroit Free Press and shown on TV for Spartan games numerous times.

“Whenever I get coverage, I get pretty stoked because I think it is pretty cool,” he said with a laugh.

As he prepares the intricate swirls on his face with a toothpick, he can't help but feel a sense of pride. He strives to stand out and can't help but want to be a part of Spartan history.

“For the most part, I care about every Spartan team winning because it makes going to the games and being a fan that much better. When your team is winning, it's a lot easier to cackle the other team.”

“When
your
team is
winning,
it's a lot
easier to
cackle
the other
team.”

Junior Joe Oginsky waits to enter Spartan Stadium before the October 3 University of Michigan game. The game was one of Joe's most memorable games he attended.
Elise Lefere



Elise Lefere



Elise Lefere

Elise Lefere

Alissa Lane



From the 50-yard line, Joe Oginsky cheers the Spartans on to victory. He routinely arrives early to games in order to score the best seats.

Joe Oginsky starts painting his face for the football game against UofM at 6:39 a.m. He usually wakes up five hours before game time.
Elise Lefere

055

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Alissa Lane, Elise Lefere
Design: Jessica Halfyard



Senior Justin Ford works in the LGBT Resource Center, printing out award certificates for the up-and-coming Lavender Reception. Ford is the program assistant at the resource center, but also works with RING and PRISM.

EYESO

Justin Ford wears many hats among the LGBT community at MSU. This communications senior is the program assistant of MSU's LGBT Resource Center, as well as the president of RING, and the secretary of PRISM; LGBT caucuses in the residence halls.

As he gets ready for the next phase of his life, Justin looks back on his time at MSU and credits his experiences in these groups with his personal growth and success.

Although unforeseen, it was a combination of perfect timing and the offset of a broken relationship that led Justin to his involvement with these organizations.

Dissatisfied with things, he felt he had too much downtime.

"I needed to fill that void with something, and this community did that for me."

So, Ford took a chance.

"I saw this poster for an event (with the residential caucuses)," he said. "And I'd thought I'd just go and check it out. Then I found out that PRISM needed an e-board position filled, so I just jumped in and got involved. It was the same with RING. At the time, their e-board sort of dismantled, so being a part of the community, I thought I'd just try my hand."

Ford got lucky again when he went to the LGBT Resource Center to volunteer, unknowingly at the same time the former program assistant was graduating and the position was opening up.

The rest is history.

>>Continued on pg. 058

PERSON ON THE STARS, FEET ON THE GROUND

057

A pillar of support in MSU's LGBT community tells his story

Senior Justin Ford is the secretary of PRISM. He questioned the organization's presidential candidates for next year's position.

“I came in thinking I was further along the path to self-discovery than most people, but since then I’ve been able to learn so much more about myself - what I want, who I am and who I’m not.”





Since everything fell into place for Justin, the part he's enjoyed the most has been the people he's worked with.

"I love all the students that come in. It's just fun to see them come in and watch them going through the same things that I once went through.

"Like having someone walk in and tell me 'I just came out, and it was awesome!'. I really love those experiences," he laughed.

"As for PRISM and RING, I love the students. They're so much fun, and we learn so much for each other," he said.

"We're just like a family, and we always have a great time together. My only regret is that I didn't find out about them or get involved with them earlier."

Ford has since had countless memorable experiences in his involvement with the LGBT community at MSU.

"There was the International Transgender Day of Remembrance, where we held a vigil for the lives that were lost in the past calendar year," he said.

Ford got to co-lead the vigil.

"That was really, really wonderful. I had never felt more connected to my university and my community than at that moment," he said.

He was also a co-coordinator for the Spartan Remix last

fall and one of the chairs of the 2010 MSU Drag Show.

"It was a huge project, but it was so much fun just to see everyone having a wonderful time. It was incredibly gratifying to know that something I did could make so many people so happy," he said.

"The best thing about my time here at MSU was just all of the opportunities that were available to me to find out who I was," Ford said. "I came in thinking I was further along the path to self-discovery than most people, but since then I've been able to learn so much more about myself – what I want, who I am, and who I'm not."

"I guess the best thing about my being here is that I now feel I've accomplished everything I want to do."

Justin plans on pursuing a master's degree on student affairs administration at Eastern Michigan University after he graduates. He is also getting married in May 2011.

"I really like the quote: 'Keep your eyes on the stars, but keep your feet on the ground'," Justin advised to MSU students, both current and incoming.

"You need to dream, and that's important. But even when you're accomplishing all these wonderful, grandiose things, you still need to be down-to-earth, humble, and very human about it all. That's how I've lived my life."

During elections for PRISM's 2010-11 executive board, senior Justin Ford adds humor to the voting. As the secretary of PRISM, Ford questioned the candidates running for president in the upcoming year.

Senior Jodi Kreschmer studies in her East Wilson dorm room. Jodi said she usually studies on the floor of her room because it is the most comfortable spot for her.



Jodi Kreschmer is a psychology major with the hopes of helping others with disabilities. She is currently a teaching assistant for an abnormal psychology class.



P

REACHING OUT

Disabled senior aspires to help others

For most students, the decision about where to go to college is dependent on what they want to do with their lives. For senior Jodi Kreschmer, her decision required a little more thought. "How accessible is the university for my wheelchair?"

Apparently, MSU was accessible enough.

"They do have a really good disability network here," Jodi said. "They are really good about accommodations. When I first got here, they helped me get settled and helped me find people to help me do things I can't do on my own."

Although her lifestyle changed significantly when she came to Michigan State, Kreschmer had a large support network, which made the transition less difficult. She said the hardest part was asking people if they were willing to help, but everyone always lent a hand. Thanks to the helpful atmosphere, she was able to adjust and feel more comfortable, and now she works to help students with disabilities.

"I do a lot of undergraduate research assistantships," she said. "I am currently on the research for BAD-L, which stands for Building Alliances for Disability Leadership. Basically, they have people from older generations with disabilities mentor the newer generations so they can learn to take action."

"I really want to go to school to help kids with disabilities," Kreschmer said. "I would like to come back and help (disability programs) because they have helped me out over the past four years. I would be glad to help them in any way."

Kreschmer is passionate about helping others with disabilities because she feels that it is not only important to have a strong support network, but also to help them understand that anything really is possible through hard work.

"I think I'm a good example that you can achieve something. It's harder when you have a disability, but you can do it," she said. "Ever since I was little - I think it has something to do with my disability - I have really been able to understand people and help people. I just have a knack for understanding relationships. I really want to make an example for kids with disabilities."

She wants to help kids with disabilities change their parents' views on college. She feels that often parents are afraid to send their child to college, and just become too overwhelmed; she wants to help other students have the same opportunities she had.

"My dad always said, 'You are going to go to college and you are going to make something of yourself,'" she said. "Parents often get scared. My mom still is."

Kreschmer has overcome a lot to get where she is today. Leaving home to attend Michigan was a huge step out of her comfort zone, as well as adjusting to using a scooter.

"I always used to walk with my walker everywhere I went, but I can't do that here because the campus is so big and the buses are just too confusing," she said. "In the winter, I basically just have to trudge through. I have only gotten stuck twice. I must say, people are very nice if I get stuck or can't open a door, they usually help. I just like my independence because I don't like waiting for the bus or for someone to drive me."

She feels her educational experience at Michigan State has been great, but she thinks the best part is meeting people from all places around the world and learning about their cultures.

"Meeting other people with disabilities was also good," she said. "I went to a school where I was the only one with a disability, so it's good to see other people. I really like being a part of a community of people who are all different, but who come together to learn."

"I think I'm a good example that you can achieve something. It's harder when you have a disability, but you can do it."



Mason Robinson
Erin Trell

**“We want us
all to come
together, as
students, and
as Natives,
working
together,
learning
together and
teaching
together about
our culture.”**

Jerry Cleland, father of head dancer Wes Cleland, moves to the beat of the drum at the Pow-Wow of Love. Cleland, of the Ojibwa tribe, travels around the U.S. with his family to participate in pow-wows.



Elk Spirit tribe members play a drum and chant during MSU's 27th Annual Pow-Wow of Love. The event was held in the Jenison Field House.

Vendors sold traditional crafts during the two-day event. Offering free admission for students, many Spartans got a chance to experience Native American culture.

People: NAISO

Text: Leslie Tilson

Photo: Mason Robinson, Erica Treais

Design: Brendan Prost



Mason Robinson

TOGETHER AS ONE

Native American tribes from across the Mid-west join in spirit at the Pow-Wow of Love

As the drummers beat their tribal drums and chant their songs, dancers in brightly colored costumes dance in a circle in the middle of the floor. Small children, young adults and old war veterans alike move about in their own ways to the beat of the drums. Every spectator stands out of respect for the dancers and look on during the grand entry at the 27th Pow-Wow of Love.

Each February the North American Indigenous Student Organization (NAISO) hosts the pow-wow to bring natives from across the mid-west together in celebration of their heritage.

"To me, the pow-wow is a time to see my family, old friends and to make new ones," junior Marcus Winchester said. "It is also a time to have a good time dancing and seeing the music."

Winchester is the Residence Hall Association representative for NAISO. The group has been on campus since the 1970s and has strived to promote the Native cultures around campus.

"A lot of people have misconceptions, so we get to teach the campus about us," Winchester said. "We hold workshops where we do arts and crafts and presentations. This year, we had a panel answering questions about Native cultures."

But NAISO does much more than that. They also come together to learn about each other's different

tribes. NAISO has about 20 active members who come from different tribes, all of which have different heritages and traditions.

"We come together to respect our culture, and others'. Every culture is different so we want to promote being proud of being Native," freshman Bianca Blwekaty said. "I'm from out-of-state and I wanted to join some Native group to feel closer to them. This is a new experience for me because my tribe, we don't do pow-wows, but it's a way to get people together."

In addition to the pow-wow, NAISO hosts several events during November, as it is Native Heritage Month. The group uses this month to host social events and to teach others about aspects of the Native American culture and help others understand the different traditions.

"I enjoy the different activities we do and getting to learn about different cultures," Blwekaty said. "We're going to Washington D.C. in April to see the Native American museum there. I am pretty excited for that."

The theme for all of NAISO's events is unity.

"We want us all to come together, as students, and as Natives, working together, learning together and teaching together about our culture," sophomore Elaina Leasureaux said.

Menna's Joint employee John Klingler checks out the order form for the next dub. The order slip tells him where to deliver the dub.



Finally, at the end of the night, Klingler gets a good tip. He was excited to head home.

Three customers at the club house in Chandler Crossing count out change in order to get enough money for the cost of their food. It was one of the only times he was paid all in change.



MIDNIGHT WITH MENNA'S JOINT

Menna's employee John Klingler serves up interesting tales of late night deliveries

Riding along in the 1999 blue Dodge Stratus, watching the driver flick the volume knob of the stereo to turn up his classic jazz it's hard to remember that to most he is just a face. For most, a delivery person is nothing more than a face that briefly enters their life, drops some food off and then exits without a trace. But John Klingler, a Michigan State alumna with a degree in history and German, has much more to say and much more to offer than just a Menna's delivery guy job title.

For five hours of his shift, John drove around East Lansing. The hours quickly passed.

12:50 a.m. Fatty Dub to University Village.

John, or "Johnny Rocket," as his colleagues dubbed him, walked into the kitchen, emerging seconds later with the first delivery of the night. He grabbed the ordered Fatty Dub and hopped in the Stratus, and John immediately started talking about the ins and outs of the business.

No party at the University Village. Only a routine buzz-in at the door. The customer came down to claim his food without even a hint of humor. He just signed the credit card slip and walked back into the apartment.

"Most of the time, you know you are going to get the best tips from a cash order, and credit card tips are the worst because they are prepaid a lot of times," John said. "Dorms don't usually tip very well, either."

John's theory is that dorm kids are out on their own for the first time, and frankly just don't really know the ropes of tipping etiquette yet.

The night only gets better as time goes on, John mentions. Makes sense.

1:10 a.m. Three Blazer Dubs to Elizabeth Street. Two Philly Cheese Steak Dubs to Chandler Crossings. Two CT Dubs to Rutherford Street.

"You always have to have a strategy when you leave the restaurant of how to get to your deliveries the fastest," John said. "I know every route I have to take, and know pretty well where every stop sign is and how long a stop light will last."

That's what happens when you deliver food for two years. John began the delivery with a quick stop on Elizabeth Street, dropping off three Blazer Dubs. After a few knocks, the three hungry customers arrived at the door and signed the slips. They were simply watching the movie *Gladiator*. Another delivery, and yet another boring result. Bor-ing. But the night was young.

"The night gets a lot more interesting for a delivery person after

2 (a.m.) because that's when the bars close."

After the Elizabeth Street delivery, he took the long drive out to Chandler Crossings. Two Philly Cheese Steak Dubs were to be dropped off.

"Sometimes it's relaxing when you know you got a long drive out to a place like Chandler because you just get to sit back and drive. You don't have to worry about maneuvering all around town," John said.

For John, an average tip is \$2. A great tip is anything above that. His biggest pet peeve is finding out that someone who ordered is now passed out because he doesn't receive any money. He's been pulled over seven or eight times and only had one ticket because, as he believes, delivery people receive a little more leeway with the powers that be. And yes, he has been offered beer for tips more times than anyone could even imagine.

"I'm on the job, so I can't drink, but sometimes I do take the beer and keep it for after work."

Pulling into the Landings at Chandler, John was treated with a party. The party, however, offered little to talk about because some guy opened the door and then quickly shut it after he received his food. It seemed as if no one wanted to talk to a delivery guy. Some random drunk girl from the party shouted "Who ordered Menna's?"

Next stop: Rutherford Street, John headed in with two CT Dubs in hand. Finally, someone offered John his first beer and bong hit of the night. Finally, someone was considerate enough to offer him some refreshments, but he declined because, well, he was on the job.

On the way back to the restaurant to pick up the next order, John tried to remember the craziest thing he had ever seen on the job.

"Oh, I see funny stuff every night. The thing is, I see it all the time so I don't really remember much."

2:20 a.m. A CT Dub and three Club Dubs to Chandler Crossings.

This trip out to Chandler was by far the best because, remember that drunk girl from the last party at Chandler? She ordered the CT Dub and he dropped it off to her at the street.

John's next drop-off was the three Club Dubs not even to an apartment - but three guys in the hot tub. Seemed ordinary. But then they pulled out a bag of change to pay for their bill. A \$29 tab, and \$7 of it, plus tip, paid in change.

John can't stand tips in change because all of the change goes straight to his change jar. "I'll never use it," John said.

Ungrateful people.

**"I'm on the job,
so I can't drink,
but sometimes
I do take the beer
and keep it
for after work."**

Pfost and sophomore Dennis Corsi get their singles out for the performer. The Official MSU Drag Show has become an annual Pride Week highlight.

Pfost and sophomore Dennis Corsi await the start of the drag show. Pfost participated in several of the events throughout the week including Pride Week Prom and Picnics & Gaymes.



GREAT PRIDE

Michigan State students celebrate sexual diversity

Text: Jessica Whitmill
Photo: Alissa Lane
Design: Betsy Eber

If you live in South Complex, the face of Nick Pfost is one you might see quite often.

Pfost is currently the vice president of PRISM (People Respecting the Individuality of Students at MSU), the campus' South Complex chapter of the Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, Transgender (LBGT) community.

Pfost has been involved in PRISM since his freshman year and was president of the Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) at his high school in Coldwater, Michigan.

"That's when I really first started to get involved in an LBGT community," Pfost said. "For me, it provided a safe place. It was comforting that it was such a shared experience."

The university's Pride Week is from April 11th to the 18th with events all around campus.

"It's going to be a really gay week," Pfost said.

Some of the events include a picnic with "gaymes" on the 11th, guest speaker Patrick McAlvey, a Lansing native that underwent ex-gay therapy on the 12th, face-painting and tie-dying on the 13th, folk duo Nervous But Excited on the 14th, a live performance from Transforming Theatre on the 15th, a drag show on the 16th, prom on the 17th. A dodge ball tournament on the 18th will finish the week up.

"All these events give students more exposure to the culture, it makes people more aware," Pfost said. "I think the fact they know it exists, it plants it in their minds and gives it some legitimacy."

April 16th is also the National Day of Silence, in which students from all across the country take a vow of silence. According

to Pfost, it's symbolic for a lack of personal safety students might feel when speaking out about their sexuality.

Aside from Pride Week, the campus' LBGT student alliance has events around campus that provides students with support and a place to be themselves all year long.

"We've been extremely active this year, particularly the caucuses we've held," Pfost said. "This year has been really positive."

This year, the alliance launched the I Am an Ally campaign, which fostered discussions and brought the LBGT community "down to a real level in the residence halls," according to Pfost.

"People against the gay community used to get to me personally," he said. "But after you're exposed to it, you have to get over it."

That's why I go to education. We leave the door open, but there are people where you can't change their minds. You have to know when to engage in conversation, and when to just walk away."

Next year, Pfost will be Chairperson of the Alliance of LBGT students at MSU and he says he's confident for the alliance's future.

"I want to focus on activism, advocacy and education," he said.

The alliance planned to travel to Ann Arbor next February for a three-day conference that, according to Pfost, "brings identity to real world things." The conference has a variety of workshops on everything from transgenderism to leadership.

"I think next year will be a success," Pfost said. "I think it'll feel good to have our presence known in Ann Arbor."

People: LGBT

**“People
against
the gay
community
used to
get to me
personally,
but after
you’ve been
exposed to
it, you
have to
get over it.”**

Hershae Chocolate announces the next act along side Pfozt and sophomore Dennis Corsi. It was Chocolate's fourth performance at the official MSU Drag Show.



“People
make
out in,
and
throw
beer
bottles
at, the
cab.”

068

Tony Benedict, owner of Pure Power Pedicab, looks both ways before crossing Grand River Avenue. Tony opened his pedicab business last fall as a way to make some extra money.

Tony Benedict picks up a group of students on Albert Street to take them to Grand River. Benedict said he isn't afraid of taking passengers long distances.



TONY THE TAXI MAN

Tony Benedict's bike taxi service turns enough profit to pay tuition

If it weren't for a drunk driving accident, Tony Benedict would have never become the famous Tony the Taxi Man.

"My truck was destroyed a few years back," Benedict said. "I got hit by an intoxicated garbage truck driver. I had to ride my bike everywhere. One time, I saw this guy pulling his kids behind his bike and I was like, 'Why can't this work on a bigger scale?' I looked it up on the Internet and found pedicabs for sale, like the ones they use in New York. I rode my bike everywhere for two years. I even found out I can bike in the snow, so I figured driving a pedicab would be the perfect job."

For Tony, the \$5,000 purchase of his pedicab was a huge investment.

The vehicle is made up of a 22-speed mountain bike that has a motorcycle chain that attaches to the cart to make it easier to tow. Luckily for Benedict, his investment proved to be a good one.

"On an average night, I make anywhere from \$60 to \$200 in tips," he said. "I don't have a rate, I just accept tips. I figured I'd make more money if I didn't have a set rate. I knew people would like me more and see how hard I had to work to get them where they wanted to go. I was actually able to pay for my tuition this summer with just the tips I made."

Although his business is now rather fruitful, it hasn't always been a smooth ride. At one point, the City of East Lansing passed an ordinance that revoked his taxi license, forcing him to work exclusively in Lansing.

Now he's back in East Lansing - after a change in the city's taxi rules - and his business is almost exclusively students.

"I started out just doing three nights a week," he said. "I would go around East Lansing at bar-closing and try to pick up anyone who needed a ride. I got the bike taxi painted so people know it's legit."

Benedict said that January is his best season because not many people enjoy walking in the snow and he is able to ride his bike through the snow.

Willingly sacrificing their Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights for a job is not something most people would want to do, but Benedict said he meets a lot of interesting people on the job.

"It's definitely put a shot on my social life," he said. "But I do meet a lot of people. It can get crazy. You probably can't even print what's happened in that cab. **People make out in, and throw beer bottles at, the cab.** I had a dog get in once, (and) he didn't wanna get out."

Benedict is still hoping for an iconic MSU client, too.

"I tried to get Sparty to ride in it, but he hasn't gotten in yet. I am going to keep trying until he does."



HOME COMFORT AND CULTURE

Jewish Student Union tries to promote Jewish culture across campus

Walking by the house located on 360 Charles St., many people usually look at it like it's out of place. That's because in the midst of all the college houses, there is a two-story house that looks as if it should belong in some quiet subdivision rather than the heart of a college campus. That house is the Hillel house and it is home to the Jewish Student Union (JSU), a student cultural group on campus.

"Hillel is a national organization and the JSU is more of a cultural student-based group," JSU president Geoff Levin said. "It's sort of like an umbrella. There is a number of groups that are associated with us and we have a spot in student government."

The JSU joins forces with Hillel to create an atmosphere promoting the Jewish presence on campus. Their primary objective is to provide Jewish students with opportunities to explore their cultural and ethnic experiences.

Walking into the Hillel house, your eyes are at first brought to the all-hardwood floors with the marble accent that makes the open house seem even more open. Your first encounter is with a receptionist and inviting jars of candy scattered across all the tables in the entrance. Then you enter the newly expanded dining room with enough tables to fit over 100 people and you start to wonder what the big deal about the Hillel house is. It seems as if it's a place where everyone's welcome, but nothing is too personal.

And then you make your way down to the hangout room in the basement where you see a foosball table with a ball still stuck in the corner, obvious evidence that the game

isn't just a dust collector. Your eyes then are fixated on the wrap-around couch with a plasma TV plastered on the wall next to a Larry Bird framed photograph. That is when you get it. You finally realize that the Hillel house, just like the JSU, doesn't go out of its way to pull someone into their beliefs. They just want whoever is curious to stop by, feel comfortable and experience a different culture if they choose.

"We like to think that the JSU is a resource to the community," Levin said. "Anyone is welcome no matter their religion, and we just want people to be able to experience a different culture if they choose."

Throughout the fall semester, the JSU threw different events to cater to different types of people. Events such as Israel Fest were designed to show the different sub-cultures of Israel, while Sparty's Hanukkah Party was designed to celebrate Hanukkah with the Jews in Greek Life.

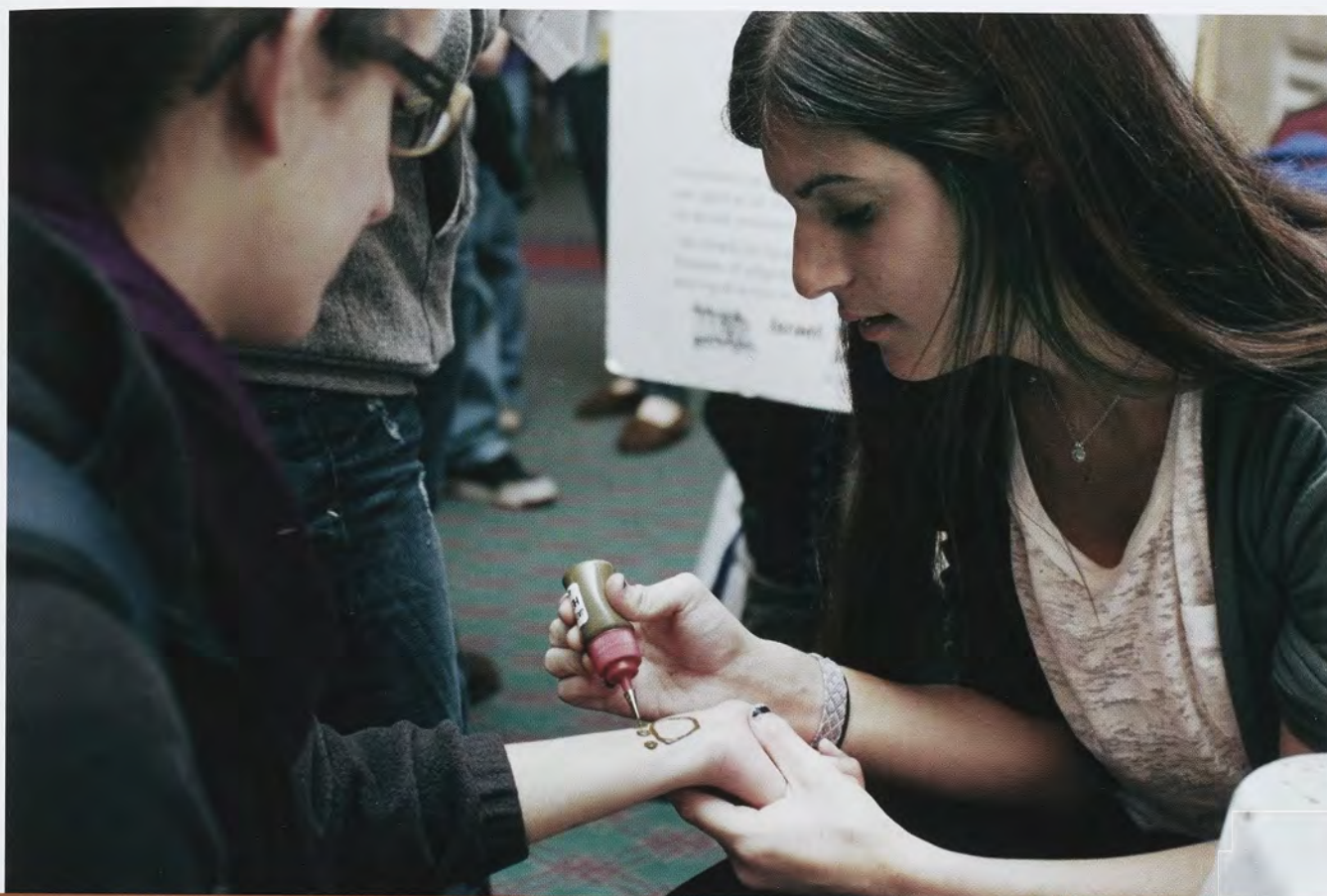
"Throughout the semester, we engage around 800 people, so some events, like Israel Fest, are tailored to get our culture out to whoever is interested, while other events focus more on the celebration of our cultural and feature mostly people involved with JSU," said Levin.

So remember that next time you may be walking down Charles St. and see that house that seems out of place. Whether you want to play a game of pool, watch some TV or just do your studies, stop by and see what it's like. The JSU would just love to show you a little bit about what their culture is all about.

Students gather around different booths during Israel Fest. Jewish Student Union members showed their culture off at the event in the Student Union.



Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Veronica Nagy
Design: Betsy Eber



Junior Liza Gill watches as junior Carli Boyer gives her a henna tattoo. Israel Fest gave students the opportunity to celebrate aspects of their culture.



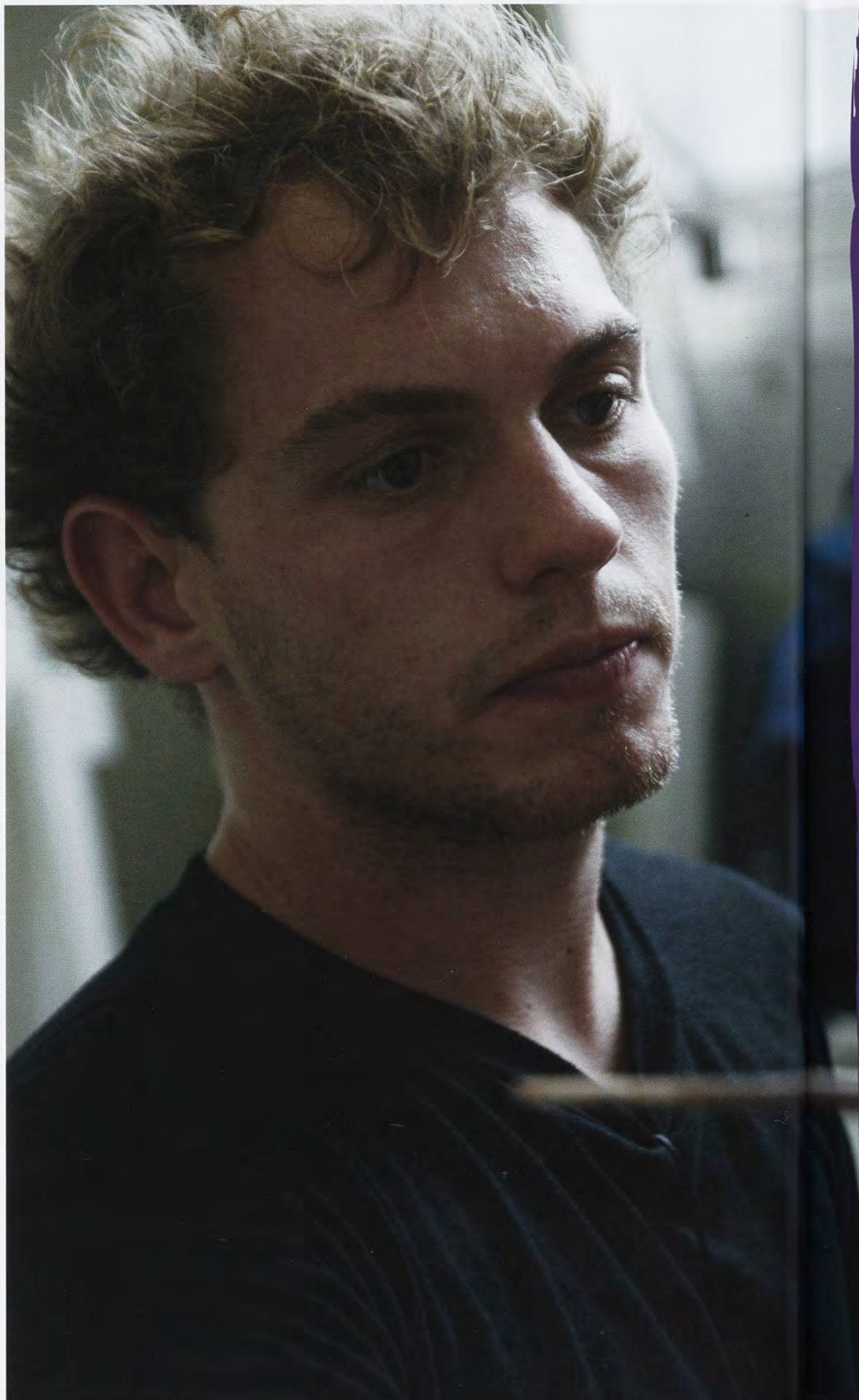
“...some events, like Israel Fest, are tailored to get our culture out to whoever is interested...”

Sophomore Matt Johnson views a booth at Israel Fest. The booth “Chillin’ in Israel” was one of many at the event.

P

“I really realized, especially when I was painting on the street side, how much I loved art.”

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Brendan Prost



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Spencer Corbett works on a painting in a studio at Kresge Art Center. The studio art major said he enjoys painting narratives about college life.

PASSION IN THE PAINT

Artist Spencer Corbett analyzes college life through his narratives

Every stroke has a meaning, every color a purpose, both of which come together creating a powerful image on the canvas. For studio art senior Spencer Corbett, it's not just about making a beautiful image. It's about creating an image that can tell a story.

For Corbett, that story happens to be a narrative about college lifestyles.

"Things kinda come to me spontaneously, but I focus on works that are socially critical," he said. "For the past two years, I've been focusing on a work about the college lifestyle, the partying aspect and the different subcultures. I'd say my inspirations are my friends and the things I surround myself with.

"I try to address different issues like mob mentality and how individuals act based on how society expects them to act," he said. "I guess common themes would be consumption and sexuality in college and the humor and reality in college lifestyles compared to the real reason we are here, to get an education. It reflects various aspects of my life, my friends' lives and also things I observe. Usually my narratives are ironic or conflicting. It's very rare that I feel strongly that it's a good thing or a bad thing; I'm just trying to make the viewer aware of college lifestyles."

Corbett is incredibly passionate about his work, but he didn't always know that he wanted to be a painter. When he first came to Michigan State, he had dreams of being in art education, but he changed his major after a study abroad experience that opened his eyes to how much he loved to paint.

"I'm not sure what it was, but I studied abroad in Florence two summers ago and I think it was the combo of seeing my professors travel and study abroad with students and being able to paint every day," he said.

"I really realized, especially when I was painting on the street side, how much I loved art. That is when

I decided to change my major from art [education] to studio art. I would say that was my happiest time in college."

Corbett chose to specialize in painting because it was an area that he excelled at during his studio art classes. Although he said that art has been one of the only subjects he has always done well in, it wasn't until he got to Michigan State that it became a big part of his life.

"I really like it because I think the art I have always responded well to were 2-D works," Corbett said. "I really like taking a narrative and putting it in my art and I think that painting is the best way for me to do that."

Corbett said that his narratives are not necessarily based on a specific experience, but on multiple experiences and observations he has had. He compiles multiple images to work from, not just one photograph.

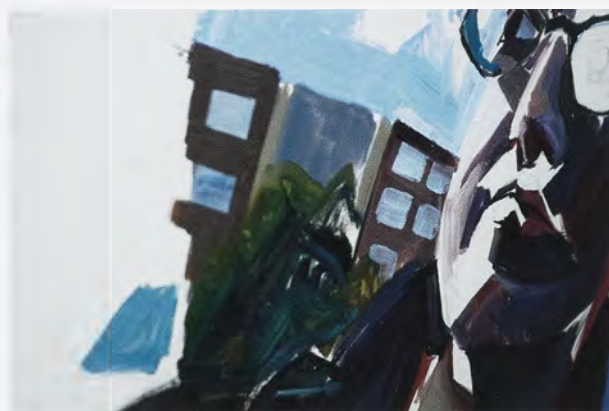
"I usually start out with a very specific narrative in mind," Corbett said. "I'll find imagery to work from. I'll pose my friends and take photographs and borrow photos from online sources. I'll collage a lot of components together. I don't paint directly from a photo; I paint things from observation."

Corbett's attention to detail is something that has helped him achieve great things with his work. This summer, he had work displayed in the East Lansing Art Festival. He was even able to sell some pieces, which allowed him to paint all summer instead of getting a summer job. In addition to being in the East Lansing Art Festival, Corbett also got acknowledgement in Art Prize, a festival in Grand Rapids.

After graduating in the spring, he hopes to attend graduate school to become a professional painter, as well as teach studio art classes at the college level. He said he's looking into graduate school at Indiana University, Pratt University, Columbia University and Pennsylvania Academy of Art.

Corbett has learned some valuable qualities from some of his professors at Michigan State that he hopes he can instill in his future students.

"I would say what I really took from several of my profs, especially when it comes to painting, is that very few people have an initial talent," he said. "It's something you have to put in the hours and work at. I think part of it is even just a self-confidence that if I work really hard at something I can achieve it."



Spencer Corbett shows a painting he is currently working on. Corbett often worked on more than one painting at a time.

Corbett works on a narrative for his senior art show. He looks to Eric Fischl, a narrative painter, for inspiration.

P

Sophomore Shalayla Howard avoids a steal from the opposition. Howard was one of her team's chasers.

Sophomore Charlie Andrews takes off running as the game's snitch. Quidditch games only end when one of the teams catch this player.



Sophomore Chris Kramer surveys the Quidditch pitch during a match against Lansing Community College. The Spartan intercollegiate team was founded this semester.



Alissa Lane

Alissa Lane

FLYING BROOMSTICKS

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Alissa Lane, Ellina Stein
Design: Betsy Eber

Harry Potter fanatics unite through their own "muggle" version of Quidditch

Fourteen players stand on "pitch," brooms between their legs with looks of determination on their faces. At each end of the "pitch" are three goal hoops standing, six, seven and eight feet tall. The commentator introduces the teams, the snitch runs off and with a sharp blow of a whistle, the referee yells "Brooms up!" and the game begins.

This isn't just any game; it's a Quidditch match. Based on the game played in the Harry Potter books by J.K. Rowling, each team is made up of three chasers, two beaters, one keeper, and one seeker. The players use four game balls; three red dodge balls - Bludgers - and one slightly deflated volleyball - the Quaffle. In the books, the snitch is a golden ball that seems to have a mind of its own as it flies. In this mortal version of Quidditch, the snitch is a person who runs around campus with a tennis ball in a sock tied to their pants.

"Ryan Duffy wanted to turn his love for Harry Potter into a club and a sport," freshman Kayla Barnes said. "He advertised a meeting for people who were interested. There were about 100 people at the first Quidditch meeting, so he asked a few people to sign up to be captains to help set up teams."

Barnes is the chaser captain of the team Mischief Managers. Other Michigan State Quidditch teams include Ministry of Magic, Nighthawks, Rampaging Pygmy Puffs and Fizzing Whizzbees. All the team names are based on aspects of the Harry Potter books. MSU is not the only school that has a Quidditch team. And being that it's an official club

sport, State can play other schools' Quidditch teams.

"Right now, we are trying to raise funds so we can travel to other schools to play them," sophomore Sara Tischler said. "Every year, there is a tournament called the Quidditch World Cup, and the school that wins that is the champion."

Since the club is new to campus, the teams have yet to play other schools.

"There are still points and wins and loses, but the games are more about getting a feel for playing the game," sophomore and captain of the Fizzing Whizbees Alyssa Dickey said. "Second semester, we hope to expand the club even further by having a playoff type of scenario going on with the club, as well as traveling to other schools in Michigan to play against other collegiate teams."

Getting acclimated to running around with a broom between their legs has taken some getting used to for the Quidditch players.

"I was the referee for a match one time and the snitch, being pursued by both seekers, came back to the pitch and tried to throw them both off his trail," Dickey said. "One of the seekers was thrown to the ground and ended up breaking her finger. It was bent at an completely unnatural and disgusting angle, so we had another player drive her to the hospital to get it fixed."

Although the matches are competitive and intense, the main goal of the Quidditch team is to have fun and unite people in their love for Harry Potter.



"There are still points and wins and loses, but the games are more about getting a feel for playing the game."

Junior Addy Culver carries the ball up the field as the opposing team tries to stop her. Ministry of Magic in the yellow played against Team NightHawk on Nov. 22 at the rock.

Alissa Lane

Ellina Stein



ADJECTIVES, CLAUSES & PHRASES

Teaching assistant brings wisdom and a laid back attitude to her classroom

“Where other TAs might feel the need to be formal, I feel the most comfortable being laid back.”

Adjective clauses and phrases. Adverbs and pronouns. What a stuffy subject in grammar. Walking into WRA 370, an introduction to professional writing and grammar course, students might expect to walk into an uptight, boring grammar class.

Instead, they get Daisy Levy.

Standing in the front of 14 students in 224 Bessey Hall was Levy in her black Capri pants and oversized light purple sweater. Her hair was pulled back tightly to her scalp as she was using her sweater to wipe a splash of water off her steel-framed glasses. In her own way, she looked more like she was ready to lounge on her day off than teach a professional writing class.

“She is just very chill,” senior Caitlin Belue said. “And it helps us because she knows that grammar is challenging, and her being laid back makes it easier for us.”

Maybe you can call her “chill.”

Levy opened the class session by letting students choose how they wanted to approach the topic of the day. She even cracked a Lemony Snicket joke when the class came about a dilemma when discussing the grammar of the pseudonym used by author Daniel Handler.

“Looks like we are in a Dileminy Snicket,” she said.

Oh, by the way, she isn't even a

professor. She is still just a teaching assistant. Levy is a doctoral student in rhetoric and writing.

“I honestly didn't even know she was a TA,” said one of her students, senior Teagan Clark. “I thought she was a professor.”

She credits that to her age.

“I am a little bit older than most TAs because I am a doctoral student,” she said. “I've already been through the master's stage, so I have a little bit more experience.”

Levy hasn't always called East Lansing home. She was born and raised in North Carolina and got her bachelor's degree in English from the University of North Carolina. She went on to earn her master's degree in English with an emphasis on creative writing from the University of Miami (OH). In 2005, she moved to East Lansing because she always liked the English program at State.

“I've been a lot of different places with my life,” Levy said. “It is kind of like what being a TA is like: you have to know how to juggle a lot of different roles.”

Beside teaching the introduction to professional writing and grammar, she also teaches Tier I writing classes. No matter what, though, she takes the same approach to every class: keep it laid back.

“Where other TAs might feel the need to be formal, I feel the most comfortable being laid back,” Levy said “I just want the students to feel at ease because, after all, it is about the students.”

Yup, she is definitely pretty chill.

Teaching Assistant Daisy Levy leads a discussion in her WRA class. The class discussions were usually very casual.

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Jessica Halfyard



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Daisy Levy, a doctoral student for Rhetoric and Writing, prepares to teach her WRA class. She earned her Masters in English from the University of Miami in Ohio.

P

Junior Thomas Jerry throws a dodgeball against Central Michigan University at the Michigan Dodgeball Cup. Jerry was in his third year with the team.

Senior Joe Marotta leads the Spartans in an offensive charge against Saginaw Valley State University. Marotta was a fourth year member and Assistant Captain.

“It’s much more than elementary, but I feel like it brings out my inner child.”



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Dodgeballs are lined up at the center of the court before each match. Team members who reached the balls first had a better chance of eliminating others.

First year member Jason Rich winds up against CMU. The Spartans hosted the Michigan Dodgeball Cup at IM West this year.



Standing in line to be picked for teams in elementary gym class is a lanky, uncoordinated kid's nightmare, especially during dodgeball week.

But the sport is no nightmare to MSU's dodgeball team.

The team practices three times a week for two hours at IM West, with games on weekends. MSU is currently ranked number three in the nation, with sophomore and team captain, Ian Childs, leading the way.

State was the first school to hold an intercollegiate dodgeball tournament and commonly plays teams like Grand Valley, Eastern Michigan, Central Michigan, Bowling Green, and Western Kentucky University.

Last year, MSU traveled to Kentucky and defeated the University of Kentucky (4-2), University of Louisville (7-0) and Western Kentucky (9-2).

Dodgeball is the largest club sport on campus, and since it was founded in 2003 it has become one of the largest student organizations.

The dodgeball team likely owes much of its expansion to free publicity at university events like Sparticipation.

"I joined after hearing about the club through Sparticipation," sophomore Brittany Clifton said. "I thought, 'Okay, if there is

a squirrel watching club, there must be a dodgeball club.'"

In order for a club to get started, there has to be student interest. And who doesn't love a friendly game where the main objective is to throw balls at people as hard as you can?

"Dodgeball is a great stress reliever. I like hitting people," Clifton said. **"It's much more than elementary, but I feel like it brings out my inner child."**

The team is always seeking new members, for any interested student.

"If you can catch, dodge and throw, you can play," Clifton said.

Freshman Stephen James encourages people to join the team.

"This is one of the better clubs on campus because you really get to know each other and everyone can play. It's well rounded," he said.

Clifton added, "I've made so many new friends - freshman to seniors of all different majors."

Not only do clubs at MSU help students expand their social circle, they allow for the acquisition of lifelong skills.

"Dodgeball has heightened my senses," Clifton said. "You're working together, and trusting people. I've learned that good teammates will help you out."

DODGE, DUCK, DIP, DIVE AND DODGE

Michigan State's dodgeball team encourages student participation

Text: Jessica Whitmill

Photo: Elise Lefere

Design: Betsy Eber

Senior Leslie Brown addresses the chapter while junior Marie Tashjian looks on. The Kappa Delta crest serves as a backdrop for weekly chapter meetings.

“I was looking for a close group of friends like those I had in high school, so going Greek was a great way to make campus seem a little bit smaller.”



Mason Robinson
Lauren Wood



Lauren Wood

President Leslie Brown and Secretary Marie Tashjian prepare for Fall Recruitment. The crafts were used for new members on Bid Day.

The official Kappa Delta gavel rests before use at a chapter meeting. Engraved with Brown's name, the gavel has been used by previous chapter presidents.



GREEK GODDESS

The life of the Kappa Delta sorority president

While public speaking is commonly considered a daunting task, 21-year-old Kappa Delta president Leslie Brown appears unusually at ease addressing large crowds. Sporting a smile with hands clasped at her sides, she gazes into the crowd without a hint of intimidation. The 115 pairs of eyes that stare back don't belong to strangers. Instead, they are those of Brown's sisters.

Elected in the fall of 2008, Brown planned on serving as Kappa Delta president throughout the course of a year. Having previously held leadership positions within the house, the senior now faces her most challenging role.

"The desire for presidency has always been there, but I never would have guessed had you told me four years ago," Brown said.

After participating in the 2006 fall rush, the small town freshman found a new home within the Greek community. Among the 13 different Panhellenic sororities on campus, she chose to make Kappa Delta her own.

"I was looking for a close group of friends like those I had in high school, so going Greek was a great way to make campus seem a little bit smaller," Brown said. "It's nice to see Greek letters on campus and know that we all belong to the same community."

Throughout the duration of her term, that community has grown to include additional members other than those within the Greek system.

"I've been able to make such amazing friends, meet prominent figures in both the East Lansing and MSU communities and make valuable contacts," she said.

Described by fellow sisters as both driven and professional, Brown serves as a prominent leader and role model within the house.

"When I was a freshman, it was amazing to have so many intelligent and talented young women to look up to," she said. "They served as great role models for me."

Preparing to graduate in the spring, Brown found herself within the final stretch. While anxious seniors normally find the task of balancing a full schedule difficult enough, Brown's smile fails to falter as she studied 16 credits, worked at a local physiology lab and served as Kappa Delta's president.

"The key to balancing everything is organization," Brown said. "Making time specifically for studying and time specifically for Kappa Delta helps ensure that I get everything done."

And there is much to do. Aside from weekly conference calls with national headquarters, Brown dedicates an additional eight to 10 hours per week to chapter meetings and other presidential duties.

"I feel my job is demanding, probably more so than most people realize," she said. "Many girls don't take notice of how much work goes into making sure everything is running smoothly."

Despite the time commitment, she's quick to discard the downfalls and note the benefits of going Greek. High on that list is the rewarding sisterhood shared among girls within the house.

"I've met some of my best friends throughout the experience," she said.

She also attributes her role as president to her improved speaking skills and newfound ability to handle large groups of people. One such crowd included several hundred eager girls participating in the fall 2009 rush. For those who've ever contemplated partaking in the Greek system, Brown offers a single piece of advice.

"Do it," she said. "I have grown immensely since joining. It has been a rewarding experience."

Text: Rachel Sylvester

Photo: Mason Robinson, Lauren Wood

Design: Vicari Vollmar

Sophomore Paul Knapp breaks away from a West Virginia defender. Senior Dan Hibler runs up the pitch to block the defender.

Sophomore Paul Knapp busts out from a scrum with the ball. The Spartans worked hard for an outstanding season that set the bar high for next year.



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“Hopefully next season we get the same opportunity and are good enough to make that leap from a great club to an exceptional team.”

Sophomore Paul Knapp jumps, with assistance from senior Dan Hibler, and snatches the ball away from West Virginia. The Spartans beat West Virginia to move on in the playoffs.



UNEXPECTED SUCCESS

Rugby team exceeds expectations and sets lofty goals for upcoming season

Starting a season with average expectations can sometimes reap the greatest success, and for a team that has not shown exceptional success in the past, the potential is limitless. This year, the men's club rugby team surpassed expectations and set a higher bar for seasons to come.

This season's most driving force in the team's commitment to success came from those who didn't believe.

"Our biggest accomplishment was the impact we had on teams that underestimated us," Paul Glass, senior and team president, said. "We have had a reputation of being a mediocre team in the past, but this year we played really well and showed a lot of heart against teams that were supposed to be better than us. I think we made an impression on our league, one that needs to be upheld by our underclassmen in years to come."

The team set goals and powered through them as the season progressed to a level that the team has not experienced in years.

"We went undefeated in our conference, we played really well against very good Division I teams, and we made it to Midwest Playoffs," junior Lee Spanski said. "Although we are disappointed we lost in the quarterfinals of the playoffs, I am still very pleased with what our team did this season and I believe we have a lot to build off for next fall."

The team ended the season ranked No. 6 in the country for Division II teams.

Although ending the season on a high note will

be a significant stepping stone into next season, the members of the team will be looking to fill some gaps after graduation.

"There are going to be some positions that need to be filled after some real role players graduate this year. However, we have a really strong group of young kids that will be able to step up," Glass said. "That, combined with a strong spring schedule and coaching from players who are graduating, should put us right back where we left off: competing with the top teams in the nation."

Going into next season with the momentum, the team has high expectations for their ability to succeed.

"I expect our team to do really well next fall," Spanski said. "I expect us to be no less than best in our conference, and our goal every season is to win the Midwest and make it to nationals. I expect us to compete for both of those spots next year."

The team has the tools to accomplish its goals, and the players have the dedication to create a strong team. What remains is a little fine-tuning to make the team run like a well-oiled machine; the kind that wins national championships.

"Michigan State Rugby is a great club program, but there is more work that needs to be done to get us where I think we can be," Glass said. "We did get the opportunity to go to nationals; we just never took full advantage. Hopefully next season we get the same opportunity and are good enough to make that leap from a great club to an exceptional team."



The Spartans work to get the ball out of a scrum against West Virginia. The team worked hard on their home pitch in the second half to eliminate West Virginia's chances of going to the national championship.

P

**“A
disability
shouldn’t
serve as an
excuse to be
incapable.”**

Senior Hope Springstead uses her walking stick to help guide her across campus. She said it is still somewhat of a difficult task.

084



A POSITIVE OUTLOOK

Student opens the eyes of others

Iced tea in hand with a cell phone pressed to her ear, Hope Springstead sat behind a table tucked into the far corner of Starbucks. Dressed casually in sandals with her hair over her shoulder, she talked eagerly into her phone, deep in conversation. While she initially appeared as yet another college student, the red and white cane placed at her side indicated she was anything but.

As a blind student, Springstead encounters daily obstacles that other students often take for granted. Walking across campus is a difficult task that she still finds herself struggling to master, even in her senior year.

"I had no help in figuring out where my classes were," she said. "You're thrown into this huge area and need to make your own. I can easily say I got lost every day for a month."

While transportation has been an issue, most recently Springstead has had to come to terms with a surprising obstacle: unaccommodating professors.

"I once had a professor who told me flat out I would fail his class. Another wouldn't accommodate me with the necessary formatting of materials," she said. "It was unexpected because you assume professors to be educated and understanding."

Regarding lectures, Springstead asks professors to e-mail slides and presentations, which can then be read through a speech program on her computer, and her exams are taken through the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities.

"A lot of people inquire about how I go about my day-to-day tasks," she said. "I get a lot of questions, but for the most part people are apprehensive. I have no problem telling people what they want to know."

As an aspiring news anchor, the 21-year-old senior also faces challenges within the field of journalism. Passionate about her future profession, she views her struggles in front of the camera as a minor setback.

"Trying to work a camera is definitely trying," she

said. "It's by far my biggest challenge of the semester."

Aside from classes and an internship with a local public relations firm, Springstead enjoys common activities such as reading and viewing movies. Some favorites include Danielle Steel novels and romantic comedies.

"It's the minor details in movies that you miss," she said. "But overall, I'm able to envision the story."

Along with movies, she is a dedicated Detroit Tigers fan and self-proclaimed shopaholic.

"I feel as if no matter the disability you may or may not have, the best way to people to perceive you is to present yourself in the best possible manner," she said.

When it comes to fashion, her outlook holds especially true.

"I hate being part of the misconception that I can't do anything by myself," she said. "I try to best represent in a positive manner and to the best of my ability," she said. "That helps tremendously."

Always the advocate for normalcy, Springstead often makes attempts to showcase both her independence and fashion sense.

"A disability shouldn't serve as an excuse to be incapable," she said. "If you make excuses, where is there to turn? There won't always be people you can depend on."

With graduation approaching in May, Springstead is taking a leisurely approach regarding future plans.

"Nothing is definite, although I'm applying for the Peace Corps in order to teach English in Africa," she said.

With aspirations such as world travel, it's obvious that she won't allow her disability to obstruct future plans.

"My biggest strength is my fearlessness and ability to go out and do things," she said.

After one last prolonged sip of tea, she stood, gathering her cane. Standing at just under five feet, she joked, "I'm obviously both visually and vertically handicapped, but it's cool - guys love short girls."



"I learned to read braille when I was eight. It wasn't hard because it was what I had to learn," Hope said.

Text: Rachel Sylvester
Photo: Lauren Wood
Design: Brendan Prost

**“For
someone
to wear
my dress
to the
Academy
Awards
is super
sweet.
If I can
do it,
someone
else can
too.”**

086



LIGHTS, CAMERA, SUSTAINABILITY

One student's dress design receives celebrity recognition

Senior Jillian Granz is inspired by fabric. As an apparel and textile design major, she is able to cultivate fashion from a seemingly ordinary piece of cloth. This year, she was pleasantly surprised when her design for a sustainable evening gown went from paper to red carpet glamour in a matter of two weeks.

For a class assignment, Granz entered the "Red Carpet, Green Dress" contest, founded by Suzy Amis Cameron, actress and wife of director James Cameron. Granz' design won.

Cameron wore Granz' dress design at the Academy Awards on March 7, proving that eco-friendly elegance does indeed exist.

To promote sustainable design, the contest required applicants to create an aesthetically pleasing gown from natural or organic materials. Out of over one million entries from around the world, Cameron told Granz that she "kept coming back to her dress."

"I was surprisingly calm," Granz said about her reaction to winning the contest.

The contest challenged her to make some alterations to her habitual design techniques. She was taught to recycle, but sustainability isn't usually high on the list for Granz when designing clothing.

"The dress only took about an hour to sketch out," she said, "but the research is what I spent the most time on. I looked up different cutting

techniques and ways to dye fabric." Granz eventually chose a no-waste pattern, a method that utilizes every scrap of fabric for the dress design. She also suggested the gown be made from peace silk, which allows silkworms to complete their life cycles instead of being boiled.

"It was really difficult because there's a fine line between fabrics that are sustainable and those that aren't eco-friendly," she said.

Granz is particularly excited about the opportunity to collaborate with a professional designer. On her itinerary is a trip to Los Angeles in March to meet Cameron and an Oscar-winning costume designer for the fitting. She will also attend a pre-Oscar party, where she'll be modeling a dress she designed herself.

"People asked me what I won. Well, I never would've thought in a million years that I'd win so I didn't even look at the site when I entered."

Although it's been a thrilling ride, Granz remains a humble college student, still unsure of what she'll do upon graduating this May.

What is for certain, however, is that when the dress is revealed at the Oscars, the spotlight will be on Granz, who hopes to inspire other young designers.

"For someone to wear my dress to the Academy Awards is super sweet," she said. "If I can do it, someone else can too."



Senior Jillian Granz sews a piece for one of her designs. Apparel and textile design students are often expected to construct their garments from scratch.

Granz works at a sewing machine in the Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture Building. The sustainable design competition was a world-wide contest.

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Lauren Wood
Design: Betsy Eber

FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE

Junior finds herself working three jobs to keep up with tuition bills

Students taking a full-load of courses generally find themselves busy enough, but imagine working three separate jobs in addition to being a full-time student. Sounds impossible, right?

Not for Morgan Sweeney, a junior who works three jobs in addition to going to classes, being a member of her sorority, Kappa Delta, the Pre-med Association and the Physical Therapy Club.

"I'm working three jobs because my parents make me pay for everything," Sweeney explained while she took her break at Melting Moments, an ice cream shop on Grand River Avenue. "I have to pay for all of my tuition, dues for Kappa Delta, my food and everything else I want or need to do."

Sweeney worked anywhere from 15 to 20 hours per week at Melting Moments, four to six hours per week at Olin Health Center's Physical Therapy Clinic and five to 10 hours at Applebee's.

For full-time, in-state students, not living in dorms, like Sweeney, tuition came in at a total upwards of \$5,000 per semester in the 2009-2010 school year. That amount didn't include the books, food or sorority dues that she was also responsible for paying for.

"I did take out student loans, but I didn't have a job last year so I knew I had to work," she said. "I got hired at Applebee's and Melting Moments this summer and my plan was just to work two jobs, but then I found out about the physical therapy job and since it applied to my major, I decided to apply. I got hired."

As with any 13-credit schedule, she found herself pressed for time to do homework, not to mention the fact she also had to incorporate work into her schedule and the stress of the looming tuition bill that many students receive each semester.

"I have a planner that I write everything down in," Sweeney said. "To help with stress, I try to work-out everyday, but sometimes I just don't have time."

Sweeney's typical day included her waking up at 8 a.m. to work on homework, then going to class from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., working at the Olin Health Center Physical Therapy Clinic from 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m., working at Melting Moments from 5 p.m. until 11:30 p.m., and then finally returning home to work on homework. Some nights, Sweeney had sorority meetings from 6:50 p.m. until 9 p.m. On those days, Sweeney was unable to work her usual hours. Unfortunately, because of her schedule, Sweeney sometimes had to miss out on social events put on by her sorority.

"I didn't have three jobs last year so I could go to the socials," she said. "But I have had to miss some socials this year. I have to make sure I schedule work around our meetings and philanthropy events because I can't miss those."

Fitting other extracurricular activities into her schedule was really important to her because she wanted to build her resumé for physical therapy school.

"I have to volunteer at Sparrow Hospital and take kinesiology classes. I am also a really outgoing, fun person, so I try to schedule time to go out and to relax."

Sweeney was positive that she will have to keep up her demanding work schedule in the future because of her plans for

physical therapy school.

"For what I am going in to, I have to go to P.T. school," she explained. "It will be nine semesters straight and that will cost me at least \$100,000."

Unfortunately, because she had to pay for physical therapy school on her own, cost of the school is a huge factor in her decision of where to go.

"I would love to go to Duke but it is crazy, crazy expensive," Sweeney said. "My other top choices are Florida or North Carolina, but out-of-state tuition is a factor so I am also looking at Central [Michigan University], Oakland [University] and Wayne State [University]. They all have great programs."

Currently, Sweeney is trying to focus on getting through her undergraduate program and save for her future education by working hard now.

"I'm really excited about my job at Olin because it will actually help me in the long run," she said. "Working [at Melting Moments] isn't always great. It's kinda weird to say that I work in an ice cream shop, but it's not that bad and is sometimes fun because it's all students."

In the tough economic state, many students suddenly found themselves financially responsible for more aspects of their lives, and although working multiple full-time jobs in addition to going to school may be difficult and stressful, for some, it was their only option.



9



**“I’m
working
three
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pay for
everything.”**

Junior Morgan Sweeney works the cash register at Melting Moments, one of her three jobs. Morgan also worked at Applebee's and Olin Health Center.

Morgan Sweeney studies at the library between working her three jobs. She had to find time to balance her jobs, school work and her responsibilities to her sorority, Kappa Delta.





Elise Lefere

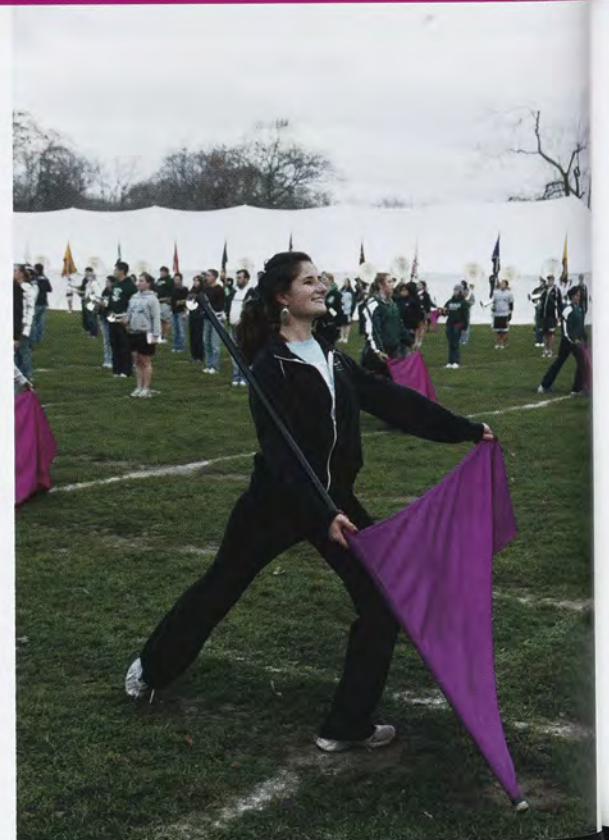
Senior Courtney Pustelnik waves the flag as part of her performance at the half-time show of a football game. Most of the Color Guard agrees it is an unforgettable experience.



Elise Lefere

The Color Guard practices their routine at Adams Field next to the stadium. They practice every day to prepare for football games on Saturdays.

Senior Mindi Murray practices her routine for the half-time performance. The Color Guard practices to perfect their routine.



Sophomore Konesko practices her flag performance was halftime game.



SPOTLIGHT

Color Guard members captivate half-time audiences

Imagine what it would be like to have to perform in front of 75,000 screaming fans every so often throughout the fall semester. Each performance feels as if it's bigger than the last, and each performance you are hoping that the fans staring at your green, black and white swirl of an outfit and your twirling red and yellow flag don't notice a misstep. It's a job that only the privileged can experience as a member of the Spartan Marching Band Color Guard.

"They're intense. From the time we march off Adams field, to when you run through the tunnel, it's just intense," said senior Katie Bonnivier, who transferred to State her freshman year and has been a part of the Color Guard for three years. "Almost like 'is this really happening' kind of a feeling. I have to be honest. I joined Color Guard to have really good seats at the football game. So just being able to cheer them on, and then go down on the field and be in arms reach of the team... It's such a big WOW factor in what I do."

The color guard is a 32-36 member part of the Spartan Marching Band that is similar to corps-style guards, and they incorporate dances into their performances with the band. The audition process to become a member of the color guard can be a little scary for some.

"Auditions are in July. You clean your basics, and you audition in front of Glen Brough, the visual director, Orlando the choreographer, and either Madden the band director or the section leader of the Color Guard,"

Bonnivier said. "They video-tape a piece of work about a half-a-minute long or so that Orlando taught you two hours prior, and you're expected to perform it at your highest level possible. It's a very intimidating process. I honestly can't believe I made it my first tryout after not doing anything Color Guard related for almost two years. It was really scary."

Members of the Color Guard are responsible for practicing every weekday from 4-6 p.m., and they have other sectional practices throughout the week. On game days, they are required to be on the field at 7 a.m. for morning rehearsals.

Katie agrees that the responsibilities are enormous, and the 20-plus hours of work that she has to put in would make getting homework done almost impossible if she didn't have a planner.

"The responsibilities are sometimes big," Bonnivier said. "But there is always the excitement of performing at half-time and high hopes of traveling with the football team, whether it's just down to Ann Arbor, or to a bowl game."

Katie also believes that if it weren't for the color guard, she wouldn't be the person she is today.

"If it weren't for the Color Guard, I wouldn't have 300 friends I can rely on every day," she said. "I've also become a better person with performing. I've developed a block in my head to get rid of the nervousness and enjoy the experience as one of the biggest adrenaline rushes I ever experienced."

Elise Lefere

Mason Robinson



Mason Robinson

"If it weren't for the Color Guard, I wouldn't have 300 friends I can rely on every day."

Sophomore Bethany Konesko performs with her flag. The performance was during the halftime of the Iowa game.

092

Michael Cotant pours a shot into Jenna Fries' mouth. Michael prefers shots over mixed drinks.



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Michael enjoys a drink with fellow students sophomore Michael Kazanowski, sophomore Jenna Fries and sophomore Lisa Leppla. He often finds himself enjoying a night out.

Hey, did you hear that Welcome Week was shortened? The University wants to get away from that whole "party school" stain that has been repeatedly rubbed in over the course of several years. So that means that East Lansing is now rid of those wild partiers, and filled with a bunch of school bag-toting students who despise alcohol about as much as we despise sex offenders, right?

Yeah, right. Try telling that to Michael Cotant.

Try telling it to the guy who, freshman year, was caught drinking a case in the lobby of Wilson Hall.

Try telling it to the guy who, for lack of better terms, was so drunk he exposed himself at a party.

Try telling it to the guy who believes the weekend starts Tuesday night, if his weekend ever even stops.

As you probably figured, Michael is "that guy." And oh, by the way, he is only a sophomore.

Yes, there are days when Michael doesn't feel like partying, but it doesn't take much to get him going.

"Sometimes he will say he is going to stay in to study or something like that," said longtime friend and roommate Carson Pitcher, a sophomore. "But then all you have to say is something like, 'Come on Cotant,' and he will get ready to party."

Michael agrees.

"I sometimes try to stay in," he said. "But when you live with nine guys, there is always going to be somebody who wants to

do something, and I never really say 'no.'"

Saying "no" is something Michael rarely does.

"Just one more shot" is something often heard from friends of Michael. And more often than not, he obliges. That "one more shot" often turns into just another "one more shot," and eventually another, until... well, you get the picture.

"There are times when I go out with Cotant after he's taken quite a bit of shots and he's pretty unpredictable," Pitcher said. **"I guess you could say he's been 'that guy' before."**

What about the drink of choice for "that guy?" It switches on occasions, but what else would a guy like Michael have as his go-to drink? The all-too-classy vodka, Burnetts.

"It's not my favorite-tasting drink," Michael said. "But it's cheap and it gets the job done."

That sentence is something the University doesn't want to hear, but Michael really doesn't worry about it.

"I don't want to break any rules and I try to go out without causing any trouble," he said. "Sometimes, though, stuff just happens."

Sounds like the University officials are going to have to wait at least two more years to get the OxyClean out and start scrubbing the party school stains out. But it is doubtful it will stop after that because, well, after all, you are always going to be able to find "that guy."

PARTY ALL THE TIME

Life's one big party when you're still young

Text: Colby Berthume

Photo: Mason Robinson

Design: Jessica Halfyard

"I guess you could say he's been 'that guy' before."



FUNNY MAN

Comedian Toby Hemker explains why nerves and embarrassing stories bring out his funniest side

Text: Angie Jackson
Photo: Veronica Nagy
Design: Betsy Eber

"Zany," "outgoing" and "annoying in a fun way" is how comedian Toby Hemker describes himself. Hemker, a 24-year-old in love with acting, has a résumé full of community shows, MSU plays, improv performances and even an indie film. And when this jokester is not on stage, you can find him absorbed in a Dean Koontz novel or going to outrageous lengths to make his friends laugh.

Blessed not only with the talent to make others laugh, Hemker also has the ability to laugh at himself. No matter how embarrassing something may seem, he strives to find comic relief in every experience.

This year, when preparing for his first improv competition, Last Spartan Standing, Hemker drew material from his own life. His quirky stories, such as his visit to an exorcist under his mother's suggestion to rid him of his homosexuality, helped him win the competition. While revealing details of one's personal life to hundreds of people may seem exposing, Hemker said that as a comedian, it's a surefire way to help the audience identify with you.

"Comedians often make the mistake of not being true to themselves," he said. "It's best to find things that the audience can relate to and connect with. If you take yourself too seriously, you become the biggest bad joke in the world."

For Hemker, the best way to be true to himself while performing is to let his nerves be the star of the show. Embracing nervousness instead of suppressing it helped him develop his comedy persona, he said.

"Nerves help bring a funny character to life. People who squelch their nerves are boring. An audience responds better to someone who is awkward," he said.

While jokes come easy for Hemker, it's the auditions that tie his stomach into knots. Like many aspiring actors, he has been denied multiple roles, but tries not to internalize the rejection. He copes with disappointment by sitting alone in his closet and letting his emotions pour out. But he doesn't dwell for long; after hundreds of auditions, he knows that one rejection simply means an opportunity for another role.

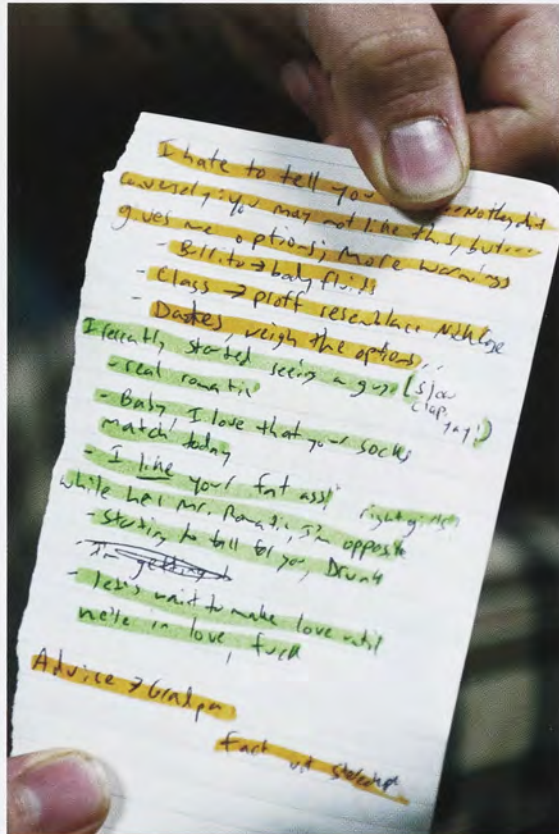
As for life beyond East Lansing, Hemker plans to channel his creative energy into modeling, community theater and films in either Pittsburgh or Chicago. In terms of measuring his own success, he says he'll feel he made it as long as he's on stage and making others laugh.

"For me, fame isn't success. Success is having the time and the talent to be able to do something that I love."

Toby Hemker, winner of Last Spartan Standing, gives his first performance after winning. Hemker opened up for comedian Ryan Reiss.

People: Comedian

Holding his set list, Hemker was pleased with this performance. He talked about his personal life and his family during his set.



“If you take yourself too seriously, you become the biggest bad joke in the world.”



The Union was packed, causing sophomores Amber Markey, Mitch Keipert and Jeff Narkis to enjoy Toby Hemker's show from the floor. Hemker received much praise from the audience.

P

Sophomore Jinsha Li takes homemade chopping capsicum out of her fridge. Chopping capsicum is a spicy spread used in traditional Chinese dishes.



COOKIN' UP SOME CULTURE

Chinese student discusses her love for cooking, American culture and Panda Express

Sophomore Jinsha Li occupies a small but cozy apartment on Cedar Street here at MSU. The transition to a social college life is a little harder when the only home she ever knew is an ocean and a continent away.

Li is an international student, hailing from the big city of Changsha in the Hunan province in China. After spending a year at the United International College in her home country, she was encouraged by her parents to study abroad. After looking at the many options across the Pacific, and swayed by the fact that a good friend was attending here, Li wound up at MSU in 2008 after spending her entire life in China.

So how did Li make the adjustment to her new surroundings? Socially, it was a bit of a learning process.

"Last year, I felt that I could live my own life, I don't need any social life or any network," Li said. "This winter break I went to Duke University, where my cousin's brother school is, and he inspired me a lot. He's the kind of person that loves college, and he told me that there are so many interesting people in the college that you have to know, and you can do a lot of fun stuff there."

"If you just pay a lot of attention on studying on your grade, you won't remember anything after you graduate."

With that in mind, Li came back with to school with a fresh attitude. Li got directly involved with the Chinese language program here, offering to help students with their Chinese and at the same time practicing her own English skills. Li said she already made a few more connections because of these tutoring sessions, and has made her way out to events like the Malaysian Culture Night and the Lunar New Year Show put on by the MSU Vietnamese Student Association.

When Li isn't studying bio-system engineering (she wants to be an environmental engineer) or helping out students with their Chinese, you can probably find her in her small, but cozy, kitchen.

"I love cooking, I do it for fun," Li said. "I think

it's like a relaxing of mind after studying for the whole day."

Almost all of Li's various cooking supplies and spices have Chinese labels on them. Predictably enough for this aspiring chef, the food is what Li misses the most from her homeland. When asked about what she thought of our own spin on Chinese food, she said she wasn't a fan of Panda Express. Li gets most of her food through her own kitchen.

The falling out between Li and Panda Express is only one bone she has to pick with American culture. According to Li, the social environment here differs very much from what she's used to in China.

"I feel like over here, people kinda live in their own life, more independent," Li said. "Me and the other people could be good friend in class but after the class and everybody gone, I never see them again, especially if we don't have the same class for next semester, I'll probably never see that person again."

However, for the most part, Li enjoys the environment presented here on campus and also the ability to live on her own and become more independent. And although she doesn't plan on staying here after graduation, Li hopes to have spread her culture to those around her as well as fully adapted to culture she's in.

"I'm not trying to be like an American kid, but at the end of the four year I wish they could see me not as a foreigner," Li said. "I'm just trying to know more people. [I want to tell those people] about my culture, to let them know more about my background."

Through the mentoring program she got involved with for the Chinese language program, Li should get plenty of opportunities. If she really wants to bring in people, she may have to go through their stomachs with her cooking. Although she has no plans to continue that venture as a career, she could do very well if she used her prowess to upend the infamous Panda Express.

People: International Student

Text: Jacob Kanclerz

Photo: Elise Lefere

Design: Brendan Prost

Sophomore Jinsha Li displays many things in her apartment that remind her of China but also incorporate her life in East Lansing. This garment hangs from her door as a catch-all for bills, mail, and keys.



Jinsha Li likes to stir up pancake mix with chop sticks instead of a hand mixer. Li enjoys merging her Chinese culture with American culture.



Cooking Chinese food is one of the ways Jinsha Li copes with being away from home. Li was a second year international student at MSU.

“I’m not trying to be like an American kid, but at the end of the four year I wish they could see me not as a foreigner.”





issues

New and unusual developments filled the school year, creating new opportunities and road blocks within our campus environment.

Life brought us choices, causing us to make decisions on issues affecting our daily lives and allowing us to forge new paths.

Whether it was expressing ideas through ink on our bodies, or signs, or grabbing a late night snack, it's the decisions, both big and small, that interconnect, as pieces, to weave our experiences together.

As Spartans, we became the needle and thread, stitching together our own stories to make history. ■

Freshmen Taylor McPhail, Jaclyn Nagel, Morgan Grosbee and Natalie Humphrey enjoy fireworks at Munn Field. The display was put on to conclude Sparticipation.



WELCOME WEAKE

Shortened Welcome Week leaves students wanting more

Had people not known any better, the eclectic collection of colors bursting in the dark-lit sky reflected the vigor and excitement of our nation's anniversary. Unfortunately for the students scattered among Munn Field who were watching the display, the disappointment of Welcome Week becoming more like Welcome Couple of Days couldn't be fixed by simple pyrotechnics.

The term "Welcome Week" is generally associated with huge raging parties that last for an entire week, but this year, the University decided to shorten the welcome period to only three days in order to "cut down on excessive partying."

"This is my fifth and possibly last Welcome Week, and I'm sad because it's only three days long," senior Sean Morse said as he sat on the front lawn of his fraternity house, encouraging people to join his and his brothers' party. "They say that Welcome Week sends a bad message to students, but give kids a break; they just want to have fun before all their classes start."

Last year's Welcome Week brought 557 citations, 106 arrests and 134 minor-in-possession citations. However, East Lansing police chief Tom Wibert said that most of the big issues stemmed from people who are not affiliated with the University.

"[Michigan State University students] clearly have something good about them, since they got into MSU in the first place," Morse said. "I think they are being too hard on students about partying."

Although the abbreviated Welcome Week was an attempt to keep more students safe, the only people who were truly affected by the change were those living in the dorms. Students who lived off-campus were could move in before the official Welcome Week began.

"I don't think shortening Welcome Week really accomplished anything," said senior Steve Zuraski, who dressed as a ship captain for his nautical-themed Welcome Week party.

"People who don't live in the dorms can move in early anyways, so they can party anyways. Most Welcome Week

parties don't happen in the dorms in the first place. Although, I do kinda like how the first week of classes is only Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, so we can ease into it."

Even if the decision to shorten Welcome Week didn't please everyone on campus, it is undeniable that it did do some good. During this year's Welcome Week, there were only 478 citations, 82 arrests and 94 minor-in-possession citations.

"I think it helped a lot," said senior Brad Beesley, a resident mentor. "From my freshman year, I can remember thousands of people walking around and this year there were not nearly as many people. Personally, I didn't mind the shortened week because I am an R.A., so I moved in two weeks early. But, I think freshmen should have had a longer time to get acclimated to campus. In years past, there were more welcoming activities spread out throughout the week. They are really beneficial. They help incoming students get into the groove of campus."

In the past, students, especially freshmen, had a week to get settled, buy books, prepare for classes and explore campus.

This year, many students felt more rushed to get organized and ready for classes. In addition to preparing for the first day of classes, students were also encouraged to attend the University-sponsored activities, which were scheduled during the shortened welcome period.

These activities included U-Fest at The Union, Sparticulation and the Welcome Barbecue at Munn Field, followed by Sparty's Pep Rally and fireworks. However, because students had less time to settle in, many missed out on these activities.

"I just transferred here this year, so I never got to experience the original Welcome Week," junior Rob Lyon said. "I am just trying to have a good time. I missed out on those University activities, though."

On a campus of over 45,000 students, its nearly impossible to please everyone. And regardless of popular demand, the Administration said they planned to keep the abbreviated Welcome Week schedule in the future.

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Betsy Eber



Students enjoy a picnic dinner on Munn Field during the annual Sparticulation. Dining halls were closed down during dinner to encourage students to attend.

Sophomore Joel Hudson rocks the bass at a show at Mac's Bar. Although he attends Jackson Community College, Hudson counts himself as a Wolverine fan, to the dismay of three of his MSU bandmates.

Doug Bieber, lead singer of The Standard, performs at Mac's Bar. Bieber is a junior at MSU and helped found the band with long-time friend and drummer Lee May.



The Standard performs together onstage at Mac's Bar in Lansing. "This is the way we postpone growing up," sophomore Austin Brown said of being in the band.



MEETING THE STANDARD

Local band continues to rock despite distance, busy schedules

The Standard, a local band hailing from Jackson, is comprised of three MSU students, a UofM student and another in community college who supports the Wolverines. So how does the whole Michigan State-Michigan rivalry pan out for these guys?

"I'm the butt-end of every joke," said Michigan sophomore Austin Brown.

While the age-old clash between the schools doesn't affect the band's chemistry and well-being, the fact that all five members are current students does take its toll.

Simple question: What's it like balancing being a student and being in a band?

Almost simultaneously: "Very hard."

Regardless, Evan Jones, guitarist and junior at MSU, Doug Bieber, lead singer and junior at MSU, Joel Hudson, bassist and sophomore at Jackson Community College, Lee May, drummer and junior at MSU and Brown enjoy what they do.

"This is the way we postpone growing up," Brown said.

Like a lot of bands, the group came together after years of friendship and a couple successful jam sessions with a mutual love of playing music, and although they're not exactly shooting for the big time, they have accomplished a lot since they formed in 2008. The band released their self-titled EP on iTunes, which has helped with publicity, as well as playing frequent concerts around Michigan, including two in East Lansing prior to this November interview.

The band refers to themselves as pop/alternative rock-oriented, and although they find it hard to compare themselves to specific bands, they admit that prominent '90s bands like Blink-182 and the Red Hot Chili Peppers influenced their sound.

"That was my favorite genre of music ('90s), still to this day, especially those Buzz Ballads," Hudson said, referring to the collection of '90s hits seen on infomercials.

While they planned on recording over the winter, The Standard is trying to make their name with their live show.

Once again, a simple question: What do you guys bring to your live show?

Among the jumbled mix of responses: "Tons of energy," "Running around and doing flips" and of course, "A man on fire."

The Standard is very adamant about bringing exuberant energy to their show, balancing musicianship with an overall entertaining performance. Their strategy may have been effective, as a good number of people lined up outside the door before their Nov. 9 show at the Small Planet north of campus. The band members were very eager once they recognized this, noting that their energy feeds off the crowd's.

Despite the fun of playing a show, the band still attributes maintaining the band through distance and different schedules is like another full-time job on top of school.

"The fun part is what we are about to do in an hour," Brown said before the show. "The rest of it is promotion and publicity, and it gets to be a lot work."

Text: Jacob Kanclerz
Photo: Elise Lefere
Design: Vicari Vollmar

PIECE OF MIND

Bridge Cards leave roommates' minds at rest when it comes to grocery shopping

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Elise Lefere
Design: Betsy Eber

The final years of the 2000-decade were marked by financial turmoil, and many students looked to the government to help pay for basic necessities.

For MSU sophomores Stephanie Scheldt and Cathleen Zuzelski and Lansing Community College sophomores Dominique Gentle and Allison Hoofman, Bridge Cards have been a saving grace this year. The roommates applied for bridge cards when they got their off-campus apartment.

"We all have to pay for our own schooling and rent and Steph's parents are both out of work," Zuzelski said. "Our parents are not helping us out all that much."

The four girls spent months job hunting, but by October, Scheldt was the only one able to find a job. Although all four girls worked over the summer and saved money, they were worried about being able to make ends meet. They decided Bridge Cards would be a huge help.

The Bridge Card is the government's new form of food stamps. The card works as a debit card with a pin number and can be used at most grocery stores for any item that is not taxed, such as food. Personal care items and pre-prepared foods cannot be paid for with the Bridge Card, and when the cardholder checks out, the card separates the food from the other items bought, so there still may be a balance.

The girls had to go to the Department of Human Services in downtown Lansing to apply for their card.

"It's really nice because it's one less thing we have to worry about each month," Zuzelski said. "When our rent is due and our electric bill and tuition bills come, I couldn't imagine not having a Bridge Card to help out with food."

"Since it's our first time living on our own, it's hard

to expect all the little expenses too," Scheldt added.

Although some of the girls' parents are helping out a little with tuition and rent, they all have student loans taken out. Being unemployed added to the stress on their bank accounts.

Only one Bridge Card is allowed per household, but since the girls are not related and they all have separate bank accounts and assets, they each were allowed to get their own card.

"When you apply for the card, you have to give out a ton of information. It's a pretty big process," Zuzelski said.

"It's such a huge process. I think it helps keep people from abusing the system," Scheldt added. "Plus, it's easier and less embarrassing than food stamps."

Although October was the first full month all four girls had their Bridge Cards, in the past months they used all the money they were allowed on groceries.

Having enough money to eat is a serious matter, but the girls were able to find humor in having Bridge Cards.

"We'd all be really skinny without it," Zuzelski joked.

The girls agreed they were incredibly grateful for the Bridge Cards.

"A lot of people say we are taking money away from people who really need it, but we have all had jobs in the past and have paid taxes," Zuzelski said.

The girls believe it would be hard for someone who doesn't really need help to get a Bridge Card because of the process involved in applying for one.

"The process is really long, so I would guess that you wouldn't bother going through it if you didn't really need it," Zuzelski said.

The four roommates work together on a salad. At mealtime, they work together and compile their food because they "enjoy a lot of the same foods."





Stephanie Scheldt shows off her Bridge Card. It works as a debit card when purchasing food at most grocery stores.

The Bridge Card helps the girls stock their fridge and cupboards. Each girl receives \$200 per month for food.



Tattoo parlor Splash of Color on Grand River Avenue is a hot spot for Michigan State students to get their tattoos done. The lobby displays the art work of the parlor's artists.

Junior Fiona Smith has two coy fish on her back to represent love and friendship. She sees her body as a canvas to tell stories through art.





Junior Fiona Smith recently got a ladybird poppy on her left shoulder. The tattoo was done for her mom whom Fiona gave poppy seeds because she has been going through a lot of personal issues.

Senior, Cody Barz, got his tattoo as a memorial to his grandpa who died of cancer. Cody had his tattoo done at Fish Ladder Co. in Lansing.



EXPRESS YOURSELF

MSU students see tattoos as a way to showcase their past

Sometimes a tattoo might not serve a purpose. It might have been a spur of the moment decision at reaching age 18, the epitome of freedom.

Other times, a tattoo can say a lot about a person. They might tell a story, a secret or serve as a symbol for an important life event.

With so many tattoo parlors in the Lansing area, Michigan State students have an endless opportunity to tat themselves up, as long as they've got the cash.

"We set prices based on how long the tattoo will take, the size, the detail," said Erika Gomez of Splash of Color Tattoo and Piercing on Grand River. "The minimum is \$50, but we do put coupons in the student coupon books in high traffic places. They're easy to get."

But Splash of Color isn't the only tattoo shop in the area.

"I chose to go to Fish Ladder because it's a little cheaper than Splash, and the artists are really good," freshman Elizabeth Nighswonger said.

Nighswonger and friend, Kelsea Solo, also a freshman, went to Fish Ladder for Solo's first tattoo, and Nighswonger's second.

"I'm very excited, but also a little nervous," Solo said.

Yet Nighswonger insists the pain is minimal.

"My first tattoo felt like a cat scratching my foot," she said. "It wasn't bad."

Solo decided to get a pencil on her right wrist.

"I chose the pencil because you can lose everything, but thoughts and ideas will always be your own," she said. "It's kind of like I'm writing my life."

Nighswonger decided on a flock of birds.

"It represents my relationship with my mom and brother," she said. "We stick together like a flock of birds."

Junior Fiona Smith also has a deeper meaning behind her tattoos.

"Unless you don't have a brain, I think a tattoo should mean something to you," she said.

Smith sports two koi fish on her back and a ladybird poppy on her shoulder.

"I identified better with the koi fish when I was 18," she said. "I don't completely regret it. I see my body as a canvas, and my tattoos just tell a story of my life."

Others get tattoos to serve as a memorial for a lost relative, like senior Cody Barz.

"I got a memorial piece for my grandfather about a year ago," he said. "I was really close to him. I spent a lot of time with him when I was younger, so it means a lot to me."

Junior Danielle Parlapiano decided to represent where she came from.

"I always wanted to get a tattoo, so I got a map of Sicily," she said. "I'm Sicilian. I'm never going to regret it because it's my heritage. I'm never going to be ashamed of who I am."

Text: Jessica Whitmill
Photo: Ellina Stein
Design: Brendan Prost

Ann-Marie Christman interprets in her office in the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities. She tries to wear dark, solid colors when interpreting because it's less straining to look at for long periods of time.



ACCESS FOR ALL

Sign Language interpreter allows deaf or hard-of-hearing students access to professors' lectures

Dressed in all black, graduate student Ann-Marie Christman enters the classroom. She brings a chair to the front of the room, sits down facing the students and removes her striped scarf, and as the professor begins to lecture, Christman raises her hands and begins talking – with her hands.

Christman graduated from Michigan State with a bachelors degree in social work, earned her associates degree in sign language interpreting and returned to Michigan State to get her masters degree in public policy. While studying for her masters, she works as a sign language interpreter for the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD) with national accreditation.

It takes a special person to dedicate their time to learning sign language and have the desire to become an interpreter. The challenge of the skill is what kept Christman interested.

"I like the intellectual challenge that different courses present," she said. "The actual interpreting is not the hardest part; that's just knowing how to use your short term memory. The hardest part is navigating all the different personalities you interact with."

The challenge was not the only thing that drew her into the interpreting field. In high school, Christman played on the soccer team and one of her friends and teammates was deaf. It inspired her to take sign language classes in college, and once she started, she found it was something that she enjoyed doing.

"For my associates, I had to do an internship 16 hours a week for two semesters," Christman said. "I worked with deaf and hard-of-hearing senior citizens. I met interpreters while I was doing my internship and I thought it was more interesting than what I was doing. It's a high demand profession, so there's lots of jobs. Essentially, I became an interpreter because I have an affinity for language acquisition and I like that you do something different everyday."

Christman is one of 100 interpreters who are eligible to work in the state of Michigan. Three other of the 100 interpreters also work in Michigan State's RCPD office.

"It is pretty safe to say that we are the leader in Michigan for providing help for all sorts of access," Christman said. "I'd say that a lot of people with disabilities choose here because of that, and the College of Education since it has a deaf education

program. Also, we had a vet med student who was here and she was really happy with her experience with our interpreters and she spread the word. There are about 100 deaf medical people in the nation and we've turned out three of them. I think that really says something about our program."

RCPD tries to match interpreters with classes that are within their realm of knowledge because it makes it easier when interpreting technical terms and vocabulary. This also allows the interpreter to do less prep work before going into a classroom.

"I couldn't feasibly learn the material for every class I interpret," she said. "Earlier this semester, I was interpreting seven different classes, so it's nice to have the terminology, especially if they use other languages. I usually buy copies of the textbooks because it helps to have them for author names and other things professors might reference in lecture."

Christman said that she has never had a negative experience interpreting in a classroom, but also said since she is relatively new, it could happen in the future. She realizes that, since there are about 30 deaf or hard-of-hearing students at Michigan State and only five of those students use interpreters, not every professor has had an experience with a deaf student, so often it's a learning experience for the professors as well.

"I always make contact with the professor before the semester starts just to clear up any questions," Christman said. "Sometimes, professors have never dealt with deaf students before, so it's a new experience for them, but also, if professors are not raised in the U.S., they may see disabilities in a different way, so navigating that can be interesting. But usually by the third or fourth week of class, they've forgotten you're there."

Each classroom is like a new job for Christman because each student she interprets for is so different.

"Some like me to interpret the lecture word-for-word, others like me to paraphrase, others don't take any notes; they just take the lecture in by memory," she said. "I think at all times you maintain the professional boundaries that you would have between a professor and a student because we are university employees first and foremost. I've had both; some students stay strictly professional and others like to develop a more interpersonal connection."

Text: Leslie Tilson

Photo: Alissa Lane

Design: Betsy Eber

Ann-Marie shows the international sign for "access". This sign means that there is an interpreter available.

If you happened to pass by the Brody complex over the year, you probably noticed the huge, sleek, futuristic structure currently being erected in the heart of the neighborhood. Or, as one overheard MSU student eloquently states: "It looks like the Death Star crash-landed right there."

This is no ruined monolith of galactic destruction, however, but a project to inject new life into the Brody Neighborhood and overturn students' long-held, somewhat unfavorable perceptions about the quality of the food served in the complex. Soon, the Brody complex cafeteria will become Brody Square.

Robbia Pipper, the manager of culinary services at Brody Neighborhood, said that this project cost the university \$49 million.

"Construction began in January 2009," she said. "The entire project will be completed in August 2011."

Pipper said that there are two phases to this project. Phase one, which encapsulates the new cafeteria space and dining facilities on the second floor of the building, will be completed in August 2010. Phase two, which includes classrooms, computer labs, offices, and a food emporium on the first floor, will be completed in August 2011.

"We will have nine new venues at this cafeteria," Pipper said. "There will be an international station called 'Pangaea', we have 'Ciao' and 'Brimstone' – similar to the ones at The Gallery, we'll have 'Dolce'; our dessert station, 'Homestyle'; which will have two rotisseries and a smoker, 'Veg Out'; a completely vegetarian and vegan station, we'll have fresh salad and sushi daily, and we'll have 'Boiling Point'; a pasta station where we'll also make fresh pasta every day."

In addition, there will be a Southwest station, where fresh tortillas and chips will be made every day, and a demonstration kitchen. Pipper said the idea is to be able to do live feeds from prep stations and hopefully bring in celebrity chefs throughout the year.

Residents at Brody complex are optimistic

about this project, believing that it will give their neighborhood a much-needed face-lift.

Carolyn Schulte, a zoology junior and a Resident Advisor at Bryan Hall, thinks the new cafeteria will increase demand among students to live in the Brody Neighborhood.

"They said that they're going to have a sushi bar, and I love sushi, so I'm looking forward to that a lot," Schulte said.

Ronda Jennings, an accounting sophomore and Level Two Supervisor at the current Brody cafeteria, plans to come in over summer to get things set up in the new cafeteria building.

"There's also going to be a bigger dish room, which is what we really need," she laughed.

"I think we're going to be seeing a lot more upperclassmen here soon. Just like how people here now rush over to Snyder, I think people are going to start rushing over here to us soon. Most people think the food here is disgusting and no one wants to touch it, so it'll be a good turnaround."

Pipper hopes this project will increase the Brody Neighborhood's status in the eyes of more senior students here at MSU, and she estimated that more off-campus meal plans would be sold to students who live in the apartments near the complex.

Pipper feels that part of the excitement of this project is that both she and MSU students living at Brody could be a part of something new and original.

"When Brody was first finished in 1956, students must have thought this was just the greatest thing – to be part of a new operation and a new facility. And now, for us, it's an exciting time to have all this new, state-of-the-art equipment coming in, with all these different venues and dining facilities. We have 38 different paint colors on the second floor alone."

"It's everything anyone could want – opening up a new facility under one roof. It's just incredibly exciting to be a part of that."

TO STUDENTS' HEARTS, THROUGH THEIR STOMACHS

The Brody neighborhood hopes to rebrand itself through its new cafeteria building

Text: Isaac Hee
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Vicari Vollmar



Workers perch atop Brody's new front facade. The new dining facilities are expected to open in Fall 2010.





A view of the Brody Hall construction project, in which the first phase initially began in January of 2009. The majority of the hall was closed off, with the exception of the dining area.

A view Brody Complex residents became used to during the school year—through the fence, which encompasses nearly all of Brody Hall.

Junior Shane Carney chows down on his burger at McDonald's on a Thursday night at Midnight. The Grand River McDonald's thrives on their late-night business during the weekends.



MCDONALD'S IN THE MOONLIGHT

Students gather at the fast food chain for good times, laughs and french fries

It's 2 a.m. Some students may be sleeping, others still partying, and some can be found meandering down Grand River Avenue. The rest are at McDonald's.

The low Golden Arch shines bright on the somewhat darker side of Grand River, accompanied by the dozens of headlights congesting the parking lot. Horns are blaring, people are yelling, students are gathering in circles and it's not uncommon to see a police car on duty.

The story inside isn't much different. Photos of Spartan athletics hang on the walls, the tables meant for four are fitting six or seven and a line of hungry students extends out the door.

Inside, the students do not seem to be in a rush as they're surrounded by friends, sharing laughs and exchanging stories of their shenanigans from just hours before.

Aside from a few Spartan decorations, this McDonald's is no different than any other, yet many students admit to going about once a week. So why is it so popular?

The late business hours undoubtedly contribute to a large part. Some students say it's the close location; others say it's the delicious golden fries.

The majority of the reason, though, is the atmosphere.

"They aren't judgmental here," said senior Ryan Gerlach. "I once ate an entire meal in here with my shirt off."

He went on to add, "I've been coming here since freshman year. It's a good place to meet people. And of course, the Frappalates are delicious"

Gerlach recalled some of his late night memories at

McDonald's, including a riot in which students began jumping over the counter, and the police were forced to intervene. He also shared something he called "pickle races" where students throw pickles on the window in an intense competition to see whose would slide down first, as seen in the movie Billy Madison.

Senior Kristina Adaire and friends admit to coming to McDonald's solely for the atmosphere. "I only come about once a month," Adaire said. "I break my healthy habits because there are so many people here."

The hectic atmosphere is one that has been known to cause the employees who work weekend shifts a great deal of stress. In fact, the restaurant was forced to block off the upper level to keep an eye on all the customers.

"It can be nerve-racking," manager Chelsea Overbeck said, "but you get used to working with people. You definitely have to keep your cool in order to keep the customer happy."

Sophomore Emily Brown added, "There are so many people in here, it takes a lot of effort for a business to be able to do that - to provide good customer service."

While most would be turned off by a McDonald's filled to capacity, some students enjoy that aspect of late night dining where you are more than likely to run into someone you know.

"Everyone's having a good time," freshman Tyler Soule said. "It's essentially like the club, but without the music. You can't move without bumping into someone or spilling a drink, but everyone is happy. It's just like a party."

But perhaps Junior Jenny Stewart said it best: "McDonald's is where it's at, even if it makes you fat."

Text: Jessica Whitmill

Photo: Ellina Stein

Design: Brendan Prost



An illuminated welcome for students at midnight. Students filled the lobby and cars lined up outside McDonald's on busy weekends.

OUT ON THE TOWN

Text: Angie Jackson
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Betsy Eber

Students describe what they love about MSU's night-life

It's Friday - the night students have been waiting for since last weekend ended, and Grand River is lined with party-goers. A group of four attempts to drag a stumbling friend who topples over onto the pavement, while a car full of rowdy passengers belts out Britney Spears' new hit. The streets are alive with people who are looking for one thing: a good time.

Spotted from Grand River is the unmistakable sign that the weekend is upon us: a long line outside Rick's. The fact that it's October doesn't stop girls from dressing to impress in their skimpiest dresses and highest heels. Among those waiting to cut loose with a few drinks is senior Jenny Barszczowski, who laughs about an incident that happened while pre-gaming.

"Someone farted and it smelled like Captain Morgan's. I thought my apartment was going to blow up!" Barszczowski said. Unsure of where she'll end up at the end of the night, she knows she's guaranteed to have fun.

"I never usually have a plan, I just go wherever the wind blows. It makes it more exciting," Barszczowski said.

Outside the Peanut Barrel, senior Derrick Brown and junior Sarah Wooden are on the hunt for the nearest liquor store. Wooden, who prefers house parties, looks forward to every weekend because it allows her to drink without having any obligations the next day. Brown, visiting from Grand Valley, drank like a champ every night of the week and claims he somehow never experiences the dreadful morning-after effects of alcohol. East Lansing's unbeatable night-life always leaves him with a good story to tell, though.

"One time, my friend got naked at a fraternity house and ran around a party that was filled with over 200 people. It made everyone a little bit uncomfortable, but it was absolutely hilarious," Brown said.

Brown isn't the only one with stories to tell. Senior Mike Andrie said working at a bar gave him plenty of opportunities for a good laugh.

Patrons wait outside of P.T. O'malley's. Grand River is almost as crowded at night as it is during the day on the weekends.

"One time, a guy came up to the bar and told us he could handle any shot. He was probably trying to impress the women, so we convinced him to take a Bloody Marine, which is a tequila shot with a splash of salt, and then lime gets squirted in the person's eyes," he said. "He went outside and puked right after. The ridiculous things people do to impress the ladies."

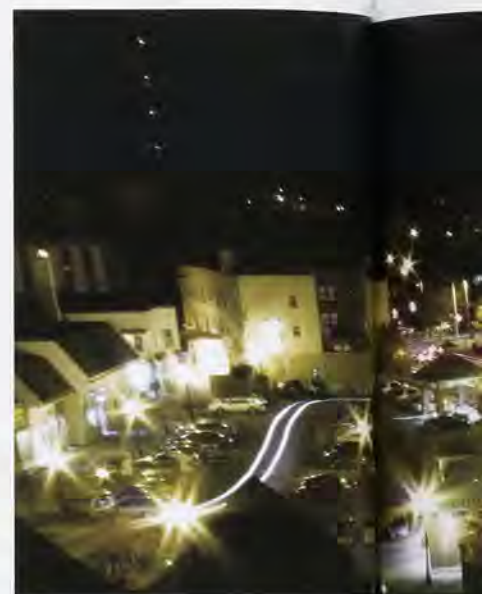
Closing in on midnight, the line outside Rick's is curving down Albert. This doesn't bother senior Jessica Meek, who will stand in any line because it's worth the wait.

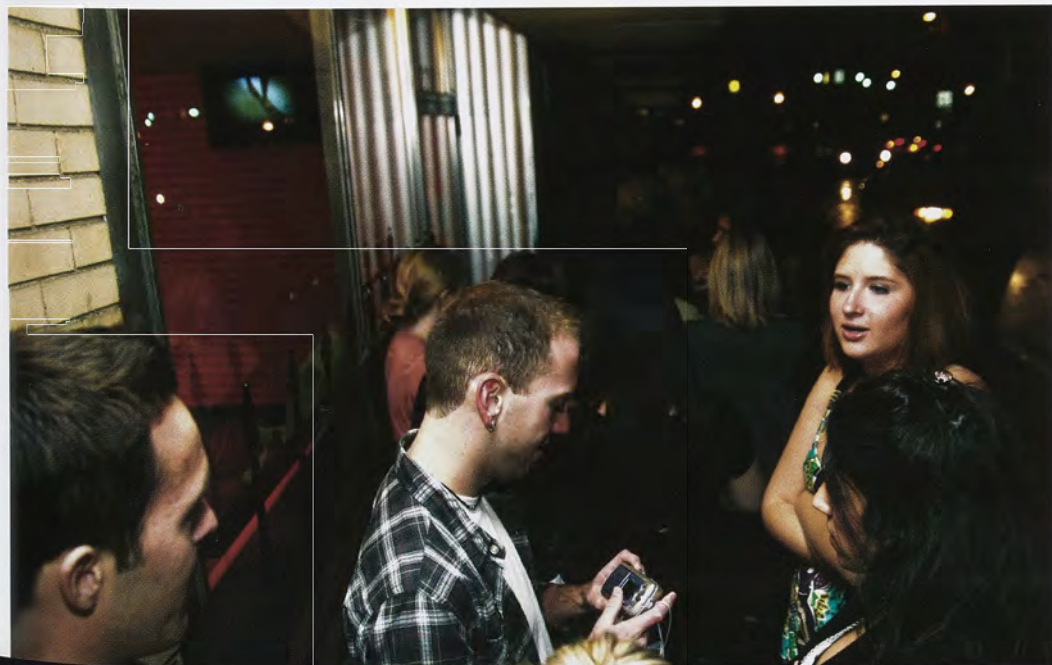
"Once after a game, I waited an hour-and-20 minutes to get into The Landshark. It was a long wait, but I had a great time," Meek said. Two friends waited with her and agreed that the best part about the night-life in East Lansing is the variety.

"If I want a high energy party atmosphere, I go to Rick's. But if I'm looking for something chill, a place to meet people a little more personally, I head to PT's," said senior Lisa Lucido, who goes out three or four nights a week.

As Friday night turns into Saturday morning, the party atmosphere on the streets of Grand River escalates. From meeting new people to spending time with good friends, there's always fun to be had in East Lansing. For some, college just wouldn't be the same without the late nights that make for unforgettable memories.

"The party scene in East Lansing has definitely made my college experience more exciting and memorable. I can't say I remember everything, but it's been fun," Barszczowski said.





An overhead view of downtown East Lansing. The variety of night life is what attracts many students.

Students wait to get into a bar. For many partiers, a long line is worth the wait for a fun night with friends.



THE HAUNTED HYPE

Students speculate whether or not Mary Mayo Hall is haunted

Text: Jessica Whitmill
Photo Illustrations: Mason Robinson
Design: Jessica Halfyard,
Vicari Vollmar

An ear-piercing scream and then silence. A woman dangles from the ceiling, exhaling a cold breath for the last time just before her neck snaps like a twig.

This woman is Mary Mayo, and the question students ask is: Does she still remain?

It is well-known to students all around campus that Mary Mayo Hall is haunted. According to the tale, Mary hanged herself on the fourth floor, and now wanders around the hall, wreaking friendly havoc on students.

"I've heard some strange things," sophomore Meg LaLonde said. "But we just yell 'Stop it, Mary!' and it stops."

Other students reported seeing things too, like flickering lights and doors opening on their own.

Currently, the fourth floor remains blocked off to students after renovation of the 78-year-old hall began in May 2008. Construction finished in June 2009, with a new elevator, windows, and mechanical, electric and ventilation systems, reconfigured bathrooms, lighting upgrades and asbestos abatement.

The basement, on the other hand, is a bit more eerie. Quiet hums, creaks, buzzing and the opening of doors can all be

heard. The cement floors and pale yellow walls, combined with the dim fluorescent lights, give the basement an atmosphere of an abandoned laboratory.

Despite the stories and spooky atmosphere, many students don't believe the tale.

"Before I moved here, I had no idea it was supposedly haunted," said sophomore Lindsey Adrian. "I sleep fine at night."

Medical technology sophomore Miguel Joaquin agreed. "I don't believe the hype," he said.

Though many students don't believe the hall is haunted, the story is passed on every year.

"When people pass the story on, it makes me feel like I live in that special dorm, the one everyone talks about," LaLonde said. "Things happen here for exciting and mysterious reasons."

There's a twist, though. What most students don't know is that Mary Mayo died in 1903, 28 years before the dorm was even built.

Joaquin described the haunting of Mary Mayo as a kind of folklore, where new things are added to the story each year.

"The more far-fetched a story is, the easier it is to believe," Joaquin said. "People want to believe it's true."

Sitting comfortably in a study lounge, the "ghost of Mary Mayo" spends time haunting the interior of the dorm. Many students claimed that they've sensed her presence before.



A student poses as the ghost of Mary Mayo inside of the haunted hall. Mary Mayo died in 1903, before the dorm was built in 1931.

A student poses as a victim of the Mary Mayo ghost outside of the haunted hall. The story of the ghost is believed by some to be simple folklore.



Hundreds of students and alumni flood the tennis courts for tailgating during football Saturdays. At the tailgates, Spartan green was a common theme.

Lansing Community College senior Tom Tederington and MSU senior Jacob Haf play Corn Hole at the tennis courts. Corn Hole was a popular game played all over East Lansing on game days.



Senior Andrew Robertson takes a Jell-O shot during tailgating at the tennis courts. The tennis courts have become a big tradition for pregame celebrations.

WEEKENDS TO REMEMBER

Tailgating offers students an experience to remember

Take no offense all you other schools, but Spartan tailgates make your tailgates look like an ice cream social.

Think about that statement. Doesn't it seem a little condescending? It may seem that way to some, but most on campus would throw all that condescending stuff to the side and say, "We Spartans tailgate the best."

But in all honesty, there really isn't a formula to figure something like that out. You can sit around and argue all day, but you aren't going to get anywhere. What you can look at, though, is what "we Spartans" have.

We've got pride.

Music blared from an outside sound system at seven in the morning. If you are tailgating for a Spartan game, you best get up early.

"I think a lot of things go into getting up early for tailgating," said sophomore and Western Michigan transfer Adam Kazanowski. "A lot of it is people getting up early so they have the most time to party, but I also believe that people are getting up early and around for the game just because they are excited to cheer the team on."

We've got a wide range of places to be.

Officially, the main tailgating spots are at Munn Ice Arena - reserved for those who don't want to drink; the Breslin Center and Spartan Stadium - two spots typically for older adults and alumni; and the tennis courts - the perfect place for someone who wants to get crazy.

If you walked around campus, you could find a tailgate filling every little nook and cranny.

"I've been to other campuses, and I feel like it's just a bunch of students crammed into one place, with no real options," said Kazanowski. "Here at State, we can choose where we go and what we want to do."

The scene of walking down the side streets of Grand River, M.A.C. and Grove (just to name a few), and seeing yards dotted with eager students in white Student

Section shirts playing the classic tailgate game Corn Hole. It's almost as if for that morning it doesn't matter who you know, because everybody wants the same thing. They just want a win.

"Some of the best tailgating I've been to [has] been off campus," Kazanowski said. "Other times it might matter who you know, like you can't go to a certain party because you don't know anybody, but on game day, if you have green and white on, it seems as if you can go anywhere."

We've also got an atmosphere.

"The thing I appreciate the most about tailgating, though, is that everyone cares about winning," said the Western transfer Kazanowski. It's Big Ten football and people come to the games to cheer their team on. They want a win."

And think about it; everyone is so passionate about their school and people come from all over to cheer their team on. Students and alumni embrace each other, sharing food and shelter. That's what tailgating at our University is in a nutshell. We all embrace each other because we all want the same thing.

And let us not forget, above all, we've got the tennis courts.

The spot on campus that seems so empty for six days a week turns into complete mayhem on the seventh hour. There are sound systems. There are inflatable Spartys. And there are lots of parties.

"The tennis courts are definitely the craziest place I've been on a game day. Anywhere," Kazanowski said.

So let other schools try to stake claim at our "top-tailgainers" mantra. One Western transfer thinks tailgating here is the best, and he's not alone.

So set the alarm for 6:30 a.m., to get ready for another tailgate, and to embrace all the emotions, good or bad, with fellow Spartans.

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Elise Lefere
Design: Brendan Prost



TIME'S UP

For students, receiving parking tickets can be a never-ending cycle

Ever been a victim of the classic ticket scenario? Your ride is parked at a meter and you realize time is almost up, so you sprint outside and BAM! A parking employee is in the process of writing you a citation as soon as you reach your car. Even though you drop to your knees and beg the ticket-giver to show some mercy, he smacks a ticket on your windshield and cruises away.

This agonizing situation is all too familiar for students. For a select few with a hefty cash flow, receiving a parking ticket is just another day, another dollar. But for most, a ticket means \$10, \$15 or even \$45 worth of grocery money down the drain.

When it comes to tickets, junior Ali Eldessouky is caught in a vicious cycle. As a resident of Chandler's Village, Eldessouky depends on his car to get to class everyday, but driving has its consequences. Make that \$1,000 in consequences, to be precise.

"Last year, I paid so much in parking tickets that I'm immune to it now," said Eldessouky, who has gotten three tickets in one day. "Even when I'm trying really hard to avoid a ticket, I still manage to get two or more a week."

Parking operations manager Lynnette Forman says many students just never learn.

"I've seen many cases where a student has received well over 100 tickets," Forman said. In general, MSU parking services rakes up a total of \$2 million from the 130,000 tickets issued per year. With these numbers, there is bound to be animosity toward those who enforce student parking.

"In one case, a parking enforcer was ganged up on and threatened with a tire iron. Luckily, he was able to call the police from his car, but the group of students moved his vehicle while he was

still inside it," Forman said. Other times, students have tried to drive away while being issued a ticket, running over a parking employee's foot.

That's brutal, but what is more upsetting for sophomore Kelsey Smith is that she continued to receive tickets after she purchased a parking pass.

"The parking system here is ridiculous. I got eight tickets in the first few weeks of school because the lot that I bought a pass for was always full," Smith said. She went to the parking services office for advice, but continued to rack up the tickets after following the employee's directions. To save the hassle, Smith chose to leave her car at home for the remainder of the school year.

So how do those who rely on their wheels attempt to ditch the citations?

"I have a few tricks in my bag," Eldessouky said. His go-to tactic is placing an old ticket on the windshield with hopes that a parking enforcer will move on to the next car. "This doesn't always work. But I try to keep my old tickets looking crisp and clean in case I'm feeling lucky."

Don't rely on this trick as a surefire way to avoid a citation. Forman says parking enforcers are usually on the top of their game and notice when students try to be sly. Her best advice for students trying to avoid a citation is to ride the CATA or buy a bike.

For those who insist on parking on campus, a few tickets may be inevitable. But when a \$10 fine could have been avoided by feeding 10 extra cents to the meter, you might want to re-evaluate your habits. If not, keep in mind that approximately 50 percent of tickets are appealed, and putting up a fight is worth it, as long as it doesn't include a tire iron.

Text: Angie Jackson
Photo: Elise Lefere, Veronica Nagy
Design: Jessica Halfyard



Elise Lefere

Senior Ricardo Rego issues a parking citation in the Computer Center parking lot. On average, 130,000 tickets are given each year.

Two parking meters are expired in front of Williams Hall. There are only three meters behind West Circle which people can use.
Veronica Nagy



Elise Lefere

A parking ticket sits on a car outside Hubbard Hall. Failing to feed the meter enough pocket change is a common mistake students make.

FULL HOUSE

Seven students share junior year all under one roof

At 131 Orchard St., you'll notice seven guys living in a house gravitate one by one to the wrap-around couch that fits all of them with just enough room to spare. They kick their feet up on to the coffee table that is clad with old newspapers. Then, they flick on that TV to an episode of "The Office," and enjoy it together, as roommates.

Brandon Sprigett, Corey Miller, Peter Lang, Samy Salhadar, Drew Klopeic, Taylor Bond and Ryan Quin are all juniors from the Grand Rapids-area living in an off-campus house on Orchard Street.

It's a typical college residence. There's a plasma TV resting on the mantle in the living room. A comfortable little nook to the side offers a place for the guys to eat Sunday brunch.

Some might say the housing life in East Lansing is something of a spectacle. Come October every year, students hustle around looking to sign a lease for the next year before another renter swoops in and claims it. Moving into a house is also a step-up for some; almost a graduation from the one or two years usually spent in the dorms to a more responsibility-laden role of renting a house.

"Although the dorm experience is great and something everyone should experience, living in a house is so much better than the dorms because you have more of your own personal space," Sprigett said. "But you also have to be pretty organized with your bills and have a pretty good relationship with your roommates, because a lot of stuff can come up."

As the end credits of "The Office" rolled down the screen, the group of roommates began to disperse. A few went off to do homework; one drudgingly went off to the kitchen where a pile of dishes filled the sink and spilled onto the counter. (The guys stated that they have to delegate cleaning duties and take turns so everybody does equal work.)

After entering the basement and winding through the hallway past a few bedrooms, the four remaining roommates filled a small room off to the side. One of the roommates flicked the Nintendo 64 on, and the four of them stared intently at the wall that "Mario Kart" was projected on. Even though each race meant nothing in reality, it meant everything to the winner to enjoy that little bit of bragging rights. And it also provided another moment for the roommates to hang out together.

"That's the thing about living in a house with a bunch of guys - you are always going to have something to do," Salhadar said. "Whether it be watching TV, studying or playing video games, someone is always going to want to do something with you."

The seven guys said that they came to live in the seven-person house through a little cheating of the system and a whole lot of luck.

"Originally, there was six of us looking for houses to live in through Community Resource Management Company," Sprigett said, referring to the company that leased the off-campus house. "And we started to realize that there isn't many six-person houses and then we got a transfer from Grand Valley and fell into this seven person house."

But the guys still had to deal with making sure they could be the first to sign the lease to the house.

"None of us wanted to camp out to sign the lease through CRMC, and we knew that previous renters through CRMC had first picks," Sprigett said. "So we kind of cheated the system and had my cousin who already rented through CRMC sign the lease with us. That way, we got our first pick."

The things people go through for the perfect house and perfect fit. That's housing in East Lansing.



Junior Samy Salhadar drudgingly does the dishes at the request of his roommates. The roommates said they delegate jobs to make sure everyone pitches in.

Klopeic, Lang, and Miller enjoy the presence of both a cat and a dog in their home. The decision to have pets was unanimous.



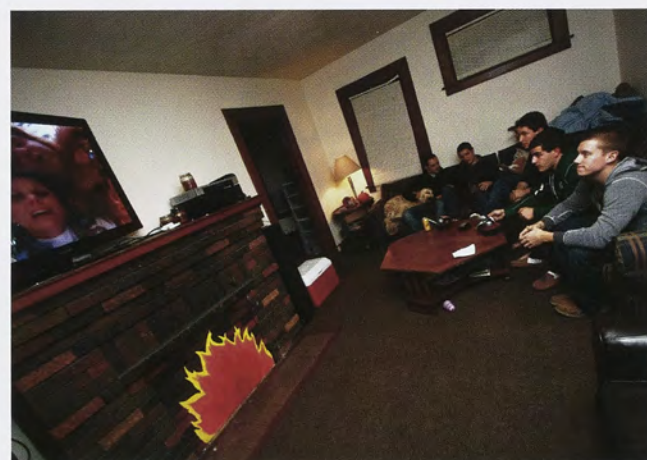


Issues: House Life

Text: Colby Berthume

Photo: Lauren Wood

Design: Brendan Prost



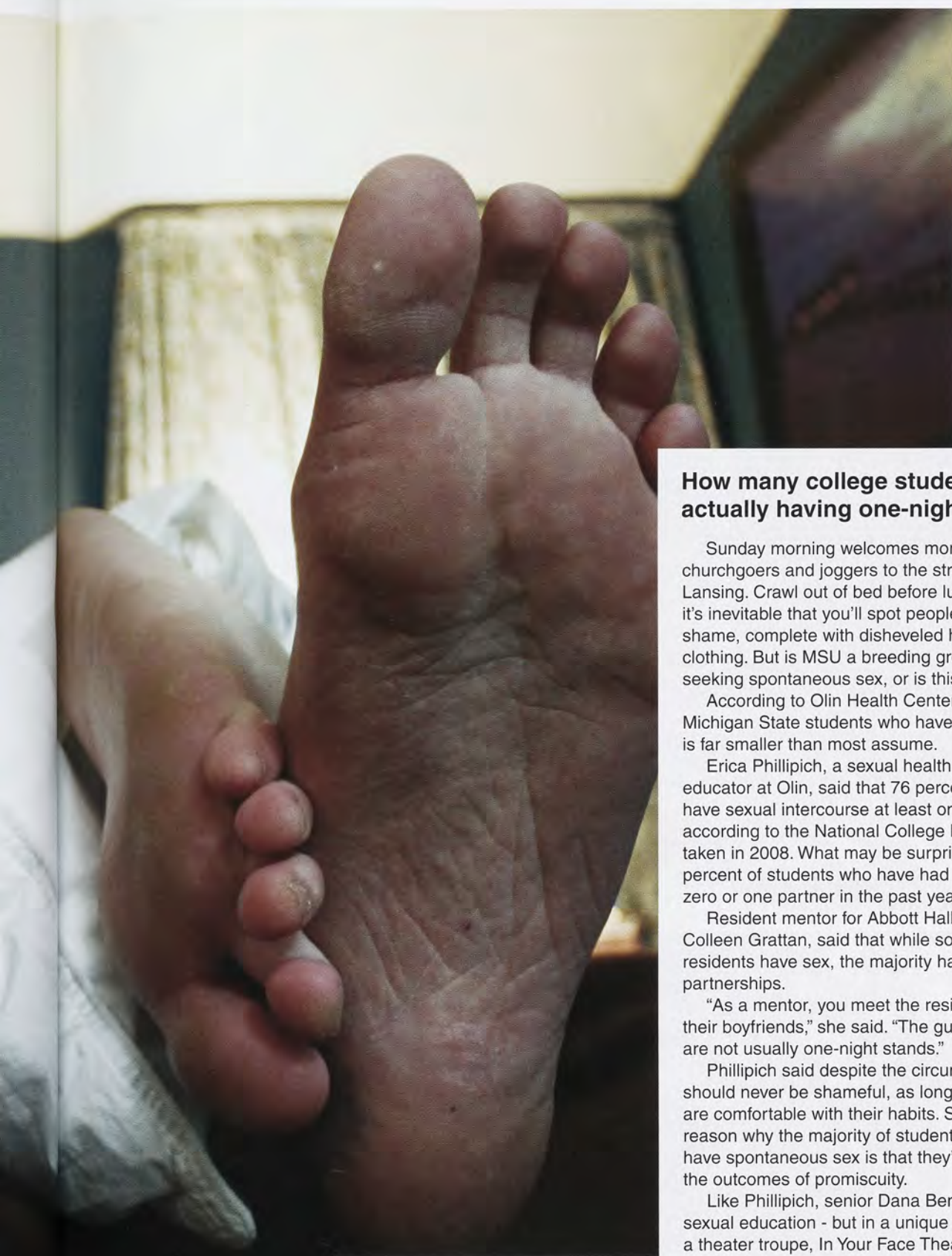
Six of the seven roommates lounge on their large sectional to watch TV above their colorful, well-drawn fireplace. Most nights, this is how the roommates spend their time.

All seven roommates enjoy the company of their friendly feline, Larry.



While casual sex is inevitable at MSU, one-night stands are not happening as frequently as some would think. The Residence Halls Association provides students with free condoms and safe sex tips.

Text: Angie Jackson
Photo: Erica Treais
Design: Vicari Vollmar



ONE NIGHT ONLY

How many college students are actually having one-night stands?

Sunday morning welcomes more than churchgoers and joggers to the streets of East Lansing. Crawl out of bed before lunchtime and it's inevitable that you'll spot people on the walk of shame, complete with disheveled hair and last night's clothing. But is MSU a breeding ground for students seeking spontaneous sex, or is this just a myth?

According to Olin Health Center, the amount of Michigan State students who have one-night stands is far smaller than most assume.

Erica Phillipich, a sexual health promotion educator at Olin, said that 76 percent of students have sexual intercourse at least once in their life, according to the National College Health Assessment taken in 2008. What may be surprising is that 75 percent of students who have had sex before had zero or one partner in the past year.

Resident mentor for Abbott Hall, sophomore Colleen Grattan, said that while some of her residents have sex, the majority have committed partnerships.

"As a mentor, you meet the residents and then their boyfriends," she said. "The guys that stay over are not usually one-night stands."

Phillipich said despite the circumstances, sex should never be shameful, as long as both people are comfortable with their habits. She also said a reason why the majority of students may chose not to have spontaneous sex is that they're educated about the outcomes of promiscuity.

Like Phillipich, senior Dana Benson promotes sexual education - but in a unique way. She's part of a theater troupe, In Your Face Theatre, that comically confronts sexual myths and models healthy sexual decisions. From skits demonstrating how to creatively apply a condom, to suggesting ways to ask your partner about their sexual history, the performance covers all levels of education.

"It's the humor and honesty of our show that gets people talking," Benson said. "We want to encourage people to have safe and enjoyable sex, and offer options for people who don't want to be sexually active."

So is promiscuous behavior becoming extinct? Probably not. Perhaps students are just becoming more sexually savvy when it comes to the risk of unwanted pregnancy or a sexually transmitted infection. So the next time you catch someone walking across campus in last night's clothes, keep in mind that it may not be what it seems.



Erica Trelli

ASMSU students stand together in support of the Michigan Promise Scholarship. Banners and chants displayed the students protest against cutting the scholarship from the budget.

Students and faculty protest the cutting of the Deaf Education at MSU. It is the only Michigan program that incorporates American Sign Language into the curriculum.



Mason Robinson

Granholm gives a speech at a rally in early November. Students were informed that she would stand behind them in support of the Michigan Promise Scholarship.



Erica Trelli



Students outside the Hannah Administration Building protest for more student funding. The protest was an earlier event that led to the rally at the Capitol.

Governor Granholm and MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon held a press conference after the speech. Granholm stressed the importance of sending a message to the state about reinstating the scholarship.



Veronica Nagy

Erica Trevis

CUTTING AWAY AT THE FUTURE

Michigan State officials propose over 30 academic program cuts

In the fall semester of 2009, university officials introduced a budget cut program in response to diminishing funds. In the program, Shaping the Future, MSU considered meeting challenges by taking the knife to as many as 30 academic programs.

In the shadows of the elimination of the Michigan Promise Scholarship, the program cuts stirred up a whirlpool of emotions among affected students.

A rally brought students and faculty to the Hannah Administration Building on a chilly winter morning. On Dec. 4, 18 students displayed their stern disapproval by turning their backs on President Lou Anna K. Simon, who asked the student body to stand with her in this decision.

Governor Granholm also spoke and encouraged listeners who are passionate about their education to make their opinion known to state officials. Many who felt that academic cuts were not a creative solution had already attempted to have their voices heard loud and clear, but the responses came across as a mere whimper.

American Studies graduate student Darren Brown was one of the numerous students who felt cheated.

"We were originally misinformed," Brown said. The elimination of the American Studies major took the entire department by surprise, even the department chair.

"Until we were cut, all we heard was second-hand information from the administration, and things seemed okay. Now I don't understand why a program ranked fifth in the nation is being eliminated."

Brown had three internationality published articles come out in the spring and was bewildered as to why a major with a high

publication rate was being terminated.

Aside from American Studies, other majors proposed to be phased out were Retailing, Counseling, Geological Sciences, Veterinary Technology, numerous majors among the College of Natural Science and more. However, the cuts wouldn't only omit majors, they also eliminate job opportunities.

"The programs that funnel students to Michigan jobs are the ones being discontinued," Brown said.

While students are urged to find employment in Michigan, the college hardest hit is the one that serves as the backbone to producing many Michigan jobs: the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. To junior Lila Wakeman, these eliminations just didn't make sense.

As a zoology major, Wakeman is not directly hurt, but she worries for friends in the Veterinary Technology program who may have to leave Michigan State. Wakeman was especially disappointed with the decision to decrease educational diversity because she feels there are other options.

"We need to explore the other opportunities before cutting education," she said.

Instead of accepting the situation, Wakeman joined with others to raise student awareness and propose alternative ideas.

"If \$10 was added to every football and basketball ticket price, we would have \$4.9 million more for educational funding," she said.

While the future of many academic programs remains on the chopping block, the forecast for Spartans is foggy. What is clear, however, is that those who are most passionate will have their voices heard in order to protect their education.

Text: Angie Jackson
Photo: Staff
Design: Jessica Halfyard

STUDY FRENZY

Students put in long hours to do well on final exams

Walking into the library, you may notice that the tables seem to be more crowded than usual, that students are lugging around every single one of their books, in addition to their laptops, notebooks and a plethora of snacks. As the hours pass by, the tables accumulate collections of empty energy drink cans and coffee cups. You know it must be finals week.

While some people find the library to be the most productive place to study, others prefer studying in their rooms or a study lounge on their floor.

"My favorite place to study is actually on my bed, because I'm comfortable and have plenty of room to lay out all my books," sophomore Monica Hasse said. "I also definitely need some snacks and some Mountain Dew."

Although all professors say that it's important to not cram for the final exams, sometimes that is just not possible for students with their busy schedules.

"It was hard to prepare for finals early," freshman Erin O'Donnell said. "I had four exams the week before, and another four exams the week of finals. I spent a lot of time studying for the first round of exams, and then was left to ram for the last four."

The long hours of studying monopolize student's lives from the time they walk out of their final lecture until minutes before each exam.

"I think the hardest part is balancing studying for your exams and spending time with friends before summer," O'Donnell said. "It was hard because at the week of finals it finally hit me that I wouldn't see most of my friends until school started again. There was a lot of temptation to have fun with friends rather than study, but thanks to the support of the people around

me, I was able to do both."

Not only does finals week mean the end of school and the beginning of summer, but it also means saying a temporary goodbye to long distance friends and brings on the daunting task of packing up all of your belongings to move out for another temporary relocation.

"Having to study for finals, worry about moving and about moving into an apartment for the summer was hectic," Hasse said. "Then when you're not done with your finals and people are already moving out, that adds to the distractions. It's all part of the stress in the lovely week."

Even as the stress builds during the late nights of studying the long standing tradition of midnight screams ease the pain for the brave who face pulling all-nighters.

"I looked forward to screaming my lungs out at midnight," O'Donnell said. "But honestly, the highlight was listening and watching other people partake. It was hilarious to see people dancing in the street, boys streaking in their underwear, and other stress out students screaming obscenities. I loved it."

Unfortunately, sometimes even the midnight scream doesn't ease the stress.

"It helped studying with my friends because we were able to keep each other motivated," O'Donnell said. "We found a quiet place to study that was kind of secluded so we could concentrate, and of course take study breaks where we were able to sing and dance. When it comes down to it though I really just hate finals."

At the end of it all, after hours and hours of studying, students can only hope to do their best and feel the relief of being done with finals, at least for another semester.

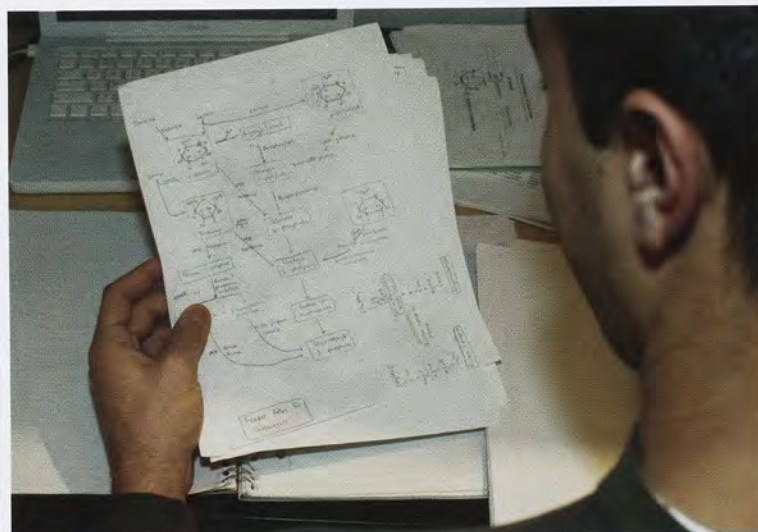


The Union found it's fair share of study sessions throughout finals week. One student settled himself into a couch in the lobby and spent his time studying Angel slides.

Issues: Finals Week

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Erica Treais
Design: Vicari Vollmar

Juniors Jenny Galonska and Courtney DuBuc tried to relax while studying for their finals. Each enjoyed a their drink of choice when nearing the home stretch of finals week.



Junior Alex Solak began studying for his Biochemistry final two weeks in advance. As a Molecular Genetics and Genomics major, he juggled four science-based exams within three days of finals week.

Sophomore Viiu Wichman digs through the library shelves. Wichman checked out roughly a dozen books to prepare herself for her philosophy final.



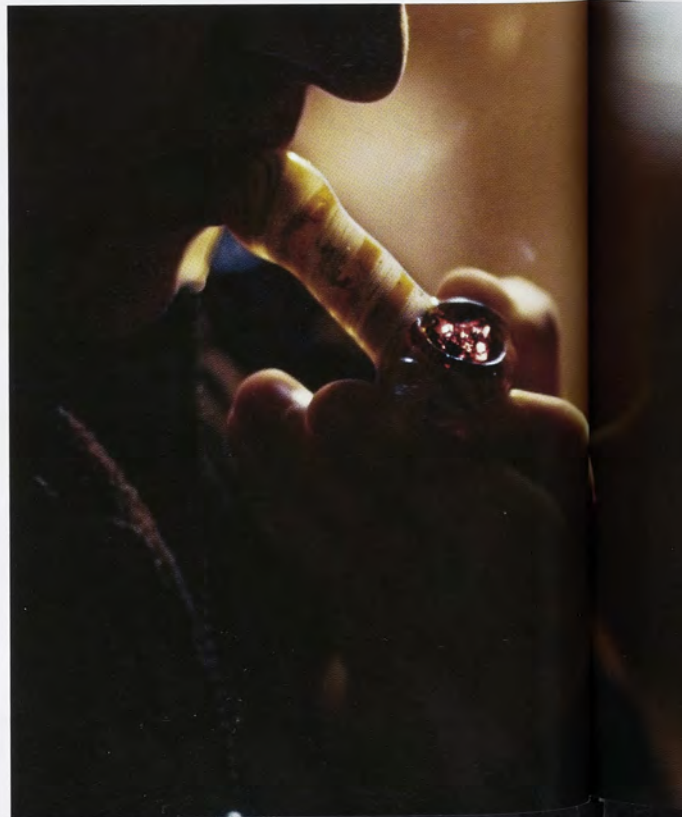


A student takes a drag from his joint. A survey released by the university in conjunction with American College Health Association showed that less than forty percent of students had ever used marijuana.



A freshly packed bowl waits to be sparked. East Lansing Police Chief Tom Wibert said most marijuana users tend to use in private areas, so "it's hard finding people smoking dope if you wear a blue polyester suit with a badge."

A student takes his first hit of the night. A survey released by the American College Health Association showed that about twenty-eight percent of students reported using marijuana less than twice a month.



You can't deny it. During those college years, some students start using drugs recreationally. But students' perception of drug use may be a little construed.

On campus, the highest illegal drug used is marijuana, second only to alcohol. Both marijuana and alcohol are considered to be recreational drugs, while the more extreme narcotics, like cocaine and methamphetamine are considered lifestyle drugs.

"I think the drug use you see in East Lansing tends to be recreational drugs," said East Lansing Chief Tom Wibert. "We don't tend to see the lifestyle drug users."

East Lansing Police narcotics cases have by over twenty percent from 2008 to 2009, while Michigan State University's Police department has dropped by twenty-four percent from 2007 to 2008. MSU Police did not have numbers available for 2009.

According to a survey conducted by Olin Health Center during the Spring 2010 semester in conjunction with the American College Health Association, thirty-nine percent of students reported that they had used marijuana in the past month.

But when asked how often students felt their peers use marijuana, many believed almost ninety percent of students have used marijuana.

Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs educator Rebecca Allen from Olin Health Center mentioned that students' perceptions of drug use isn't exactly what is happening on campus.

"There tends to be this idea that students tend to use these drugs often," said Allen. "But in reality that's not the case."

Many students believe that over a quarter of students at Michigan State University smoke marijuana more than 10 days in a given month. In reality, only 6 percent smoke marijuana that often.

"But that doesn't mean that there aren't students who have potential drug use problems."

Curtis, a student who chose not to give his last name, said he regularly smoked pot three times a day during the spring semester.

"I'll choose to smoke instead of going to class," Curtis said. "I'll stay up late the night before an exam."

Because of his herbal proclivities, Curtis' GPA took a nosedive this spring semester, almost ruining what he had built up the first two-and-a-half years at State.

But despite the negative scholastic and financial effects, he feels that they are outweighed by the positives.

"I get this weightlessness feeling," he said with a smile. "Things are funnier when you're stoned. [And] I feel like my mind gets unlocked."

Even with the lower than expected number of illegal users, Allen feels that this still represents a problem for both the university and the community.

"Whenever we're looking at any drug use, often with it's high harm because of its legality, it tends to be a problem," said Allen. "Any time you use any drugs, it can be a risk to the community."

TRULY GOING GREEN

Student talks about drug use at MSU

Text: Dustin McNees, Matthew Mikus
Photo: Alissa Lane
Design: Vicari Vollmar

Sophomores Andrew Jeong and Han-Guru Park looked into a study abroad trip to Antarctica. The trip focuses on Antarctic sciences and is held during winter break of 2010-2011.



OVERSEAS CLASSROOMS

Students travel abroad for an enhanced educational experience

When people think of foreign travel and vacation, it usually doesn't involve sitting in a library conducting extensive research to put together a grueling 50-page paper.

But for sophomore Jake Satin, this is exactly what he chose to do as part of the Study Abroad history program at Oxford University in Britain last summer. Satin got the opportunity to research at the distinguished Bodleian Library, considered one of the best libraries in the world. The course's fifteen students had the opportunity to use valuable and rare primary documents to construct a paper on a topic of their choice. Satin's paper, interestingly enough, on gin drinking in the 18th century, is up for publishing in the fall.

The Study Abroad program at MSU spans the globe with 260 specialized programs for nearly every major, sending students to every continent. Although Satin's experience at Oxford was centered around a classroom, many programs combine learning with a hands-on adventure to create an unforgettable education experience.

One such program is the popular freshman study abroad program in Italy, which takes place before students start their official enrollment here.

"It was a program on the history and culture of Italy and the Roman Empire," Satin said. "One of the cool things was learning about something in class, then the next day or that afternoon, going to actually see what we had been talking about."

"It's one thing to learn about it and read it and look at a picture in a textbook, it's another to be standing there and taking your own pictures of it," he said.

Of course, while students are there taking ISS and IAH equivalents among other MSU classes, they get more out of their foreign surroundings than a grade on a transcript.

"As interesting as the classes themselves were, the best part by far was the experience," sophomore Kyle Druding said, who also attended the Italy trip as well as the environmental globalization program in Nicaragua. "Just being there, you get so much insight on how different things are from what they are here. It's total immersion, you really are in a different way of life."

On his trip to Nicaragua, Druding recalled sleeping outside and not having access to the amount of electricity and technology here.

These days, the economic crunch may have an effect on students wondering how to finance an extensive trip overseas. Junior Colin Boyd, a peer advisor with the Office of Study Abroad, admits that when paying for college becomes a concern for families, they don't see the benefits of the extra dollars required for study abroad.

However, Boyd attests there are plenty of scholarships offered to students through the Office of Study Abroad (OSA). Satin's trip to Italy was almost completely covered by scholarships from the OSA and his high school, and the only thing Druding had to pay for was his plane ticket to Nicaragua, thanks to multiple scholarships from the OSA, James Madison and his high school. While these may sound like fortunate situations, almost any student can get in on the financial aid to help fund their Study Abroad journey.

"They do a very good job of making financing as small of an issue as they can," Satin said. "If you're qualified, obviously, money really shouldn't be an issue."

The OSA has a special department to help with financial aid and the scholarship process is open to anyone who wants to apply.

However, as these particular students attest, the real value can't be placed on the cost of the trip.

"I don't think I paid enough for the experience I received," Boyd said, who has studied abroad in Ireland and Australia, and is bound for Rome this summer.

"Employers are always looking for students with global experience and it [Study Abroad] helps make students competitive in searching for jobs after graduation."

Satin affirmed that this global experience can be a fulfilling way for students to shape their lives.

"When you're in a culture that's different from your own, it teaches you a lot about yourself that you're not going to learn in a classroom, or learn in East Lansing," he said.

"Study Abroad is one of the best things we have on this campus, and ironically, it takes you away from (campus)."



The International Center hosted MSU's annual Study Abroad Fair. The fair provided students with information for upcoming trips, along with pictures and price estimates from past trips.



Junior Emily Lawler places an order to senior Amanda Williams during the alternative media fundraiser at Così. Ten percent of their profits went to support the publications involved.



Sophomore Sarah Pomeroy and junior Emily Lawler enjoy a meal in support of The Big Green and Spartan Edge. The two publications teamed up for the fundraiser.

Junior Emily Lawler and senior Nicole Bower chat with friends and fellow supporters of alternative media. Lawler is a journalism major and the current Editor-in-Chief at The Big Green.





A NEW LOOK ON THE NEWS

Alternative media on campus provides a variety to students, journalists

When Emily Lawler first came to MSU as a student seeking a career in journalism, she knew she wasn't going to do emotionless hard-news blurbs. She wanted to write the big feature that had depth, insight and plenty of space to work. The State News, like any other print media, didn't have the space to contain her style. So where could Lawler hone her craft?

Enter The Big Green, one of MSU's few weekly online magazines and part of MSU's alternative media community.

"It was one of the only magazine outlets on campus," Lawler said. "I knew I wanted to write for a magazine, and it's been an awesome fit for me. I love everyone there."

Two years later, Lawler is a junior and the editor-in-chief of The Big Green. The publication is a prominent leader in MSU's fledgling alternative media scene, boasting 22,000 circulation viewers a month, or visitors that click through two or more articles.

Lawler says the main ingredient to The Big Green is the unique content they provide their readers.

"Nothing you read here will be found anywhere else," Lawler said.

The Big Green is just one of the several alternative publications on campus, said almost all of them exclusively on-line, that try to provide something new to their readers. Spartanedge.com, another weekly-published site, follows this theme of unique coverage.

"We are focused on covering stories from a different angle from what people would find in any other media," said Alisha Green, junior and editor-in-chief of Spartanedge.com. "We aren't afraid to be edgy, and we aren't afraid of taking on controversial topics that other media organizations might not be comfortable writing about."

Spartanedge.com earned this reputation early on after their start in 2005 by publishing the Dutch cartoons of Muhammad that were considered controversial and were banned from publications elsewhere.

Although receiving a lot of backlash, the publication grew from a collection of blogs and other stories into a productive weekly force that covers a wide range of off-the-mark stories at MSU. The publication works to show alternative life on campus, which includes local area concerts, club sports and art shows and exhibits, as well as other events that fly under the radar. Spartanedge still serves to report big issues for students, most recently a video report on budget cut controversies as well as a multi-week series on the State of State's Media, focusing on promoting alternative media and its role on campus.

Despite the splash made by Spartanedge.com and The Big Green, the alternative media scene is still considered an underground operation. The State News' influence and ability to distribute printed copies everywhere on campus five days a week adds to this reality. In addition, most alternative publications cannot pay their writers or raise funds for costly regular prints

like The State News.

Regardless, some dedicated writers that work for alternative media believe they provide a better option for news than the mainstream State News; among them, The Big Green, Spartan Weekly, Spartini, The Black Sheep and other alternative campus media sources.

"We offer a more student-oriented viewpoint," senior Shelley Hoover said of Spartan Weekly, an on-line publication that specializes in satirical content, of which she is the editor-in-chief. "A lot of the time [The State News] bypass what MSU feels or what it is actually like to be a student."

The Black Sheep, a relatively new publication that has boxes of print editions all around campus, consistently publishes articles on drinking and guides to area bars while asserting at the top of each edition that they are "A College Newspaper That's Actually About College."

Alternative media's struggle against The State News' virtual monopoly of media in the area came to fruition in 2005. Spartanedge, Spartan Weekly and The Big Green teamed up as MAMA (MSU Alternative Media Alliance) to file a lawsuit against The State News, complaining about the newspaper's strict "no-competition" policy. Students hired at The State News were not allowed to work for any other publication, and MAMA protested that this violated students' freedom.

Although MAMA did get a bill passed by the Board of Trustees, the bill has been unenforced. Lawler says that The State News ignored it.

When they aren't fighting The State News, the alternative media scene also helps cater to different communities and types of people across campus. Spartini, started by junior Holly Mihelic, is a Web site geared towards women interested in fashion and relationships. Spartini is essentially a Cosmopolitan for MSU, as put by sophomore Alyssa Dennis, who blogs for the site and joined during her first year on campus.

"It was my first chance I had to write at MSU," Dennis said of joining Spartini. "It made me more confident in my writing. It was something I would be interested in, help build my experience and be a lot of fun."

In the case of Dennis and Spartini and Lawler with The Big Green, both publications became proving grounds for writers and catered specifically to different journalists' interests. The same idea applies to how alternative media can serve MSU, with its different variations on how to tell news and the unique kind of news they provide.

"People are going to realize that there's content online that they don't get in daily papers," Lawler said.

Green pointed out that the diversification of alternative media is helping to expose the different types of niches on campus, which she believes holds a bright future for Spartanedge.com.

"I see alternative media at MSU really growing even more over the next few years," Green said. "The opportunities are endless."

Model Nabila Ahmed entertains the crowd with a circle of feathers while modeling in the SADA fashion show. Her designer, senior Kyle Klopf, was one of few male designers in the show.



Senior Jessica McVettie, junior Alexandria Varady and sophomore Stephanie Thorstad flip through the SADA book with senior designer Lauren Myers. Myers' collection was inspired by the surrealist painter Salvador Dalí.

Sophomore Lindsey Adrian applies makeup to Julia Parzyck's eyes before the Student Apparel Design Association Fashion Show. The two modeled Lauren Drapes' designs based on the Realism era.



FASHION MEETS CREATIVITY

Art Exhibit showcases students' dress designs

Excitement lit senior Sarah Bach's face as she described a dress at the Kresge Art Center.

"I made this one completely from Meijer grocery sacks," she said, pointing to her piece titled 'Beneath all this Trash.' "I cut off the labels and ironed the bags together. And it's even reversible."

Bach was one of 16 undergraduates featured in the Apparel and Textile Design Exhibition. Two rooms showcased bold, colorful pieces and elegant gowns from Feb. 22 until March 12. In a sea of mannequins, the talent woven into the threads of each piece brought the dresses to life.

At the opening reception on Feb. 24, instructor Carol Beard said the dresses represented major accomplishments for the student designers.

"We picked pieces to represent each designer's personal aesthetic. By looking at each one, I can even go around and tell who made what," Beard said. "These designs really express how the students have developed over the years."

Students incorporated creative approaches and innovative techniques into their designs

based on their class' assignment. Each dress exhibited originality, and many pieces incorporated recycled materials.

"This is from a pair of pajama pants from fifth grade," Bach said, pointing to a metallic, velvety fabric on her dress titled 'Waterfall.' "This is a curtain from my old bedroom. And this beading right here was part of an old purse." Bach's piece was also featured in the Student Apparel Design Association fashion show on Saturday, April 17 at the Lansing Center.

Minutes before the show, 43 student designers prepared their models to hit the spotlight. Senior Nicholas Paolo stood alongside his models, all of them representing a year's worth of dedication. Paolo said the feeling was bittersweet.

"It's exciting because I've been waiting months, and I know these girls can wear my garments perfectly," he said.

The night carried on with excitement as the students' designs illuminated the stage and convinced the audience that fashion is more than fabric; it's living art.

Text: Angie Jackson
Photo: Erica Treais
Design: Jessica Halfyard



Sophomore Devan Sayles struts down the runway in one of Molly Demott's designs. As a senior, Demott presented 15 designs in the SADA fashion show

Striking a pose on the runway, model Lauren Wilson shows off designer Nicholas Paolo's body suit. Paolo had four designs in the show, including a cocktail dress and a pair of leggings.

The house living room sits empty. The brothers of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity have taken residence in a house on N. Harrison Avenue.

The Lambda Chi Alpha house is located at 128 Collingwood. The house has been home to the fraternity as long as they've been on campus.



The brothers' home was put up for sale on the open market when local alumni failed to secure the funding to keep it. The building will be turned into high-end apartments.



Photograph of the former Lambda Chi Alpha house. The Lambda Chi Alpha provided the photograph.



Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Vicari Vollmar

Photographs of current and former chapters line the walls. The Lambda Chi Alpha house has provided residence to over 2,000 fraternity members.



PROPERTY WARS

Lambda Chi Alpha fights the City of East Lansing to keep their 83-year-old home

One brotherhood, 83 years, over 2,200 men, and infinite memories. The house of 128 Collingwood has seen it all.

The walls of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity house hold years of nostalgia. To some it's just another fraternity house, but to the brothers of the Gamma Omicron chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha, it is more than just brick and mortar.

"Often, Greek organizations are simply referred to as 'houses,'" sophomore Andrew Chamberlain said. "I suppose if brothers are the metaphorical bricks, the building blocks of the chapter, then 128 Collingwood could be considered the mortar. It is a second home to more than two thousand men initiated as Lambda Chi Alphas at Michigan State. It has become synonymous with who we are as an organization and, more importantly, who we are as a brotherhood."

Although 128 Collingwood has been a part of Lambda Chi Alpha for as long as the fraternity has been on campus, the brothers are looking for a new place to call home.

"In the early 90s our local alumni sold the house to our nationals to keep it under better management," Chamberlain said. "Our nationals took out a second mortgage on the house to finance housing for other chapters."

After the nationals acquired the house, the house was sold once more to Lambda Chi Alpha Properties (LCAP), a separate corporate entity from Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity, International.

According to Chamberlain, when the real estate market faltered, LCAP could no longer sustain all of its properties and had to liquidate assets.

Because the money owed on the second mortgage exceeded the value of the property, the fraternity's local alumni couldn't secure funding before the brothers' house was put on the open market.

After a series of court dates, it was decided that proposed plans for an addition to the house to make it into an apartment complex would need to be reviewed by the Historic District of East Lansing. For now, the brothers cannot live in their house and are now moving into a house on N. Harrison Avenue.

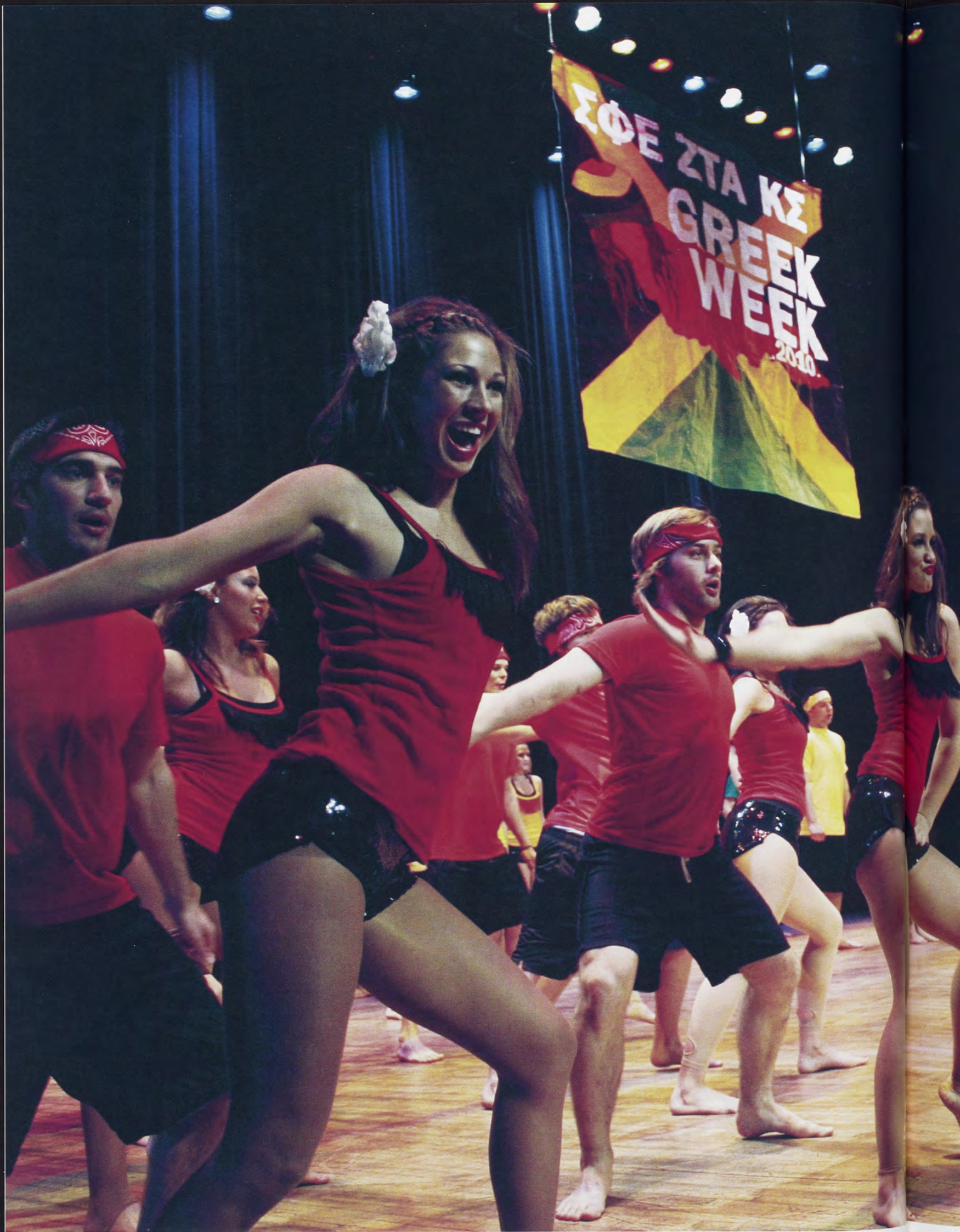
"We have not only survived but thrived under this unfortunate circumstance," freshman Andrew Paulsen said. "It is a testament to the strength of our brotherhood at this chapter. Hopefully, if the cards fall right and we win the upcoming battle before the historic district commission, we can relocate back to our home in the future."

The structure itself is more than just a roof over their heads; it's a monument representing all the brothers of the Gamma Omicron Chapter.

"The Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity house is older than Michigan State University landmarks such as the Breslin Center and Spartan Stadium," Paulsen said. "If one of those landmarks were to be suddenly removed from campus, the community would feel as though it has lost a part of itself. This is the same scenario that is affecting the members of Lambda Chi Alpha, but with a structure that has been part of its community for a longer period of time."

But the brothers are not about to give up their fight. They are working hard to regain their loss.

"Because I rushed during the fall of my freshman year, my entire college career has been centered on 128 Collingwood," Chamberlain said. "The fondest memories of the past two years, which I count as the best of my life, have happened at this house. As I've become more involved in the house leadership and fighting to save our house, 128 has come to symbolize a massive investment of time and effort. It has also brought me closer to everyone in the chapter, since it has given us all one, single goal."





greeks

Brotherhood. Sisterhood. Companionship. These are the qualities that form the lasting friendships found in the Greek community, and on campus.

Fraternities bring men together, each with different backgrounds and experiences, intertwined by a common identity.

Sororities create a common bond and everlasting friendships for young women. Staying together for years, both create strong bonds that last though four years of college and beyond.

Whether they hold centuries of traditions, or are recently formed organizations, they hold an important place in the pool of elements forming our university. ■

ERNITIES
FRAT

Matthew Mikus



Front Row: (from left) Caitlin Parrett, Lisa Rotenheber, Shannon McNeilly, Leah Rice, Laura Essig, Jason Lee, Kendra Jansen, Michelle Sadler
Second Row: Maggie Flood, Nicole Slemmer, Christina Zinkel, Mike Kedzierski, Daniel Lee, Kattie Murawski, Steve Writtenberry, Nicole Dowdall
Third Row: Mark Dimambro, Marie Bodnar, Matt Swift, Giordana Sobel, Gretchen Nitz, Amy Haggart, Amy Hendrickson
Back Row: Peter Fasnakis, Nick Carroll, Adam Mott, Bradley Bartrem, Brandon Spivey, Ryan Schumacher, Kaelie Middleton

AKΨ

alpha
kappa
psi

A

E

Front Row: (from left) Evan Wasserman, Danny Rodden, Albert Budnitskiy, Dan Rekant, Justin Silverman, Justin Sugerman, Aaron Goss, Aaron Klein, Coby Schecter, Shale Kaplan, Mike Ziegelbaum, Myles Gold, Aaron Elson, Marc Brody
Back Row: Eytan Keidar, Matt Epstein, David Kowalsky, Eric Weingarten, Josh Colton, Seth Beifel, Justin Rolnitzky, Simon Stratford, Jake Satin, Brett Kline, Josh Schenk, Evan Goldfarb, Reid Siegel, Geoff Levin, Brett Kane, Rob Hansen, Alex Goldfarb, Kyle Colton, Nick Guttman, Phil Helfrick, Aaron Gold, Benny Ebert-Zavos, Zach Firestone, Seth Strasberger, Alex Waldman, Josh Ellis, Jake Strauss

P

alpha
epsilon
pi



Ellina Ste...

Jennifer Garavaglia



Front Row: (from left) Dan Birnbaum, Scott Berlin, Keith Kubbe, Nick Walker, Jack Lagenhorse, Rob Roeser, current pledges
Second Row: Zach Berns, Michael Fragna, Evan Sachs, Toli, Josh Kroll, Scott Goldin, Frank Iaquentia, Scott Jerewitz, Josh Laker, Matt Spickler, Mo Hutton
Third Row: Jared Hocking, David Selis, Jarret Nelson, Wado David, Max Surnow, Jon Birnbaum, Santo Lupo, Toph Criag, Kevin Widerstedt, Jon Myers, Lloyd Pridel
Back Row: Dave Seaton, Jake Craig, Max Grossman, John Stevenson, Andy Lederman, David Elliot, Brandon Jackobs

ATO

alpha
tau
omega

delta kappa epsilon

Front Row: (from left) Dave Palmer,
Amar Gill, David Miler, Ryan Little
Second Row: Kyle Kuenzel, Shawn
Davis, Jon Bodin, Wally,
Lorenzo Castillo, Sean Thomas,
Lawrence Chi, Jack Connell
Back Row: Jaepum Shin, Andrew
Finkel, Tyler McGuirt, Shawn
Robinson, Eric Wehner, Ian Thomas,
Sean Francis, Shivan Sharma,
Chris Nicholas



ΔKE

farm house

Front Row: (from left) Phil Irwin, Andy Hruby, Sean Bender, Kevin Onwellen, Jarret Curtiss, Jacob Faist
Second Row: Josh Gulick, Ben Weber, Matt Hensky, Mitch Bigelow, Nick Reigler, Matt Marston, Ben Emens, John Sahr, Eric Cole
Third Row: Chris Oeschger, Christian Behvin, David Dreves, Al Hart, Nick Oomen, Josh Haverkamp, Nate Waitkamp, Jim Lambert
Back Row: Torey Wood, Gerrit Herrygers, Ethan Bosserd, Andrei Bruinsma, Greg Thon, Charlie Cramer, Joel Arenes



Veronica Nagy

ΛΧΑ

From left: Mathew Lafferty, Scott
Worley, Aaron Letzeiser, Evan
Cusick, Daniel Shupe, Lee May,
William Readdy, Mathew Morici,
Christopher King, Jeffery Rueber,
David Lyons, Barret Vollmer,
Sean Mazurski

lambda
chi
alpha



Jennifer Garavaglia

Mason Robinson



Pi Kappa Phi

Front Row: (from left) Sean Joseph, Vince Caminiti, Rory Rinnan, Steve Lesner, Nick Perreault, Dan Nutt, Dylan Gersh, Jon Ciani, John Secret
Back Row: Chris Papa, Bill Zajac, Mike Anderlite, Alex Henk, Cory Carson, Mike Butz, Fillippo Vitale, Jeff Lucas, Derek Berggren, Mike Zito, Ben Henry

ΠΚΦ

Jennifer Garavito



Front Row: (from left) Mark Parayil, Ajay Mistry, Manzur Moidunny, Prakash Nallani, Anand Parmar, Amar Mistry, Brett Wefel
Back Row: Kasim Fassia, Jensen George, Ujwal Velagupudi, John Jacob, Shawn Campbell, Vishal Sunkarapalli, Thomas Murickan, Vinay Patel, David Oh, Raghu Alla, Gurtejbir Bilkhu, Vikram Sandhu

sigma
beta
rho

ΣΒΡ

ΣΝ

sigma nu



Front Row: (from left) Dion Harris, Josh Sterberg, Yamen Hadid, Kirk Blatchford, John Lewis, Ryan Obarzanek, Ben Tarsi, Ryan Kuizema
Second Row: John George, Andrew Luckoff, Joe Amici, Drake Todd, Phil Gossan, Brandon David, Michael Sendek, Robbie Unatin, Michael Schneider, Zach Friedman, Sal DiMercurio, Joe Schmid
Third Row: Andrew Fullett, Pat O'Malley, Nate Zimmer, Matthew Barker, Austin Hinz, Ryan Glueck, Jeremy Gave
Back Row: Jon Marsh, Brandon Hempel, Brian Perliski, Hazim Nezam, Mario DiMercurio, Nic Bucca, Sandro DiMercurio, Cory Daza, Dustin Yu

Elise Lefere



theta
chi

Front Row: (from left) Jordan McMannis, Chris Cooney, Austin Psychas, Harris, Mike Wolcott, Reid Holzbauer, Matt Willard, Theta Chi Alumni

Second Row: Tony Atanagana, Scott Ashcraft, Bently Laser, Matt Bryan, Kevin Piepsney, Theta Chi Alumni, Josh Roosenburg, Aaron Lang, Henry Gembis, Matt Miller

Third Row: Zach Payne, Paul Winkler, Mike Colosimo, Ujas Gandhi, Paolo Pahm, Matt Jewell, Alec Karsten, AJ Hensen, Travis Edwards, Danny Deroo, Matt Beck, Zach Ketner, Ryan Scarfone, Kyle Couture, Curtis Rose, Joe Hagerty

Back Row: Kyler Shearer, Paul Murray, Mike Lamach, James Durga, Kevin Goudzwaard, Mo Maki, Chad Murphy, Brian Ziemba, Cort Freeman, Ryan Thorpe, Max Isaacoff, Adam Longo, Zach Connor



Erica Trevis

Erica Treals



Front Row: (from left) Erik DeGiorgio, James Bowlby, John Makuch, Steve Jenkins, John Poole
Second Row: Matt Cosby, Aaron Lynn-Vogel, Dana Vandevenne, Kevin Butler, Eric Endlich, Nate Horian
Back Row: Patrick Hones, Zachary Nayler, David Boynton, Zachary Thomas, Patrick Kuhn, Stuart Rohde



theta delta chi



Erica Treals

SOR ORITIES

Mason Robinson



Front Row: (from left) Katie Hale, Ariel Platek, Abigail Koning, Jen Ryan, Kari Wangelin, Monica Freese, Megan Walter, Christina Ilitch, Alix Lyndrup

Second Row: Morgan Gyhra, Taylor Argo, Allison Wickman, Amanda Colley, Erin Johnston, Catherine Ayers, Tara Trimble, Alexandra Dodson, Jennifer Kane, Maria Ricchio, Mackenzie Cance, Carrie Solomon

Third Row: Amy Dust, Megan Sergo, Lindsay Portrey, Alandra Drake, Shauna Davison, Lauren Prickett, Nichole Bogdan, Amanda Karr, Sarah Bell, Kara Folas, Katie Kosloski, Britt Vandenberg, Kirstie Newall, Kathryn Foster, Charlotte Donk, Amanda Wright

Fourth Row: Courtney Wiesman, Kim Zditosky, Erika Warda, Marie Chiara, Justine Reader, Megan Schubert, Sara Upton, Avery Davis, Jill Burton, Sam Watson, Morgan Reest, Shebly Pritchett, Jane David

Fifth Row: Jenny Hunt, Stacey Pawlik, Paige Leibinger, Paige Janer, Rachel Sass, Anna Ricelli, Laura Ritchie

Sixth Row: Ellyce Redmond, Elizabeth Thompson, Colleen Lehman, Katie Abood, Danielle Prigge, Erin Topolinski, Alyssa Hall, Jessie Salley, Sara Fritz, Lindsay Sevec, Jaymie Cohen, Kelsey Clark, Cecilee Jarrad, Emily Wiseman, Rachel Scarpaci

Back Row: Tarah Elhardan, Olivia Tallmadge

AXΩ

alpha
chi
omega

gamma
phi
beta

ΓΦΒ

Front Row: (from left) Caitlin Brennan, Samantha Macdonald, Ashley Baughman, Madeleine Pilchak, Lindsay Guinall, Jonni Glassman, Kayli Delamilleure

Second Row: Angie Bader, Taylor Conley, Ericka Pfeifer, Alyssa Barrett, Caroline Johnson, Dulce Cardenas, Angela Venturini, Katie Waldie, Taylor Snow

Third Row: Kelley Hodges, Kelley Vallentine, Megan Wait, Kristin Steinmetz, Alice Chae, Amanda Dykes, Kelsey Loomis, Kate Norris, Celeste Rousseau, Lauren Command, Abby Markert, Alaina Thomas, Caroline Ambrose

Fourth Row: Amy Johnson, Kaitlyn McDonald, Grace Caplan, Tessa Engstrom, Lyndsay Thomasson, Brooke Murphy

Fifth Row: Theresa Mikvut, Kate Scanlon, Lizzie Nash, Jennifer Berger, Krista Hughes, Sarah Everard, Catherine Thompson

Back Row: Jaclyn Cominotto, Shelby Dominski, Samantha O' Flynn, Cara Hillebrand, Hilary Hinds, Olivia Ennaht, Courtney Shemka, Veronica Van Loon



Elise Lefere



Veronica Nagy

Front Row: (from left) Ashley Fournier, Alison Distefan, Vanessa Santarossa, Katie Cefaratti, Leslie Brown, Katie Rohn, Alyssa Tighe, Lindsey Zito, Paula Brickner
Second Row: Suzie Yousaf, Mike Skelly, Lindsay Nakfoor, Christina Deleeuw, Laura Leidy, Becky Leach, Abby Shegos, Lauren Wreford, Allie Vukov, Kristen Price, Emma McNamara, Bianca Caporuisco, Kayli Hirsty
Back Row: Nicole Kaplan, Brian Stauffer, Lisa Reile, Kelsey Johnson, Rachelle Aldridge, Stephanie Polidori, Mika Wexler, Christine Honer, Kristie Sparks, Erin Buerger, Aurthur Manoli, Vytas Karalius, Hannah Mittleman

kappa delta

kappa kappa gamma



Front Row: (from left) Liza Kustantin, Jillian Slingerland, Jessica Molle, Kristen Neithercut, Madeline Petcoff, Tatiana Campo, Rachel Lin, Shelby Iudiciani, Alayna Lekosiotis, Carol Schneider, Caitlin Cardin, Emily Weinstein, Brittany Ricca

Second Row: Marianna LoChrico, Deanna Lyght, Vanessa Santarossa, Lauren Burkhart, Tamara Kazanji, Katie Dingersen, Katie Cameron, Carly Wilberding, Louise Almeida, Kaitlin Lauten, Lauren Bracci, Carly Gordon, Madeline Vaughan, Alesandra Ajlouni, Sara Beth Wells, Nicole Wood, Megan Monticciolo

Third Row: Nancy Siddall, Carolyn Kidd, Marissa Munaco, Whitney Krieger, Abby Shegos, Courtney Kraus, Kathryn Koster, Christine Honer, Anastasia Stevens, Elizabeth Johnson, Hilary Gorosh, Lindsey Kraus, Maggie Palmer, Katie Galant

Fourth Left: Jenna Tobin, Hannah Slattery, Taylor Sher, Stephanie Kazanjan, Mallory Glazier, Alyssa Kluge, Kristen Maddock, Calli Elmer, Mika Wexler, Emily Sklar, Kelly Breen, Nicole Vihtelic, Mallory Zarate, Jamie Kawwas, Stephanie Miller

Back Row: Ashley Fournier, Molly Shelton, Kathryn Cefaratti, Melanie Kohn, Kelsey Johnson, Colleen Pohl, Susan Plaggemars, Sarah Duffield, Carley Palmer, Currie Barich, Allison Brady, Nicole Gomez, Jessica Prentice, Jennifer Gross, Sylvia Zanis, Kelly Collins, Carly Wolfe



Mason Robinson

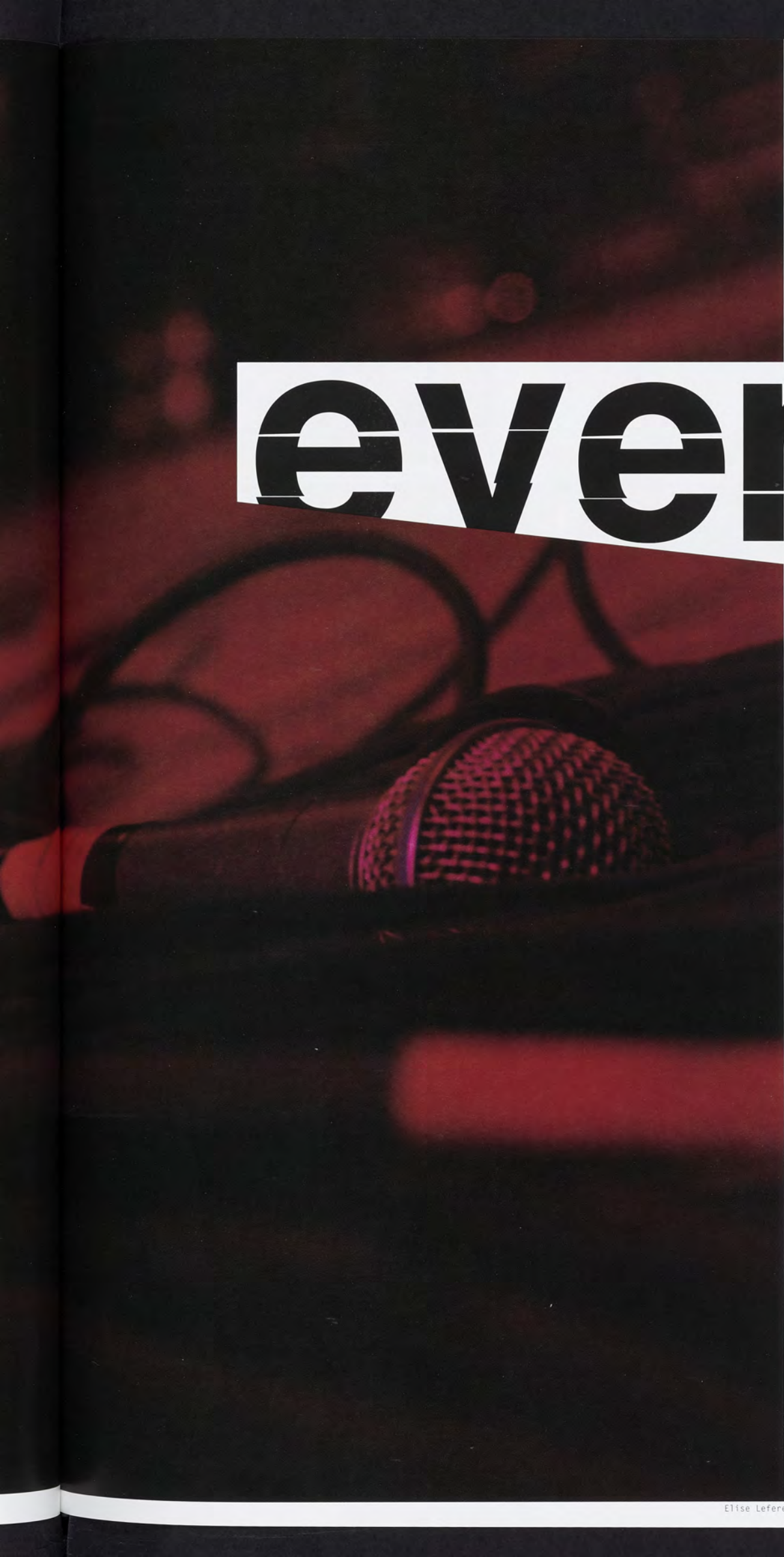


Front Row: (from left) Mary Niezgoda, Meg Samberg, Kelsey Burgess, Julie Adamo, Rhyllie Brown, Ellen Howard, Kate Reens, Taylor Peel
Second Row: Madeline Lavery, Bethany Baltutat, Megan Carr, Kristen Selasky, Julia Carnovale, Jamie Houdek, Katie Calley, Krystyna McCollum, Kristina Joseph, Maddy McHugh
Third Row: Melissa Schofding, Paige Sheats, Kayla Brenner, Madison Williams, Brianna Lepore, Courtney Robinette, Alex Tricozzi, Kelli Ford, Kelly Zens, Susie Barbour
Fourth Row: Michelle Champgne, Jenn Moeller, Brittini Stefanides, Melissa Getz, Jen Ferlito, Alison Distefano, Taylor Smith, Lauren Everley, Emily Walsh, Ellie Nichols, Taylor Flynt, Alyssa Sirlin
Fifth Row: Krista Neumeyer, Jordan Smetana, Audrey Beggs, Amanda Rajner, Mary-Kate Smirles, Kaitlin Jeske, Alyssa DeYonker, Hilary Schomberger, Devon Strand, DeeDee Stasiak, Athena Balaban, Elise Call, Christina Deleew
Sixth Row: Rachel Rassel, Tracey Daniels, Courtney Boileau
Seventh Row: Hilary Pietila, Makalya Bouchard, Amanda Kurtz, Allie McDowell, Abby Reichard, Rachel Murry, Carly Fleming, Maggie Pratt, Shannon Kramm
Back Row: Amilee Khoury, Jessica Fisher, Christina Allison, Emily Finnan

Erica Treats

sigma kappa



A large, dark photograph of a microphone on a stage, illuminated by red light. The microphone is in the foreground, and the background is blurred with red bokeh lights.

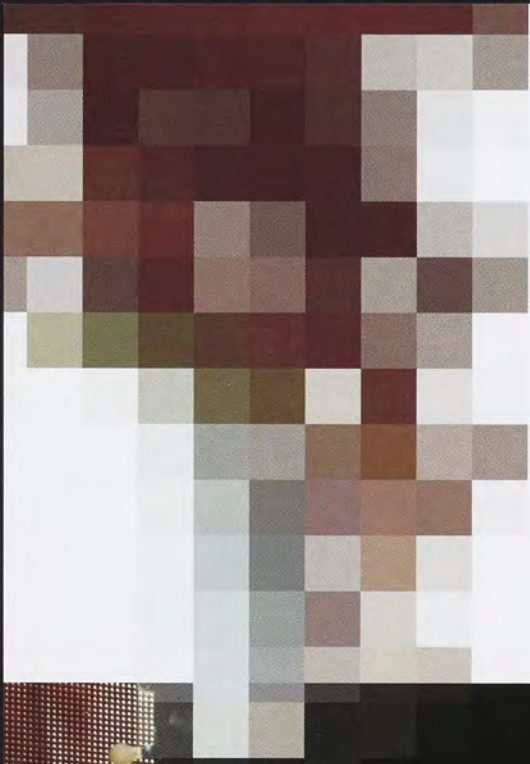
events

Sharing the universal experiences of receiving our acceptance letters, straying from home, stuffing our lives into a tiny dorm room, and struggling through an impossible exam, it's life's events that create memories worthy of lasting a lifetime.

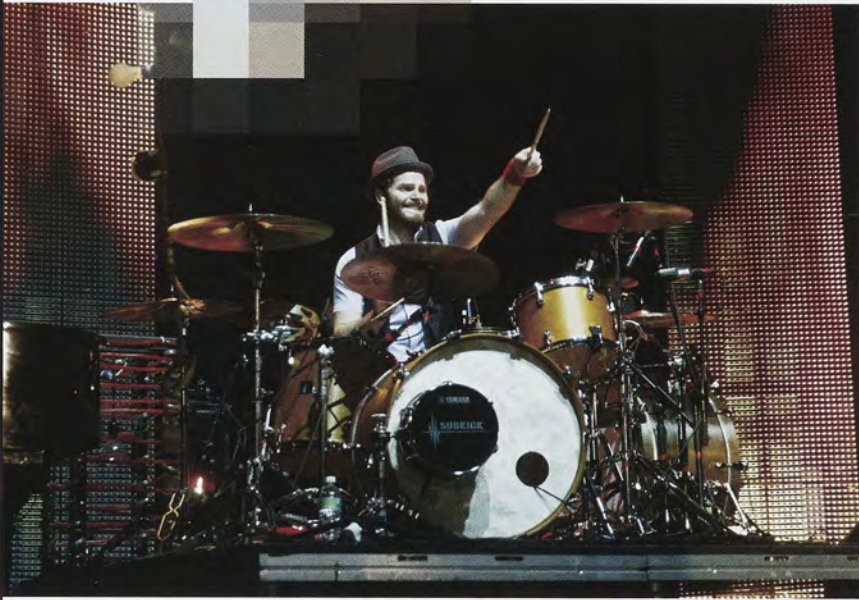
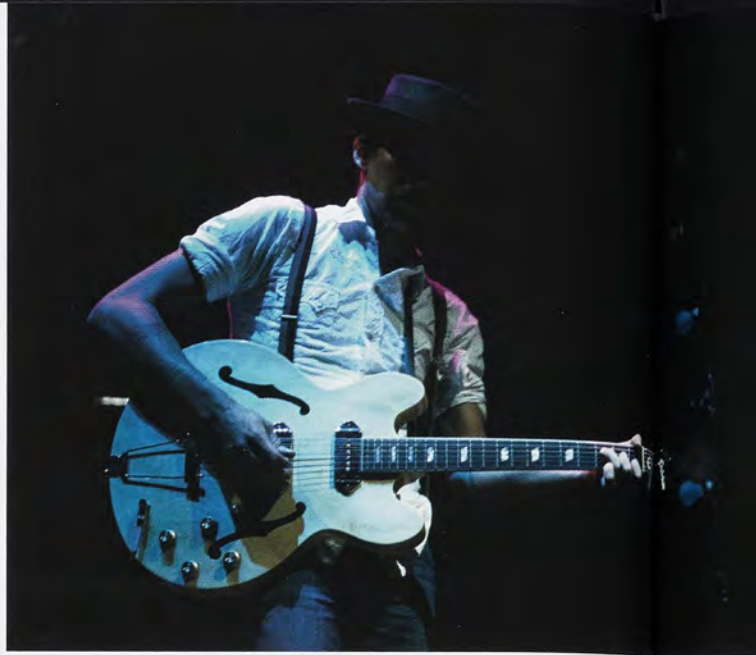
In the past year, we've welcomed the All-American Rejects, The Fray, Kid Cudi and Drake. We've raced for a cure, remembered the suffering, volunteered, and shared our cultures.

We've celebrated both our favorite national holidays and the success of our athletes.

Whether it be university-sponsored events, or our own weekend adventures, each event experienced cultivates a unique Spartan experience. ■



Jacob Hanson, guitarist from Nathaniel Rateliff and the Wheel, performs before the Fray concert. The band enjoyed playing at a college campus because of the atmosphere.



Ben Wysocki, drummer for the Fray, points to the crowd during his performance. The show's pace kept the audience energized.

Joe King, guitarist for The Fray, plays at the concert in the Breslin Center. Many of the fans enjoyed the range of songs that were played.





The Fray performs at the Breslin Center. Their smash hit "How to Save a Life" caused the crowd to erupt.



Vocalist of the Fray, Isaac Slade, performs at the Breslin Center. Fans joined with Slade in chants of "Go green! Go white!" during the performance.

Text: Dustin McNeas
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Jessica Halfyard

THE FRAY

Thousands of students packed the Breslin Center September 16 to see The Fray in concert, with Nathaniel Rateliff and The Wheel kicking off the show. The Fray performed most of their hit songs, including "Over My Head" and a cover of Kanye West's "Heartless," much to the delight of the crowd.

EAST LANSING GOES NATIONAL

New National Coney Station provides late night hangout and convenience to students

It's two hours into the Saturday morning, and bar crawlers quickly guzzle up the last of their beer and evacuate onto the streets of East Lansing. The unfortunate souls drag themselves home to pray to the porcelain gods, while others, with their mouths watering, are on the hunt for something tasty and greasy to gobble up. It won't be long until a group of Spartans stumbles through the doors of National Coney Station, a new concept by National Coney Island, Inc., on Grand River Avenue demanding something to tickle their taste buds.

Inside the restaurant, characterized by red bricks and old-style photos, a long line of rowdy customers forms. Some chat with friends about the evening's outrageous occurrences, while others slump into booths and inhale their food without saying a word.

This slam-packed night is the standard crowd for weekends, said Raymond Reynolds, a manager at the establishment. Reynolds has worked for National Coney Island for six years, but before the restaurant opened on Sept. 10, he never experienced the customers of a college town. He said it is definitely a change of pace from his home in Macomb.

"I got puked on a few weeks ago. We were getting ready to close at 3 a.m. when I passed by a guy stumbling on his way to the bathroom. He didn't make it, and it sprayed all over my arm," Reynolds said. Most store managers would be fuming with anger, but Reynolds, 22, was able to keep his cool.

"I actually wasn't that mad at him," Reynolds said. "The guy was really embarrassed because he loves Coney Island and promised he'll be back. I just hope he doesn't pull that again."

For sophomore Caitlin Wilson, there is never a dull moment when working the closing shift at National Coney Station.

"The funniest encounter I've had was when a drunk guy proposed to me with a ring made out of paper napkins," Wilson laughed. "I told him that he was moving a little bit too fast for my taste."

Another tipsy customer indiscreetly attempted to sneak away with the store's "Open" sign.

"It was kind of funny. When I caught her with the huge sign, she looked at me innocently, like she wasn't doing anything wrong," Reynolds said. Beware, sign thieves; a manager will catch you every time.

Even though drunken crowds may be slightly unruly, they are National Coney Station's biggest business. Since the food is reasonably priced, students agree that Coney is a tempting late night stop when on the way home from the bar. With doors open until 3 a.m. on weekends, who could resist a taste of classic American food before putting a cap on their night?

National Coney Station is not only ideal for late-night prowlers, it is also accommodating to students with busy schedules. Junior Josh Glowacki depends on Coney's speedy service when he is in a time crunch between classes.

"Most of my classes are in the psychology building, and in my 40-minute break, I love to head to Coney Station for a quick meal. The location is perfect," Glowacki said. The only thing Glowacki could say he dislikes about National Coney Station is its timing.

"I really can't believe [National Coney Station] is finally here. This is my fifth year at MSU. Why couldn't they have gotten to East Lansing sooner?" Glowacki said in between bites of his Coney Dog. As a Metro Detroit native, National Coney Station is a refreshing taste of home for him.

Like Glowacki, many customers are ecstatic to see a Coney Station in town. Students and adults alike have expressed enthusiasm to be able to enjoy their favorites, such as Coney Dogs and Hani Specials, in East Lansing. Reynolds feels that National Coney Station's unique hometown-feel sets it apart from other fast food competitors.

"It's our reputation that brings people in. Metro Detroiters that have grown up on our food know it's good. They're happy to see us here," said Reynolds.

Coney Station's Grand River location attracts hungry East Lansing customers looking for inexpensive food and speedy service. The new restaurant is a hot spot for late night snack.



Cook Chris Krauss serves up a mouthwatering portion of Coney Dogs and chili cheese fries to counter worker Ashley Staples. A public relations masters student, the location has seen many businesses in the last few years.

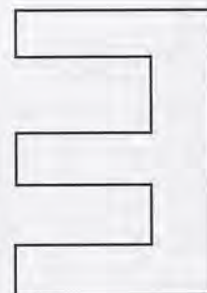




Students lounge in fold-up chairs at the Izzone Campout held at Munn Field. Second-year members of the Izzone who attend the campout have a greater chance of getting the highly sought after lower bowl seats.

Basketball players Chris Allen, Kalin Lucas and Raymar Morgan stand behind coach Tom Izzo as he speaks to the crowd at the Izzone Campout on Sept. 26. About 2,200 students attended the campout at Munn Field.





DEDICATION AT ITS FINEST

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Jessica Halfyard

Men's basketball fans campout to be members of the Izzone

9:20 a.m.: The five men of campsite 323 arrive on Munn Field to pitch their tent.

9:45 a.m.: Junior Kevin Erb carries mattresses from his dorm room to the campsite.

By 10 a.m. campsite 323 is set up and prepared for the next 24 hours of the Izzone Campout. These dedicated fans, along with about 2,000 other fans, endured the elements in hopes of getting lower bowl tickets for the upcoming men's basketball season.

"We prepared by getting together with friends from Campus Crusade, a Christian organization," junior Alex Dunn said. "This is my first year 'cause I'm a junior transfer. I think a good portion of our campsite are first-years. I brought a blanket and a pillow with me."

From 10 a.m. until noon, the guys played a game of pick-up football, with a quick break at 11:30 a.m. for a campsite check. The guys then headed to Wilson Hall around noon to watch the Spartans play Wisconsin.

Although Dunn only brought a blanket and a pillow with him to the campout, the rest of his campsite was well prepared with all things necessary to spend 24 hours in a tent.

"I got my homemade granola, apples, pretzels, cereal and a Frisbee," junior Joe Ray said. "I also brought my green and white jumpsuit, a sleeping bag, a football and my iPod."

At 4 p.m., when the football game was over, the guys stopped in the Wilson Hall cafeteria to get some food before returning to their campsite.

"I've wanted to be in the Izzone ever since I came to MSU," freshman Logan Matthews said. "Since I want to be in the lower bowl, I knew I had to camp out. It's pretty exciting to see the field transform into a campsite. It's fantastic."

Matthews showed his dedication to the team by sticking it out at the campout even though he was injured during the touch football game.

"I made a spectacular catch in the back of the end zone," Matthews

explained, as blood dripped down his neck. "The defender tried to block it by scratching my neck and breaking off my necklace."

The guys passed time after the game by playing more football, waiting in line for Izzone Campout t-shirts and grilling hamburgers on their charcoal grill around 6 p.m. After they grilled, they participated in the inflatable obstacle courses until 8:30 p.m. and then returned to their campsite, where they anxiously awaited the arrival of Coach Izzo and the team.

"I think the whole experience is going to be real fun," freshman Kyle Stanke said, "but I am most excited to see the team and meet Izzo."

The other members of the campsite agreed that meeting Izzo, who showed up around 9 p.m., was the highlight of their campout experience.

"I knew I was doing the campout ever since I got my tickets," Dunn said. "I actually just thought we'd be standing around, but when I got the schedule I was so pumped to be here. It's an epic experience to hang out with Michigan State's finest."

After Coach Izzo and the team visited the campout, a comedian was there to entertain the campers for the night. He wrapped up his set around 11 p.m. and all the excitement began to die down as the guys started to return to their campsite, since all the scheduled activities had finished.

"As soon as we got back to our campsite, we heard a bunch of yelling and screaming, so we decided to go investigate," Ray said. "Apparently one of my friends had... a dance-off with this other guy. Everyone was crowding around them so they moved to the stage and literally 300 people crowded the stage and they had an hour-long dance-off between the two guys and the deejay. It was the funniest moment ever."

The dance-off ended around 1:30 a.m. and everyone returned to the tent to hang out for a little while before going to bed.

The next morning Coach Izzo woke the campers up around 7:30 a.m. with a megaphone so they could pack up their tents and check out.

"We slept really well on our mattresses," Ray said.

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Text: Rachel Sylvester
 Photo: Alissa Lane
 Design: Jessica Halfyard

COOLER THAN YOU

Mike Posner returns to a sold-out crowd

Mike Posner has achieved more within his 21 years than most accomplish within a lifetime. Aside from the daily stresses that accompany life as a sociology and business major, this senior from Duke University is also balancing a major record deal.

After single-handedly writing, producing and recording tracks within his dorm room, Posner's hard work paid off when his debut mix tape, *A Matter of Time*, caught the eye of record executives. Since then, fans from Detroit to Los Angeles have recognized his potential as an up-and-coming artist.

"By no means is my music demographic-limited to college kids; it just exploded there first due to my social network," he said. "I appeal to students because that's where my friends are."

With news of Posner's September 12 performance, fans campus-wide immediately began buzzing - resulting in a sold-out show within six hours. Presented by the Residence Halls Association, the Fall Welcome Concert featured Posner along with Fly Union and Kanye West protégé Big Sean.

"This concert blew up by word of mouth," said RHA Director of Public Relations Melissa Hackett. "Had we known, we would have chosen a bigger venue."

Although the excitement was primarily shared among fans, it appeared as if Posner was the most eager of all.

"I performed once at State two or three years ago, but I think it's going to be a much different experience this time," he said. "I get goose bumps just thinking about tonight."

Prior to his anticipated performance, Posner sauntered into the Union Ballroom with a smile on his face. Dressed casually in house slippers and basketball shorts, he initially appeared as yet another average student. Several minutes into the interview though, it became evident that the personable performer

found success through hard work and determination.

"I don't follow what everyone else is doing," he said. "There is no set path you have to take."

Known for such hits as "Cooler Than Me" and "Drug Dealer Girl," Posner finds inspiration in what he matter-of-factly terms as "real life."

"I think a lot of people identify with some of the concepts within my music because they're things that everyone goes through," he said. "I know one of my strengths is taking events that happen in my life and turning them into art."

Describing his schedule as "definitely tough," Posner commits his time to both schooling and a budding career. Despite his absence at Duke on the weekends, the singer remains an average college senior who enjoys Saturday tailgates, four corners and most importantly, his music.

"Everyone at school tries to work on Wall Street, but I salvage my relationships at Duke into a nationwide buzz," he said.

After a brief interruption from a throng of screaming fans, Posner sighed and continued his train of thought.

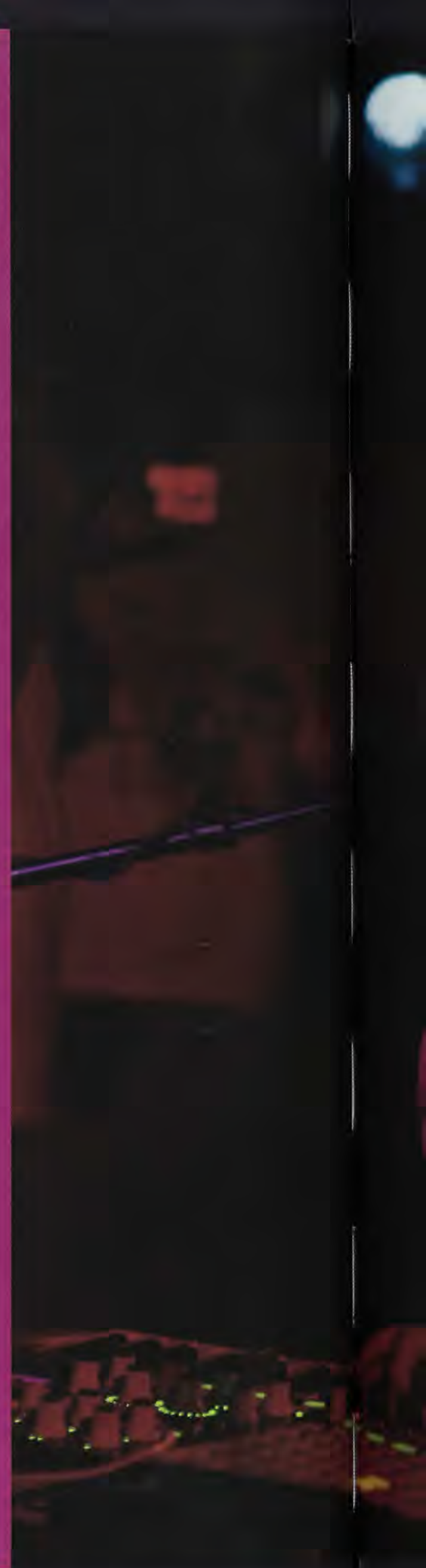
"I get paid to chill at other schools. I'm living the dream," he said. "I'm not complaining - I just do my homework on the planes."

With the amount of success Posner has encountered within the past year - including a contract with J Records - it's unlikely that there is much left on his to-do list.

"I'm not content with my position at all," Posner said. "I don't feel like I've made it. To me, it's always what's next."

Humble words coming from a man who has collaborated with likes of 3OH!3 and Kid Cudi. With aspirations to become what he termed the "biggest pop star in the world," it's obvious that Posner's music possesses the proper credentials.

"You can expect me to be a force within the music industry for years to come."



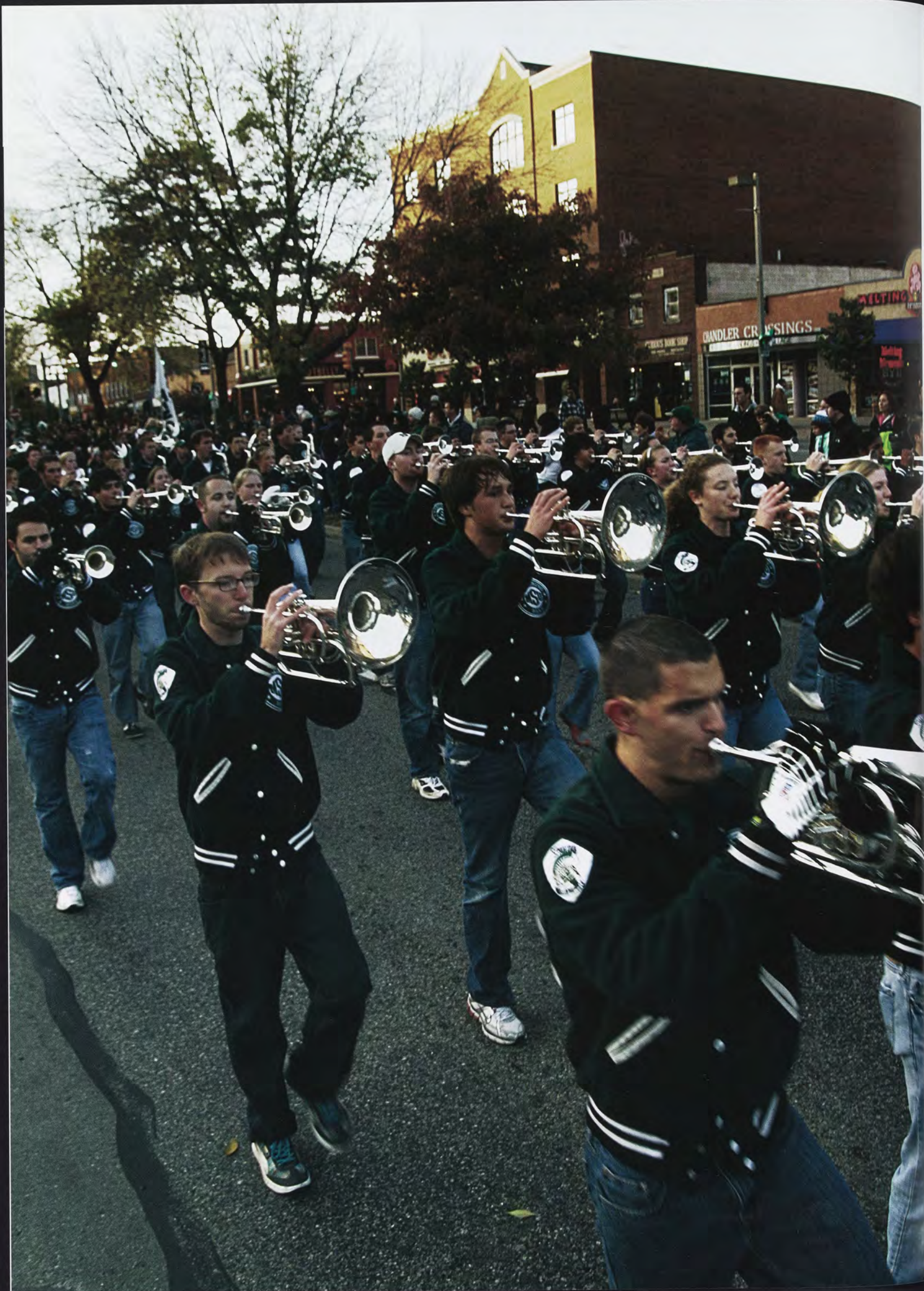
Events: Mike Posner Concert

Mike Posner serenades audience members at the Fall Welcome Concert. Sponsored by the RHA, the concert sold out within a matter of hours.

Fans came out in support of Mike Posner, Big Sean and Fly Union. Clad in Posner merchandise, fans captured photos and sang along.



Detroit native Big Sean gets the crowd warmed up for his performance with Mike Posner at the MSU Union Ballroom.



WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN GREEN

Spartans young and old took up their shields and spears for Homecoming Week, which began with hayrides, traveled by way of the annual parade and ultimately culminated in a 24-14 victory over Northwestern.



Mason Robinson



Lauren Wood

Seniors Erik Love, Gabe Buzinski and Sam Zikakis act and sing on behalf of Accafellas. The group performed "Sweet Dreams" by Annie Lennox and the Eurythmics at the Sounds of Homecoming event.

The Capital Green acapella group performs at Sounds of Homecoming. They were one of several musically-inclined groups that entertained the crowd that evening.

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Text: Dustin McNees
Photo: Staff
Design: Vicari Vollmar

The MSU marching band performs during the Homecoming Parade. The next day, the band provided ambience as the Spartans defeated Northwestern 24-14.

Mason Robinson



Sophomore Ricky Carr prepares to dig his face into a pie tin filled with pudding, whipped cream, sprinkles, cherries and one piece of bubble gum. After blowing a bubble, Carr had to repeat the challenge two additional times.
Elise Lefere

The MSU ROTC marches down Grand River during the Homecoming Parade. The group added a military presence to the annual festivities.



Elise Lefere



Veronica Nagy



Ellina Stein

MSU senior David Uschwald (right) stands at The Rock eating ice cream with his cousin Maria Michel (middle) and Juliet Olson (left). The two high school juniors were touring the campus during Homecoming Week.

Freshman Laura Sliva partakes in her first MSU Homecoming Week. Sliva bedazzled a handbag at the Spartan Spirit Craft Night.

A masked Spartan proudly rides his chariot down Grand River Avenue in the Homecoming parade. Students participating walked down Grand River, lasting nearly 45 minutes.
Mason Robinson



Senior Amanda Gretka, sophomores Thomas Onderlinde and Ricky Carr and freshman Grace Kim compete during Homecoming Week. The crew attempted to capture as many cheese puffs onto their shaving-creamed bodies as possible within a given time.

Elise Lefere
Mason Robinson



Elise Lefere

A group of students sits at the median of Grand River Avenue and Abbot awaiting the start of the parade. Students, faculty and community members alike witnessed the Homecoming Parade, a staple of Homecoming Week.

Students sing the MSU Alma Mater at Sounds of Homecoming. The alma mater, based off a tune from an Italian opera, has been around since 1948.







“VOICE OF CAMPUS” FOR O ER 100 YEARS

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Submitted by The State News
Design: Brendan Prost

The State News celebrates its 100th anniversary

One hundred years and 16 ACP Pacemaker Awards later, *The State News* can say its achieved something. But let's be honest, it earned respect a long time ago. In its 100 years of existence, the student-run publication raised the bar for college newspapers across the nation and set trends that are standard in the business today. All the while, it has remained the “independent voice for students on campus.”

In 1909, the president of then Michigan Agriculture College decided to name the first newspaper *The Holcad*, which was the name given to the ship that carried news from seaport to seaport in ancient Greece. The first journalism class was offered at the college in the spring of 1910, English 2K-Agriculture Journalism. By 1925, the college changed its name to Michigan State College, and ever since the paper was known as *The Michigan State News*, with “Michigan” eventually clipped.

In the 84 years since the first issue under *The State News* title, there have been wide range of changes, along with many monumental events. The publication is one of the largest college dailies

in the nation in both circulation, budget and staff. In addition, the paper has covered events that range from daily happenings around East Lansing to national events, such as presidential elections and September 11.

“September 11 was probably the most memorable event that we have covered in my time at *The State News*,” general manager Marty Sturgeon said. “Everyone on staff came together to get coverage out to the people. It was just something great to watch.”

The State News was also one of the first publications to select a female editor in 1930. It was one of the first to switch from typewriters to computers in 1982, and one of the first college newspapers to publish daily and join the Associated Press.

But one of its biggest moves was the decision to change from independent to non-profit corporation in 1971. The move protected the publication from interference by University administrators who might have disagreed with their content. It also protected the university from liability for anything published in *The State News*, thus creating the mantra of being the independent voice on campus.

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Text: Jacob Kanclerz, Leslie Tilson
 Photo: Veronica Nagy, Lauren Wood
 Design: Brendan Pross

A REAL THRILLER

Students perform wide range of acts to salute the King of Pop

The room is dark. Illuminated only by flashing strobe lights, a young couple stands in the middle, stranded. As the fog rolls in, hideous creatures crawl from the corners towards their victims. Although they resist, the defenseless couple is taken down by the blood-thirsty beasts. Once bitten, the couple becomes possessed, but they aren't the typical brain-dead, zombie-walk possessed. Instead, they take center stage, led by a figure decked out in the finest red leather pants and jacket. They all don white gloves and start to dance.

What's going on? Michael Jackson's "Thriller." What else would it be?

While the opening skit of the Black Caucus' Michael Jackson Soul Tribute Night at the McDonel Hall kiva captured the essence of the King of Pop's dance moves and theatric flair, it wasn't saturated by many other Jackson covers. Instead, poets, rappers, guitarists, gospel singers and even motivational speakers shared the spotlight with their own performances. What did a girl playing Taylor Swift covers on her acoustic have to do with Michael?

"Even though all the acts tonight are not about Michael Jackson, it is a tribute to him because without him, none of this would be possible," said broadcast senior Tony Towns, vice president of the Black Caucus and a co-emcee of the event.

Michael Jackson, a former member of the Jackson 5 who later embarked on very successful solo career, died at the age of 50 on June 25, 2009. Probably the most successful performer of all time, his "Thriller" album is still the number one best seller in the world and he was known for his tremendous skill singing and dancing.

The event didn't just aim to pay tribute to Jackson's music. The diversity of the acts represented Jackson's positive messages he portrayed through his songs.

"This is exactly why he did what he did," Towns said. "It's to bring every culture and creed together. This is what he wanted. It would have been a dishonor to not have that diversity. That was our top priority; to have every color, creed and diversity here."

Indeed, a variety of performers descended upon the wooden dance floor set up in the kiva. The MSU IQ Dance Team performed to a hip-hop medley that ended in a white-

gloved routine to Jackson's "Bad," and a band complete with an acoustic guitar and a bongo drum with a cymbal attached did covers of "Smooth Criminal" and The Black Eyed Peas' "Hey Ya."

Senior Chavonna Savage, president of Black Caucus and a performer in the "Thriller" skit, was one of the many inspired by Jackson's talent.

"[Jackson] inspired me to dance. He's shown me dance moves that can never be duplicated," Savage said.

Freshman Deangelo Beloch, an R&B performer who boasts a manager and has even performed shows in Detroit, attributes his inspiration and success to Jackson.

"He's the reason why I started singing," Beloch said. "I wanted to imitate him."

Beloch and Savage aren't the only ones. Sophomore Victor Draine was Michael Jackson that night, acting as the leather-suited figure who led the opening "Thriller" skit. Word on the street was that Draine resembled the King of Pop, and the Black Caucus needed to start with a Michael song everyone could identify with. The two parties were able to come together to produce the skit, complete with authentic "Thriller" moves. Playing the role of Jackson was an honor for Draine in the wake of the singer's death.

"When he passed, we all just sat around and watched his memorial," Draine said. "It was like losing a family member."

Although Draine only did the gig for fun, he still realizes Jackson's impact worldwide.

"He contributed a lot to music, (and) he did a lot for a lot of different people," Draine said. "If you look at his lyrics, his songs-'Man In The Mirror,' 'Black Or White'- they all had good messages."

By spreading Jackson's ideals on their Soul Night, the Black Caucus was continuing on what the iconic singer started during his life.

"Our goal was to have every culture and diversity come out and show us what soul means to them," Savage said. "Michael Jackson was all about world peace, diversity and enjoying everybody's company, and we wanted that to come through in our soul night."

Events: Micheal Jackson Tribute



Veronica Nagy

Freshman Stephen Wright sings songs by Flight of the Conchords and Elliott Smith during his performance. Wright was a part of a wide range of acts that performed that night in tribute to the King of Pop.

Chavonna Savage acts out Michael Jackson's "Thriller" video during a tribute to Jackson during Soul Night. Behind the makeup and costume, Savage also serves as the Black Caucus' president.



Veronica Nagy



Lauren Wood

10 Dance Team performs during Soul Night. They tributed Michael Jackson with a dance to a remixed version of his song "Bad."

Redshirt sophomore Lykendra Johnson and junior Cetera Washington race for the ball during the women's Green and White scrimmage. The women are gunning for a Final Four appearance in San Antonio this year.

Coach Tom Izzo and his family watch a video recap of the men's team's historic trip to the Final Four in Detroit last season. The video stayed true to the night's theme, "Celebrate the Moment."



Elise Lerere

MSU loves its basketball. MSU loves its men's basketball coach.

These two common denominators factor into why Coach Tom Izzo made a grand entrance to the Breslin Center in an Indy Race Car, complete with a driver's suit and racing helmet.

It may have been Homecoming weekend for the football team, but that didn't stop over 14,000 students and alumni from showing up to Midnight Madness on Friday night.

In fact, everyone that could have showed up did. This year's Midnight Madness was the first one ever sold out in the event's history, and Breslin staff had to turn away people waiting in lengthy lines that wrapped around the building.

Midnight Madness serves to kick off the men's and women's basketball seasons every year by introducing the teams and celebrating the past year's accomplishments. This year's motto was "Celebrate the Moment," which was fitting for two programs that created plenty of moments last season. The women's basketball team made it to the Sweet Sixteen and the men's basketball team fell short of the National Championship in the final game.

The men's basketball team stayed true to the theme during their introductions. The arena darkened and each player appeared on the Jumbotron showcasing a classic Spartans victory from previous seasons. The player then trotted down the stairs from the concourse level, accompanied by giant blasts of flames from both baskets, erupting from the pyrotechnics placed on top.

Finally, Izzo showed up on the big screen, highlighting the Spartans' two national championships in 1979 and 2000. After introducing himself, the crowd roared, and Izzo promptly suited up into his racing gear and took off in his racing car on-screen, culminating in Izzo riding to center court in person. As soon as the coach reached the winner's circle, he was awarded the traditional victor's wreath of



Mason Robison

flowers around his head.

Coach Izzo's speech focused on the fans' dedication to the program by showing record support for the team during its stay in Detroit for the Final Four. Izzo mentioned the 30,000 Spartan fans that showed up for a practice at Ford Field, as well as the 9,000 that followed the team to the Somerset Mall in Troy. Izzo also declared that MSU basketball now holds the record for most fans to watch a basketball game, and second and third place as well.

Eventually, the Final Four banner was raised, the fifth the team has raised in the past 11 years, all under Izzo, and the only team in the NCAA to have accomplished that feat in that time period.

The women's basketball team staged their own theatrics to match Izzo and the men. Setting up a mini-living room at center court, the players threw a "house party," which resulted in each of the team members coming through a prop door wearing a '90s outfit and doing their own little dance to the music played on their arrival. At the end of the charade, coach Suzy Merchant crashed the party. She saluted the Sweet Sixteen appearance but quickly moved onto her main point: Making the Final Four this year in San Antonio, which prompted the team to don pink cowboy hats and line dance at the end of their skit.

After the team ceremonies, both squads played a quick Green and White game, taking the festivities to 1 a.m. The dedicated fans that stayed saw two crisp basketball performances in the teams' first appearances on court, but Izzo ended the night memorably by reminding everyone of the Homecoming festivities set for the following day.

"I know tonight is about basketball," Izzo told the crowd, "but this is still football season!"

"Tomorrow, we are going to kick some Wildcat ass!" the coach proclaimed.

Coach Tom Izzo arrives to the Breslin Center in a MSU-themed Indy car. The men's basketball team celebrated their trip to the Finals, and kicked-off a new season at Midnight Madness.

OFF TO THE RACES

Text: Jacob Kanclerz
Photo: Elise Lefere, Mason Robinson
Design: Brendan Prost

MSU basketball teams kick off season in front of record crowd at Midnight Madness



Cameron Carroll
from East Lansing,
dressed as a cowboy,
bowls with a pumpkin
at Theta Chi's booth
during Safe Halloween.
Erica Treais



Events: Halloween

BOOS AN

Naughty nurses and Edward Cullen-wannabes filled the streets and frat houses Halloween weekend, replacing childhood "boos" with MSU booze.

Text: Dustin McNees

Photo: Staff

Design: Jessica Halfyard



Abby Schottenfels paints a pumpkin at the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities Nightmare on Bogue Street Halloween event. The college host the event in the Snyder-Phillips basement

Children and parents trick-or-treated at local businesses on Grand River. Fraternity and sorority chapters host Safe Halloween for East Lansing residents.

Elina Stein



Elise Lefere

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ND BOOZE



Sophomore Victoria Zegler, dressed as Lady Gaga, makes a phone call from the kitchen sink.

Jennifer Kane, Eric Gruper, Tara Trimble and Allie Dodson line up to get into The Landshark.



Elise Lefere



Elissa Stein

A gingerbread man roams the streets of East Lansing on Halloween.

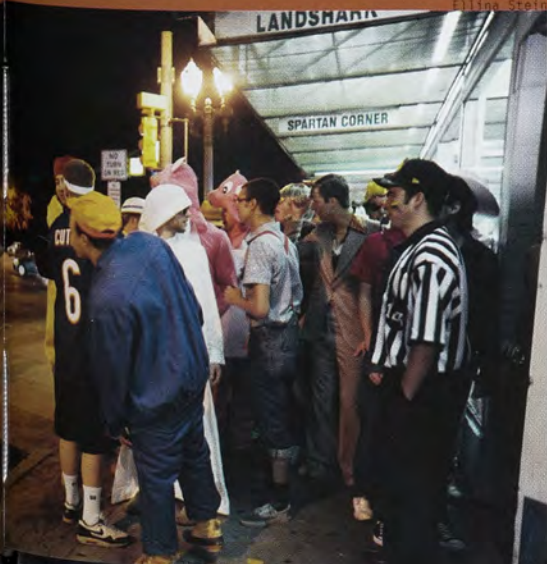
The party hosts pose for a picture on Sunrise Ct.



Elise Lefere

Elissa Stein

Outside of the Landshark Bar in East Lansing, a group of young men whistle at girls dressed as angels on Halloween.



An issue of the paper published before the game. *The Black Sheep* took a satirical look on the game.

FREE...like running around with

**MICHIGAN VS. MICHIGAN STATE:
MORE THAN JUST A RIVALRY**

[illegible][illegible]Submitted by *The Black Sheep*

FREE, like every other paper on campus... *"A College Newspaper That's Actually About College Life"* *Harvard Business Review*

04 **SQUIRREL GANGS**
THEY ARE EVERYWHERE
ON CAMPUS!



OF ADVICE TO FRESHMEN

05 **ADVICE TO FRESHMEN**
SOME HELPFUL HINTS
TO FIT RIGHT IN



A man with a beard and mustache, wearing a black t-shirt with the word 'FIREHOUSE' printed on it, is shown from the chest up. He is looking directly at the camera.

15 ARE YOU SMARTER THAN: MIKE, THE COLDSTONE ICE CREAM SCOOPER?

Week of September 2nd, 2009 | Volume 1 | Page 1

A photograph of a school sign. The sign is rectangular and white with a black border. On the left side of the sign is a large, green, stylized letter 'S'. To the right of the 'S' is the text 'Welcome' in a black, sans-serif font. Below 'Welcome' is the text 'Back (Week)' in the same font. To the right of the text is a simple black-and-white drawing of a sheep, facing left, with a curly woolly body and a small head with two dots for eyes. The sign is mounted on a metal frame in front of a brick building.

[illegible]Submitted by *The Black Sheep*

The Black Sheep's first published issue on campus. The issue covered Welcome Week.

A College Newspaper That's Actually About College.

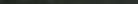
It's Thursday it
could sleep.
You're at the
company picnic, and
you're all having fun.
But you can't get
any more food. You
are so full you can
hardly move.

[illegible]

NAME: [illegible]
 DATE OF BIRTH: [illegible]
 SEX: [illegible]
 COUNTRY: [illegible]
 CITY: [illegible]

The Battle With Your Brain

Why Scientists Suck

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

The Black Sheep

NEW SHEEP IN TOWN

***The Black Sheep* comes to graze East Lansing**

It's something new. It's something most people might not know exists. But if you walk down Grand River, into the dorms, or stop by a random newsstand you will see it. The new publication has its own style and flare, and it's something different than *The State News* - or any other publication for that matter - on campus. The satirical newspaper that covers issues college students encounter daily is known as *The Black Sheep*.

While *The Black Sheep* is new to this campus, it originated a few years ago at the University of Illinois when co-creators Atish Doshi and Derek Chin decided that their school newspaper (*The Daily Illini*) wasn't meeting the needs of the school.

"The paper wasn't bad, but their topics weren't actually relevant to college or college life," Doshi said. "So we were sitting around and the two of us were like, 'Why don't we start our own paper?' We had no idea what it would take to do it, but we knew that if we were able to write about topics that our readers could relate to, we could have something really cool on our hands."

And so with no journalism experience, Atish bought the book "How to Start a Newspaper," and, as a marketing and finance manager, began publishing *The Black Sheep*.

"Most of the skills my partners and I acquired came from just experience on the go," Doshi said. "It's always been about loving this job and the opportunities it brings, so if that means having to research new techniques when it comes to layout and design, or having to take a journalism class to learn proper editing, I've been up to the challenge."

But how did something that started at the University of Illinois end up in East Lansing?

The newspaper's founder, Doshi, was originally from Rochester Hills, and he said after they started in Illinois they set a new goal to come to Michigan.

"When we decided to expand, we had pretty thorough research criteria, and MSU fit everything perfectly," Atish said. "It's a large school with a great social life and an enthusiastic student body. We couldn't ask for anything more."

After the decision was made to come to East Lansing, the two decided to post job openings on myspartancareer.com. Everything from advertisers, writers and even distribution people were needed.

"Atish and the other managers really have a lot of input of what goes on here at MSU," content manager Caitlin Tetrick said. "They really care, just as we do, about making a good product for the students and community to read."

Each week, Tetrick and a staff of about 10 writers get together to come up with ideas for their next paper that is printed every Thursday. They come up with around 15-20 ideas and then narrow it down to the best ones to fill up their six-page spread. The stories range from ways to get free food to conspiracy theories about why dorm beds are odd shaped (prevent fornication) to reader-submitted drunk shout-outs.

"Sometimes people come up to us and say they enjoy us more than *The State News*," Tetrick said. "But it really doesn't matter. All that matters is that we give the students something they want to read."

Text: Colby Berthume

Photo: Alissa Lane, submitted by The Black Sheep

Design: Vicari Vollmar

Alissa Lane



A beautiful day for football, with just a little bit of rain

What a beautiful day for football, with just a little bit of rain.

The defining game vs. Michigan.

Wow.

One word. One thought. Just "wow."

Long after Larry Cappers dashed into the end zone to secure the 26-20 win in overtime, the scoreboard still lit up the night sky. The day, however, started many hours before that and took loads of twists and turns. It had some ups, some downs, a bit of rain, but in the end, nothing but a victory and sunshine.

The game received little national recognition, and generated little hype due to the previous performances of the two teams. However, any time the "Little Brown Jug" is up for grabs, there doesn't need to be any hype. There doesn't need to be any national recognition. All that's needed is some good ol' spirited college football fans that define a rivalry. And trust me, there were a lot of them.

While clouds and rain would have surely discouraged many in Ann Arbor, MSU students and fans alike know it's always a beautiful day for football in East Lansing (at least that's what we're reminded of from the Public Address announcer); especially when you have a chance to beat Michigan for the second time in a row for the first time since 1967.

In the student section, the deafening "Go Green! Go White!" chants were louder than ever as thousands of anxious, intoxicated Spartans filled the stadium to the brim. Every soul who bravely (or stupidly) entered the student section wearing Maize and Blue were pelted with "Asshole!" chants. The chaos ensued throughout the pre-game ceremonies right up until the long-awaited kickoff at high noon.

As the Spartans lined up to receive the kick, the defining "Woosh" that erupted after Michigan kicker Bryan Wright did what he does best, kicked

FUELIN THE FIRE

the ball, made it seem as if all the air had been completely sucked out of the stadium. The Spartan faithful were into the game.

A first quarter interception and an early Michigan field goal dampened the crowd as much as the weather did. But when running-back Larry Caper sprinted into the end zone with 2:25 left in first quarter to give the Spartans a 7-3 lead going into the second quarter, the crowd continued to grow in excitement. Every first down, the student section continued to remind the Wolverines what they really were, because each time the crowd grow louder and louder when they chanted "First down, bitch!"

Eventually, though, the atmosphere seemed to shift. "What started out as a lot of drunk energy turned into focused energy. After the first few minutes of the game people became really focused," said sophomore student section member Max Suri.

Everyone quickly began to realize that they could razz the people donning the Maize and Blue all they wanted, but what really mattered was a win.

While the weather did little to dampen the fans (and by the time the first-half came to an end, the slight drizzle turned into a heavy downpour), it did affect the play on the field. The second quarter was filled with lots of sloppy plays and resulted in only a field goal for both teams, leading to a 10-3 lead for Michigan State going into half-time.

Coming out of the gates for the second half, the Spartans continued to keep their intensity up, and the crowd continued even more. The sun began to peek through and it seemed as if every positive play for Michigan State - and every negative play for Michigan - fueled the fire for the crowd.

However, as the fourth quarter came around,

>>Continued on pg. 190

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the sun began to fade and rain showers crept back in an eerie foreshadowing way, and the tides began to turn. Michigan dominated the fourth quarter and scored with 4:03 remaining in the game, and the crowd began to cheer with a hint of nervousness. The "Go Green! Go White!" cheers still flowed, but a defining lack of confidence could be heard among the shouting. Was this really how it was going to end? After all, the emotion and effort spent on defining that their team was the best, that Michigan no longer could walk into Spartan Stadium and expect a win, was Michigan really going to prove us wrong, yet again?

And then it happened.

With two seconds remaining in the game, the tension was higher than ever. Nobody could take their eyes off the field. Their eyes stalked every movement of the players. Michigan quarterback Tate Forcier found receiver Roy Roundtree in the back of the end zone for a nine-yard touchdown pass. End of regulation. Game tied at 20-20. Overtime.

"Unbelievable," and "this can't be happening," began to be muttered from corner to corner in the student section, as the fans sat on looking in a shell-shocked state. People began remembering the comeback in 2004, when the Wolverines came back from three touchdowns to win in overtime.

But then, suddenly the rain stopped and the sun crept back in at the beginning of overtime. Everyone rose to their feet and decided that it's not over; we are still going to prove what we believe, that we are STILL better. Michigan took the ball to begin overtime and five plays later, the ball was caught in the end zone, but it was caught by Michigan State cornerback Chris L. Rucker. When Rucker landed in the end zone, a rush of jubilation shot through the stadium. Screams of joy and excitement combined to make Spartan Stadium louder than I have ever heard it before.

Now all Michigan State had to do was kick a field goal to win the game. But no, the crowd didn't want that. A field goal would say, "yeah, we won," but a touchdown would say, "Ha, in your face." And three plays later, on what should have been a play to set up a field goal, freshman running-back Larry Caper took the hand-off and sprinted. He didn't stop until 25 yards later when he was in the end zone. Pure insanity ensued. Everyone hugged and more high-fives were given between two complete strangers than could ever be imagined.

And as the fans slowly poured out of the stadium, the sun shown down in full capacity drying off soaked green and white shirts and jerseys, bringing to mind one thing: Wow. Just wow. That is all that can be said for a game that no Spartan will ever forget.



Juniors Andy Mach and John Gburek celebrate a Spartan touchdown against the Wolverines, bringing the score to 20-6. The Spartans finished 26-20 over the Wolverines.





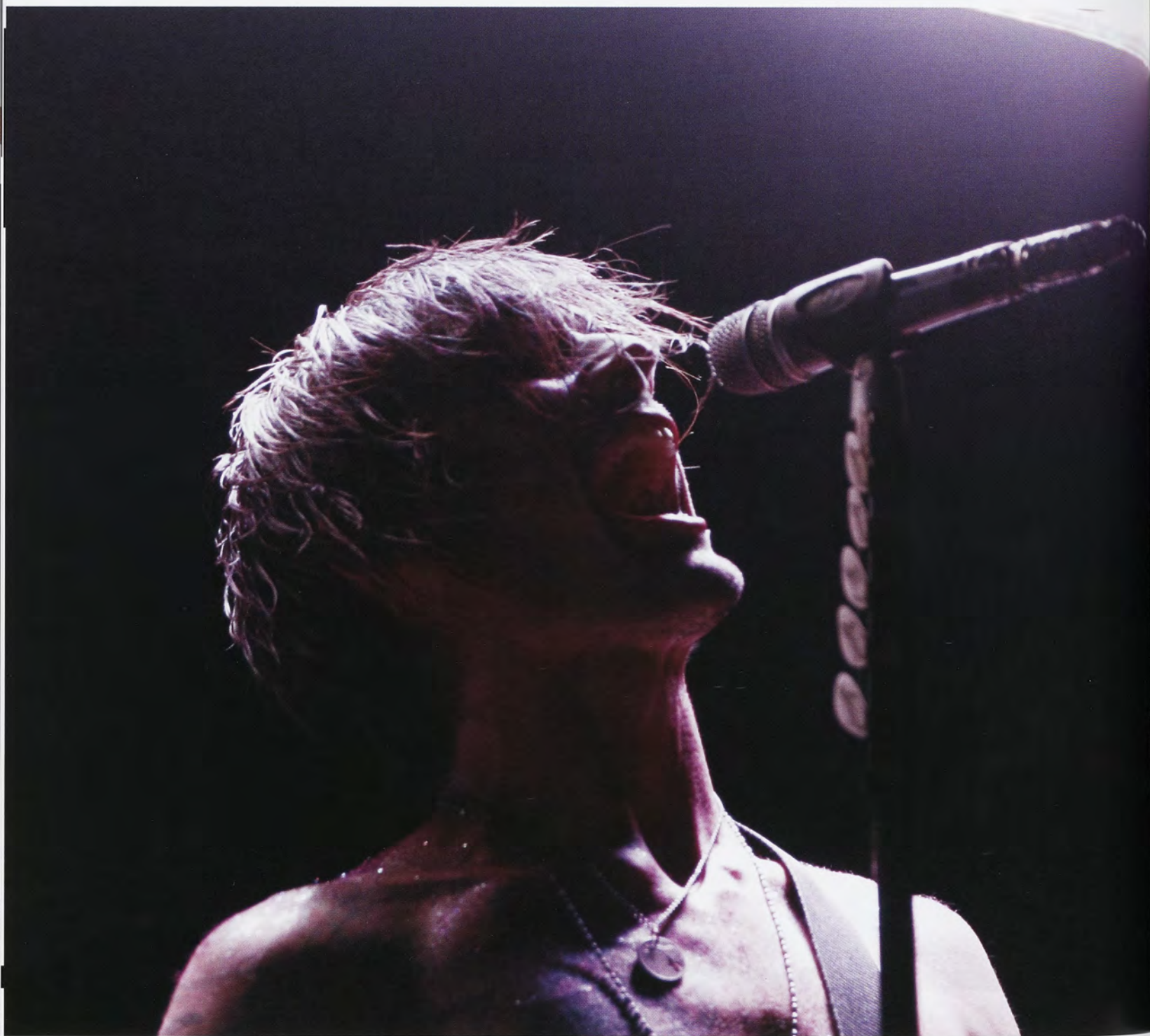
Ellina Stein



Bailey Watson, Kristi Collard and Alyssa Hammer chant along with the band. Fans kept up the energy despite the rain and the fourth quarter wolverine comeback.

Nick Magee and Evan Kennebrew wave their towels in the student section to cheer on the Spartans. Some members began throwing towels after a poor play.

Ellina Stein



All-American Rejects lead singer Tyson Ritter sings to the packed crowd. Ritter and his band released their third studio album, "When The World Comes Down," in 2008.

A shirtless Ritter reaches out to the crowd during his performance. Female fans were pleased.





Taking Back Sunday guitarist and back-up vocalist Matthew Fazzi performs with an injured foot. Taking Back Sunday was on tour with All-American Rejects when they stopped in East Lansing.

Anberlin opens the Nov. 3 concert. The band's sound, light show and eccentricity pumped up the crowd for the subsequent two bands.

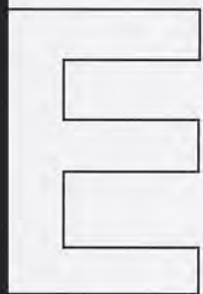


MSU WARMLY WELCOMES REJECTS

Anberlin, Taking Back Sunday and The All-American Rejects teamed up to perform for a packed crowd at the Wharton Center, Nov. 3. The three groups played mega-hits "True Faith," "Sink Into Me" and "Gives You Hell," respectively.

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Text: Dustin McNees
Photo: Elise Lefere
Design: Brendan Prost



A GLIMPSE AROUND THE WORLD

MSU's Global Festival allows international student organizations to share culture

Text: Angie Jackson
Photo: Alissa Lane, Veronica Nagy
Design: Jessica Halfyard

Students and families are given the opportunity each year to escape East Lansing and embrace cultures from all over the world. No, this doesn't require a passport or an expensive plane ticket. All it requires is an open mind and a ride to The Union.

This year's 25th annual Global Festival on Nov. 5 invited nationality clubs to share crafts, games and traditions in order to give others a glimpse into their backgrounds. With performances, food, informational booths and a gift shop, there was something to appeal to everyone's tastes. Most importantly, the Global Festival worked to diminish cultural stereotypes and unite the community, despite the array of different cultural backgrounds.

"It's great to be here because it clears up a lot of misunderstandings," said Carlton Rolle, a native of the Caribbean who represented one of the 24 regions highlighted at the festival. "People who don't know much about the Caribbean think it's just a Bob Marley-esque tourist spot. But really, it's filled with so many more diverse

aspects to learn about."

Rolle explained the significance of Caribbean flags to a group of curious second graders and said the girls, who asked about coconuts and palm trees, helped him realize that the community has a responsibility to learn about other cultures.

In the Union ballroom, international performances took the audience on a tour of the globe. The beginning act - a fashion show - featured over 40 models who showcased traditional styles with dazzling and vibrant outfits. Above the stage, a large interactive map showed the proximity between each region and East Lansing.

With little standing room in the ballroom, spectators lined the walls and cheered as performers proudly showed off their traditional dances. Graduate student Kavitha Bhaskar said the most exciting part about the Global Festival was preparing the dance along with the other members of the Indian Student Organisation.

"I'm really proud to be able to show everyone our culture. I think the Global

>>Continued on pg. 196





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Graduate students Nikita Wagle, Anurag Kshirsagar and Abhishek Gawasane perform a traditional Indian dance at Global Festival. The Indian Student Organization participated to bring awareness of their native culture.
Veronica Nagy

Festival helps people realize that Indian culture is diverse and cannot be stereotyped. There's so much to learn and love about it," Bhaskar said.

The performances weren't just for the audience to observe, either. The Modern Greek Club performed four high-energy routines that had the entire room clapping with excitement. For their last number, the club brought audience members to dance with them.

"Dancing is a huge part of the Greek culture. We practiced for two months with an instructor, so it was fun to get the audience involved too," said junior Nick Mimikos.

Student groups who didn't prepare a performance were pleased just to talk to others about their culture.

"It's good to be part of a nationality club because from time to time it's good to celebrate where you come from," Amir

Khakpour said in between laughing with other members of the Persian Student Association. He was thrilled that their exhibit took the community on a trip to "a mini-Iran".

Although the Persian Student Association participates in soccer tournaments, dances and traditional holidays, Khakpour says it is the Global Festival that helps them reach out to the community.

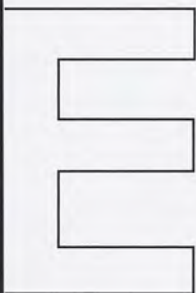
"It's part of our culture to promote our culture. We're always willing to talk about our history and help students who aren't part of our culture to explore our traditions," he said.

Overall, Global Festival marked a day of exploring, learning and accepting. The participation of students, families and nationality clubs helped to unite the community and make the festival a true celebration of cultures.



PhD student Soroor Soltani of the Persian Student Association strums the tar. The Iranian song she played is traditionally performed at dances and ceremonies.

Freshman Eitaro Ueda prints names in Japanese calligraphy. Ueda is a member of the Japanese Student Association.





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PhD student Megumi Murashima performs a dance with the University Apartments Council of Residents' belly dance club. The crowd enjoyed a variety of songs, dances and fashion shows throughout the afternoon.

Alissa Lane

Sophomore Derek Felten recites a poem in the contest's final round. Felten was the judge's favorite, winning the title of MSU's Slam Poetry Champion.



Ralph Paulk performs at the MSU Poetry slam in the Union. The senior took second place.

William Langford, a junior, was the emcee for the evening. Langford performed his own poetry while the judges were adding up the scores.



Sophomore Will Jones III performs at the MSU Union. Jones was part of MSU's Slam Poetry team.





MSU's Slam Poetry Team helps students express their creativity

Some may see poetry as nothing more than words scrambled on a page that might rhyme, sometimes. We had to read it in high school, from Robert Frost to Sylvia Plath to Ernest Hemingway to Ezra Pound to Langston Hughes. We had to decipher their metaphors, recognize their assonance and categorize their meter.

But to the Michigan State Slam Poetry Team, poetry is more than just words scrambled on a page. It's an art form, a theatrical experience.

The Slam Team has been known to gather a crowd, not just with performers but spectators as well, offering a good social environment to any and all interested in performance poetry.

Topics covered in the student poetry ranged from love to anti-love, sex, the environment, nature and America.

"I critique the world a lot in my poetry," sophomore Drew Fries said. "I like the creativity. I'm a math major, so it's on the other side of the spectrum for me."

The Slam Team meets weekly, with reading and writing workshops every other week.

Slams, or poetry competitions, commence at different places all across campus, from Snyder hall to the MSU Union. Judges are picked from the audience at random, who rate the performance on a scale of one to ten. Typical slams consist of two to three rounds.

While many members were part of poetry slam groups in high school, the group always welcomes beginners.

"The people are fun. We just hang out and goof around. There's a lot of camaraderie," sophomore Will Jones said. "Writing and performing poetry can really show you another side of yourself."

A WAY WITH WORDS

Text: Jessica Whitmill
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Betsy Eber

Inside of NCG Cinema, students and Lansing area residents meander through masses of people at the *New Moon* event. The film grossed \$258.8 million over its opening weekend.



THE SAGA CONTINUES

Students gather at area movie theaters for the midnight premiere of the Twilight saga's second installment: "New Moon"

A line of students outside NCG Cinema in Lansing poured out the front doors and around the illuminated building on both sides. Not one space was left in the expansive parking lot once the clock hit midnight. Evidently, the brisk November weather wasn't enough to keep the "Twihard" fans away.

"I have a feeling this movie will be more exciting than the first, but this line length was unexpected," said junior Alyssa Hopper.

Inside the theater, the story was much the same. Red tape guided the customers along the corridors of the theatre. Every single screen in that theatre premiered "New Moon" at midnight, and fans became anxious as the time grew closer.

"We went to the premiere of the first movie and it was nothing like this," Hopper added. "This is epic."

Many students agreed that the second film of the saga outperformed the first for a number of reasons.

Freshman Jess Kusso said, "The first film was very low budget because they weren't expecting such great success."

Despite the plethora of Twilight-obsessed girls sporting "Team Jacob" or "Team Edward" tees, many weren't even die-hard fans of the saga. Students claimed coming to the movie on a whim and some were fans of the novels.

"I just really like the story," freshman Jessica Rutkowski said. "(But) the characters are stupid, they don't stick out."

Yet, even as critics ridiculed the budget and debatable acting, combined with an underdeveloped plotline, the first Twilight film managed to rake in \$70 million in its opening weekend in the States, while "New Moon" made \$258.8 million worldwide. That put "New Moon" right behind Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith and ahead of The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King in terms of worldwide opening sales.

"It's just all about an infatuation with forbidden love. It makes the movie more exciting," sophomore Kim Kon said. "It has such a cult following. Everyone wants to know about it."

Text: Jessica Whitmill

Photo: Veronica Nagy

Design: Betsy Eber



When *New Moon* opened, theaters had multiple showings of the hit movie. In fact, every theater inside NCG showed the film.

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Text: Jessica Whitmill

Photo: Erica Treais

Design: Betsy Eber

MAZELTOV

Jewish students at MSU come together to celebrate Hanukkah

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Party favors were given out at the Sparty's Hanukkah Party. Students played dreidel and enjoyed chocolate coins.

Lauren Kerwin and Emily Lustig set up balloons for Sparty's Hanukkah Party. The two stop to inquire the location of the balloons.

Unless you belong to the Jewish faith, you may not know the story of Hanukkah, despite Adam Sandler's charming song "The Hanukkah Song."

This is why the Michigan State University Hillel Jewish Center, together with the student organization Jews in Greek Life, puts on a Hanukkah party every year at Club Rush.

The party typically includes a DJ, decorations (a giant menorah stands in the middle of the dance floor), and traditional Jewish food, bringing together students all across campus.

"We want to show diversity on campus," said Cindy Hughey, Executive Director of the Hillel Center. "We're celebrating a minority."

However, the event is open to all students.

"Everyone is invited," said senior Emily Lustig, who has attended the event in previous years. "So we have a diverse mix of traditions here."

Special events at the gathering included a raffle, \$25 gift cards, and donations set up to adopt a family of 12 for Hanukkah.

"The holidays are all about giving to the community," said senior Hilary Gorosh. "It's actually a family tradition of mine to get a present and give it to charity and I think this event reflects that."

Bringing the holiday to the community is one of the goals of the Hillel Center and Jews in Greek Life.

"Hanukkah is usually a holiday celebrated in the home," Hughey said. "We wanted to change that."

Jews in Greek Life and the Hillel Center events are not strictly limited to the holiday season. In the spring, they host a bat mitzvah for Sparty, along with various other events.

"It's unfortunate that people just look at the holiday itself," said senior Andrew Izzo. "I don't think they see the spirit behind it. Maybe this event can change that."





MSU students affiliated with Jews in Greek Life celebrate Sparty's Hanukkah Party at Club Rush. Friends spent time chatting at the event.

Jessica Katz celebrates Sparty's Hanukkah Party at Club Rush with friends. Students mingled beside the bar with refreshments.

Rachel Royce talks about the Haiti fundraiser at the People's Church. Royce is with UNICEF MSU, which was in charge of the event.

"Ladies First" performed together in respect of the Haiti earthquakes. The group's ensembles consisted of black tops, jeans and various colored heels.

Performing at the People's Church, "Ladies First" joined other A cappella groups in a benefit concert for Haiti. Prior to the concert, \$591 was collected from churchgoers.



A CAPPELLA GROUPS SING A TUNE OF RELIEF

State of Fifths, other groups team up with UNICEF at MSU to support Haiti

It sometimes takes a devastating tragedy to bring people together, but when they do, harmony can happen in more than one way.

Thanks to the efforts of two student groups on campus, the Haiti Relief Concert held at the People's Church in East Lansing on Feb. 12 raised over \$1,600 to send directly to Haiti after the devastating earthquake that rocked the country on Jan. 12.

The idea for the concert came from MSU a cappella group "State of Fifths." The event was put on with the help of the UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) at the university.

"State of Fifths" performed alongside other campus a cappella groups such as "Ladies First" and "Capital Green", as well as an Oakland University group "Gold Vibrations."

Senior Heather Bick, music director for the "State of the Fifths" and the brainchild of the event was just another person who wasn't sure how to help after the earthquake.

"When things were going on around me, not being politically involved, not being able to do anything about tragedies in the world, it's very frustrating not being able to help because you don't have the skill set," Bick said.

"I was sick of doing nothing, so I decided to take a venue I knew. I know music," she said.

Bick stumbled upon senior Rachel Roy's Facebook page, who also happens to be the president of UNICEF on campus, and a simple phone call got things going. Roy then found the venue and brought T-Shirts to sell.

With a lot of charities currently active with Haiti fundraisers, Bick had a good reason in mind when she chose UNICEF.

"Children don't have a voice; they don't usually have a voice especially in situations where resources are scarce. They need to be stood up for," Bick said. Plus, she liked the idea of doubling the money made through UNICEF, thanks to a pledge by the George Harrison Fund to match the amount of money made at the relief concert to give to UNICEF, who would then send it to Haiti.

Despite the unfortunate circumstances that the concert took place under, the night was filled with fun and good cheer.

There were plenty of songs performed to lift the spirits of those shaken by the tragedy. "Capital Green" singer and senior Selame Scarlet said her group tried to find songs that would inspire hope for the future.

"[In the song] 'Shadowfeet,' the lyrics 'When the world has fallen out from under me/I'll be found in you,'" Scarlet said. "It gives that hope that we need, especially for Haitian people."

Between acts, Reverend Dr. Gary Autry, the People's Church Campus Minister, got up and announced the final figures made from sales that night, which was well applauded by the healthy crowd occupying the pews.

"It made me very happy," Bick said, referring to the announcement. "God was on our side tonight."

It's one thing to say that Bick and the rest of her fellow singers sang together in harmony on multiple occasions through different songs, making for wonderful and pleasant sounds. But the harmony achieved by working together and the sharing of talents for a greater good was the best performance of the night.



Senior Jennifer Morgan listens to the prayer for Haiti victims. A moment of silence was given at the end of the service.

Candles line the sidewalk outside of the Beaumont Tower. The turn-out of the crowd was large despite the frigid temperatures.



HEALING THE HURT

Students gather for a candlelight vigil in memory of Haiti earthquake victims

On a chilly night in January, the chiming bells of the Beaumont Tower rang out across campus. However, the familiar tunes and melodies were replaced by a more somber sound.

A single ominous bell, striking 12 times, symbolized the 12 days into the New Year when tragedy struck the last place that needed one.

That's why a small but steady contingent of students and faculty gathered beneath Beaumont to pay their respects to a disaster that left the people of Haiti homeless and concerned people around the world helpless.

On Jan. 12, the island country of Haiti, the poorest in the Western Hemisphere, was rocked by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake, the largest there in a century. The earthquake tore apart the weak infrastructure and single-handedly dismantled the capital and main city, Port-au-Prince. Despite the initial quake lasting a mere 30 seconds, the death toll continued to rise as authorities tried to pull apart the rubble. 230,000 were eventually confirmed dead.

Inspired by the continuous stream of devastating images from Haiti, the university's Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and the Caribbean Student Association (CSA) hosted the Help Haiti Heal discussion panel at the International Center and the candlelight vigil that followed.

With small, white candles in hand and flanked by several TV cameras and crews, a crowd of 40-plus stood below the tower as several well-known speakers expressed their condolences for Haiti and its victims.

"We ask what we can do, because we can't answer why," Lou Anna K. Simon, MSU president, said. Accompanying Simon included Lee June, vice president and associate provost of the university and Victor W. Loomis, mayor of East Lansing.

With Haiti being so far away, it was hard for students to get involved with helping out more than just donating \$10 through a special text messaging service set up by the Red Cross. For some, being at the vigil was the most they could do.

"I don't know how to help, so I thought I would come here and pray a little, send some good thoughts towards the way of Haiti," junior Kelly Smith said.

Luckily for Smith, the CSA had many bold plans for action. During the discussion panel before the vigil, many ideas were talked about as possible ways to get the campus involved. The CSA considered organizing a benefit concert featuring Caribbean artists that could raise money for the cause. Also, members of the CSA discussed setting up a specific project for full MSU-wide participation, like taking care of an individual school by sending textbooks.

In the meantime, as efforts to organize fundraising were still underway, there wasn't much more students could do to show their support. Senior Rachel Moore did exactly that by showing up for the candlelight vigil.

"I actually have a friend who has family in Haiti, and I kind of wanted to support him and at the same time support the cause," said Moore, who is friends with freshman Terry Pharaon, a native Haitian who spoke at the vigil.

After Pharaon spoke, a quick prayer was said and the group observed a moment of silence, leading to the toll of the bell. Afterward, the Haitian national anthem was proudly played through a small speaker. Although the crowd couldn't relate to the unfamiliar tune, the concerned students and faculty there could relate to the sadness felt by the tragedy of Haiti. They could only be there to give a little of their time, a little of their money, a prayer or two and the sending of hopeful thoughts toward Haiti.

Text: Jacob Kancierz
Photo: Veronica Nagy
Design: Betsy Eber



Erin Newby, Erica Newby, and Brittany Collins were just a few of many in attendance for the Haiti Vigil. The event was attended by students and East Lansing community members alike.





Sophomore Jeffrey Denison participates in a one-on-one shoe battle. Members paired off and competed against each other in a tournament-style showdown that went for four rounds.

Junior Adithya Kosgi, Break Dance Club president, poses during a performance. Kosgi has been break dancing for two-and-a-half years and says it's his number one priority.



Text: Jacob Kanclerz
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Brendan Prost

BREAK IT DOWN

MSU Break Dance Club a place for competition and learning

It was a quiet, relaxing evening at the upper gym at IM Circle until the shoes dropped.

One by one, shoes piled up in the middle of the hardwood floor. The excitement in the room built. There was no going back now. The shoes were then paired off and thrown to the side. The one-on-one was about to begin.

The ensuing "shoe battle" was just another typical session night for the MSU Break Dance Club. The owners of the shoes that were paired together would have to have a dance battle, with only one competitor moving onto the next round. Everyone had a shot to win the grand prize, a very exclusive two dollar bill that one member happened to find.

The relatively chill atmosphere combined with increasing interest in break dancing on a mainstream level, thanks to shows like America's Best Dance Crew, helped spin the Break Dance Club into existence back in the fall of 2007. Starting with just six members, the group now boasts at least 100 strong.

Beside working on new moves and teaching new members the basics, the club prepares for performances around campus like Cultural Rogue, Lunar New Year and Latin Xplosion. The club also goes out and battles other crews from Michigan and around the country, usually in a 4-on-4 or 5-on-5 matchup. Dancers have to have a whole new mindset when it comes to battles.

"In the event of an actual battle, we train really hard because the atmosphere is completely different," said junior Adithya Kosgi, president of the club. "We train

to be in that attack mode, as opposed to being in that showcase mode."

Although the club represents something very competitive, there still is an abundance of newcomers that join every year, one being junior Eric Sarb, who joined the first semester the club started. Sarb thinks that break dancing can be for anyone and everyone who wants to join.

"What most people don't know about Break Dance Club is that you don't need any amount of experience to join Break Dance Club," Sarb said. "I knew absolutely nothing of breaking, and the first night I showed up, some of the guys taught me the basics, and I was hooked from that night on."

Although the club harbors brotherly love and friendly confines for all its members, all bets were off during the one-on-one. For four grueling rounds, each longer than the last, dancers would spin, flip, jump and get right into their opponent's face, stopping to pose to the delight of the crowd. When a move was made, much love was given by the bystanders, all the while clapping to the bassy hip-hop beat blasted via mini speakers.

Regardless of whether they can spin on their heads or not, the members of the club seemed to not only have found a passion, but a friend base they can rely on, and learn from.

"The club itself is like an experience," Kosgi said. "You meet so many people from so many different backgrounds. Everybody there shares the same passion, and we all feed off each other."

Sai Vue performs at Break Dance Club. People interested in break dancing are encouraged to join the club regardless of their dancing experience.



Elise Lefebvre
Elise Lefebvre

Sophomore Rob Berkheiser and little brother Joe play bingo on the second floor at Union. Joe stayed with his brother for Lil' Sibs Weekend and said, "I was so excited, I gave up ice fishing!"



Erica Treals

Sophomore John Ferguson snaps a photo of his sister, Elizabeth, freshmen Caitlin Hummel and Andrew Catter, together with their friend Jacqlyn Snoeck at the rock. The group enjoyed the sunny weather during the scavenger hunt.

Freshman Lauren Blevins helps little sister Marisa Crist paint a frisbee in the Union. Marisa's excitement led to phone calls to her big sister every day leading up to Lil' Sibs Weekend.



A FAMILY AFFAIR

Spartans invite their siblings for a fun-filled weekend at MSU

Laser tag, inflatable Twister and life-sized games of Trouble brought over 2,000 students and siblings to the Union on Feb. 5. The event kicked off the annual Lil' Sibs Weekend, presented by the University Activities Board.

Inside the Union, an N*SYNC song stimulated an energetic crowd in line for laser tag. Waiting for over an hour were freshman Breanna Todd and her 12-year-old brother, Lukas. Breanna often visits home, but Lukas said visiting MSU gave him an exciting glimpse into college life.

"I definitely want to go here one day," Lukas said, who stayed in his sister's dorm at Synder-Phillips. "I liked meeting Breanna's friends and seeing how everything on campus is so close."

Lil' Sibs Weekend attracted more than just future Spartans. Senior Christina Kenerich brought her 3-year-old nephew who played shuffleboard with a group of kids. As her fourth and last year participating in Lil' Sibs Weekend, Kenerich said the variety of activities makes the weekend worthwhile.

"We plan on bowling later and then we're definitely going to tour the Breslin tomorrow," she said. "The best part is seeing the excitement, and every year there's something different to do."

Those seeking a challenge braved the cold on Feb. 6 to partake in the fourth annual Lil' Sibs Weekend scavenger hunt. Families were given six clues to guide them around campus, ending at the Breslin for an exclusive tour of the men's and women's locker rooms.

Although some families chose to leisurely explore campus, freshman Alex Campbell and her siblings entered the scavenger hunt with their eyes on the prize.

"We think we have a chance of winning," said Campbell, who hoped to be one of the three recipients of a Spartan prize bag. "Our plan is to run as fast as we can."

Whether they created spin-art in the Union, dashed across campus to be the first to complete a scavenger hunt or simply ate in the cafeteria, Spartans proved they know how to show their siblings a fun time.

Text: Angie Jackson
Photo: Elise Lefere, Erica Treais
Design: Betsy Eber

Sophomores Meaghan Murray and Dominique Sanchez plan out their scavenger hunt route with Murray's brother, Micheal, 14. Matthew Murray, 6, and Mari Sanchez, 8, checked out their competition.



Erica Treais

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Junior Anna Motz receives information from a Hom-TV representative at the career fair. She attended the event after receiving an e-mail from her advisor that said to "go for the experience."



Junior James Carver attended a career fair in the fall and submitted an application for a paid summer internship. Carver met with a Consumer's Energy representative at the fair as a call-back interview.



DIVERSE CROWD AT THE FAIR



Students gather to talk to potential employers at Diversity Career Fair

Waiting outside the Big Ten room in the corridors of the Kellogg Center was a procession of neatly pressed suits. The looks on the faces of these men and women was that of hope and excitement, because they were given an opportunity to network with over 100 respective employers at the Diversity Career Fair.

"The Diversity Career Fair is open to everybody. You don't even have to go to Michigan State to be a part of it," coordinating director Lauren Fifarek said. "It's really a diverse group of companies that come to talk to some of the best students around."

Upon entering the room, a buzz of chatter filled the air as job searchers began to gather around the booths, leaving little room to walk. Among the bigger companies that were present were IBM, AT&T and Frito Lays.

"There really is no protocol as to how long you are at each booth," Fifarek said. "It's all up to you because it's pretty much on how your first impression goes."

The fair was separated into two different areas. The main room held most of the employers, while a separate room featured technical jobs.

A wide range of people attended the event;

some were looking to find that perfect summer internship, others were soon-to-be graduates preparing for life outside of MSU and feeling the pressure of finding a job.

"This is the fourth or fifth career fair I've attended and feel like this is one of the bigger ones," said physics graduate student Rahul Ragunathan. "I think the current economic situation really makes this event a lot more crowded, but above all it's just useful to come here and network with some good employers."

Another student, junior Mark Sun, was just looking to get a foot in the door and make some contacts with some possible employers.

"I've been to three career fairs and I was definitely not expecting this one to be as crowded as it is," Sun said. "There is a lot of pressure for students coming out of college to have a job and there isn't a lot of jobs available right now. It's good to have an opportunity to talk to companies who may be hiring."

Judging by the activity at the Diversity Career Fair, it looks like employers had better be prepared to deal with a lot of potential employees, because the tough economic times don't seem to be discouraging many students at Michigan State University.

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Elise Lefere
Design: Brendan Prost

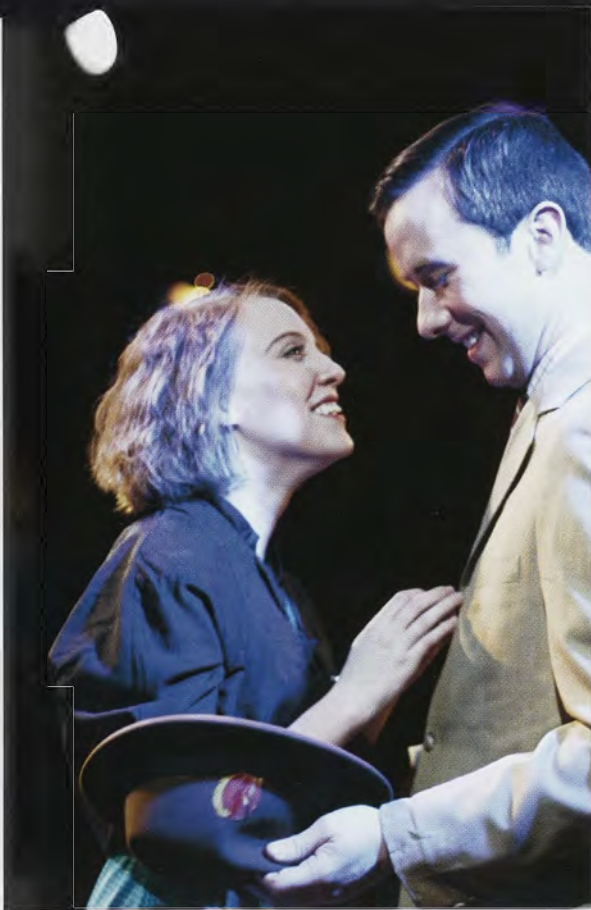


Senior Justin Klein gives his resume to Auto-Owners Insurance hiring staff. He received an e-mail from MySpartanCareer informing him about the career fair at the Kellogg Center and attended to find a summer internship.

Emily Young and Wes Haskell perform a scene at their final dress rehearsal. The classic American play would open the following night at the Auditorium Arena Theatre.

Backstage, Mikayla Bouchard prepares for her performance. Bouchard played the roll of Olga; a down-to-earth Russian princess.





Alice and Tony, played by Emily Young and Wes Haskell, share an embrace. *You Can't Take It With You* depicts a young couple's struggle to overcome family differences in order to be together.

Emily Young, Wes Haskell, Spencer Perrenoud and Rachel Frawley perform onstage during dress rehearsal. Chaos ensues when the straight-laced Kirby family meets the Sycamore family.



FAMILY BUSINESS

MSU Theatre Department portrays a dynamic family on-stage and off

Proving that money doesn't necessarily buy happiness, the Michigan State Department of Theatre explored the bright side of things in their production of *You Can't Take it With You*.

The production features the Sycamores, a happy-go-lucky family of three generations living under the same roof in a midst of financial difficulties.

Performed in the Arena Theatre of the Auditorium Jan. 28 to Feb. 7, the production drew a crowd not only of MSU students, but also residents of East Lansing.

The stage was set in arena format, allowing the audience a close proximity to the actors.

"That set up really challenged me to always stay in character," said Andrew Harvey, a grad student who played Ed in the play and also teaches Theatre 101 and an IAH course.

The cast consisted of a blend of freshman to graduate students, theatre majors to non-majors.

"The freshman reminded me of myself," said Harvey. "I took them under my wing. We formed a bond. I mentored them into not only the ways of theatre, but also into the ways of college in general."

The cast came together the week before winter break and after the holiday, practiced every night for four hours in preparation for opening weekend at the end of January.

"The show was entirely based on family and the atmosphere transferred into our process really well," said Andrew Faber, a sophomore in the Residential College of Arts and Humanities for theatre and acting.

The Department of Theatre brought in a guest director for *You Can't Take it With You*, John Lepard of Williamston Theatre. According to students, he offered a new perspective on the characters that made the family bond evident.

"A director like John is really good at bringing out the subtleties and strengths in people to make a show good," Faber said. "I love that about theatre. It's more than real life. It's heightened reality. You can never really lose yourself but you can experience something new with every role you may not have been able to experience otherwise."

But that family atmosphere wasn't entirely an act. It can be applied to the entire Michigan State Department of Theatre.

"Everybody works together to do the best they can. Overall, it's a welcoming and helpful experience," Faber said. "Everyone puts themselves out there, but not for individual attempts at stardom. There are few people fighting to put other people down in order to get up."

Text: Jessica Whitmill
Photo: Alissa Lane
Design: Jessica Halfyard

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HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**Chinese student associations
host Lunar New Year bash**

Text: Isaac Hee
Photo: Ellina Stein
Design: Betsy Eber

Finance freshman Chidong Yuan plays the bass during the Chinese New Year event. Chidong and his band closed the show.



February 14 was an extremely special day for Chinese students this year, not just because of St. Valentine, but because it was also the first day of the Chinese New Year.

On the eve of this auspicious day, more than 500 Chinese students gathered at the Pasant Theatre in the Wharton Center to usher in the lunar New Year with the Chinese Spring Festival Gala. For many of them, the event that night was a brief taste of home.

"The Chinese New Year is to us Chinese students what the typical New Year is to Americans," explained Sun Shuangya, the event coordinator. "It's a huge event, and it is a time for Chinese families to get together and celebrate.

"We hope to create a familiar atmosphere with this event, so that Chinese students who are far away from home at this time of the year can feel a sense of family," she said.

"You can say it's like a family reunion for those of us here at MSU."

The gala was organized by MSU's Chinese Undergraduate Student Association and MSU's Chinese Students and Scholars Association. It was touted as the first ever collaborative effort between these two international student organizations.

The event was mostly geared towards Chinese students, and was conducted almost entirely in Mandarin. It was modeled after a typical televised Chinese variety show - the kind that airs on Chinese TV channels to mark special events or holidays, which normally consist of a multitude of small skits and performances.

The performances at the gala were interposed with speeches from the four emcees, who sent out holiday greetings to the audience in flowery Mandarin rhetoric, and also recounted key moments of the lunar year that was with comedic effect.

The performances themselves were a juxtaposition of the traditional with the urbane. The gala was opened with brief strings of hip-hop dance routines, followed by a skit portraying the misadventures of a pair of New Yorkers lost in Beijing. The skit ended with a group of American students singing a famous Chinese pop song complete with musical accompaniment, much to the delight of the

audience, who cheered them on raucously.

Two girls in silken costumes later took to the spotlight with a graceful traditional Chinese fan dance, enrapturing the audience with their fluid, delicate movements. Amateur conjurers entertained the audience with sleights of hand and the occasional prank on unsuspecting volunteers.

A group of young men in suits and white masks then performed a Michael Jackson-esque dance number, followed by two musicians who played a doleful melody on the piano and the Chinese flute, while images of the past lunar year at MSU were projected onto the screen onstage.

But the biggest draw, however, was the audience members themselves. They cheered and laughed, teased volunteers and ribbed the emcees and even clapped in time and sang along to some of the musical numbers.

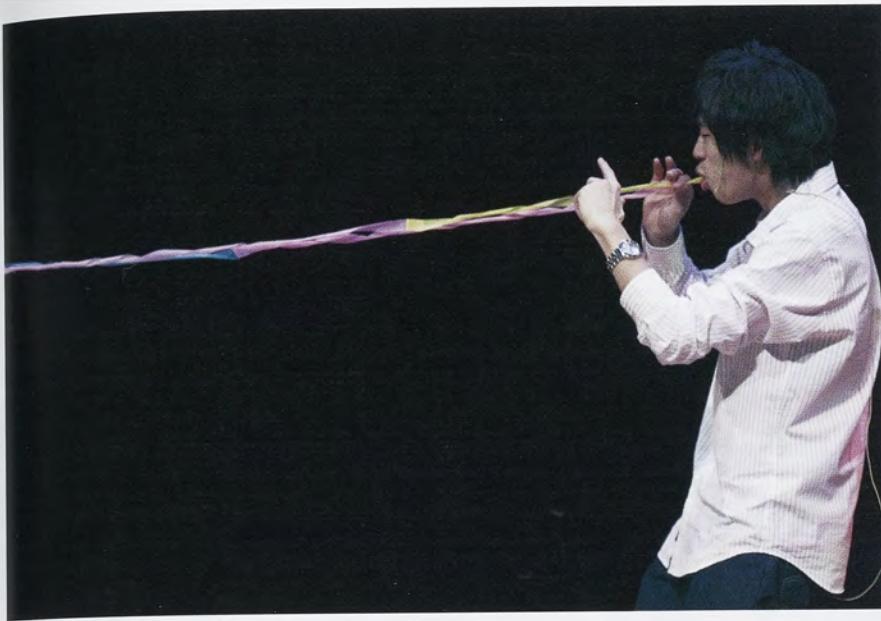
There was a strange sense of familiarity in the air, as, despite the fact that the crowd was over 500-strong, they all seemed to be immensely familiar with one another - shouting out names of people across the auditorium, cheering on volunteers and otherwise resonating with a sense of communal energy. Perhaps for many of them, strangers in a foreign land, this was their family reunion in more ways than one.

In addition, three lucky audience members walked away with a Sony Netbook, a Wii and an iPod Touch as prizes for a lucky draw.

The night was wrapped up with another hip-hop dance routine and a video montage of holiday greetings from Chinese students and faculty members across campus. The final act was a four-man band that played two well-known Chinese pop songs, getting the audience to wave and sing along as they did. The emcees then closed the gala with a final shout of "Happy New Year" to the audience.

One can only wonder what must have gone through the audience members' minds that night as they zipped up their jackets and ventured back out into the cold. Perhaps they left that night content with having tasted just a little slice of home.

Events: Chinese New Year



Freshman Zihou Liu shows off his magical talent by pulling a string from his mouth at the Chinese New Year event. The string was so long. Zihou's friends assisted in holding the ends.



Freshmen Tiange Li, Xiangyu Lin and Yue Zhang and sophomore Yang Luo perform a dance at the Chinese New Year event hosted by CUSA and CSSA. Chinese New Year was Feb. 14.

Wei Wu performs a traditional dance at the Chinese New Year Event. The event was held Feb. 13 by CUSA.

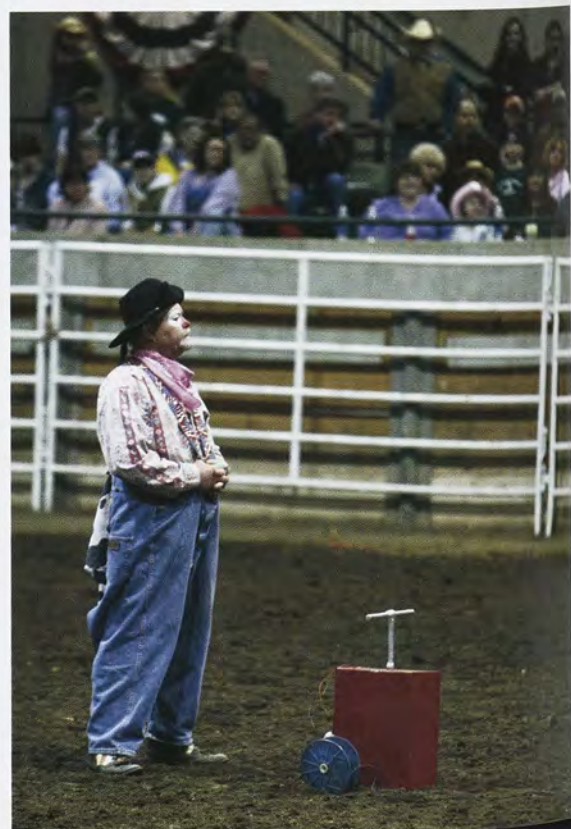


Luke Drennan of Calgary, Alberta, Canada traveled to East Lansing to participate in MSU's 41st annual Spartan Stampede. He placed fifth in the steer wrestling competition, taking 4.3 seconds to get the steer off all fours, before exiting the ring.



Shawn Minor of Camden, Ohio placed first in the saddle bronco riding competition at the Spartan Stampede. Minor was paired with High Roller, a horse from the Hampton Rodeo Company.

Rodeo clown Dusty Rhoads of PRCA Clown Company helped co-host MSU's Rodeo. His performance included blowing up cow manure during the show.



ONE BIG COWBOY FAMILY

Clowns, cowboys and a lively crowd partake in MSU's 2010 Spartan Stampede

The air is heavy with the scent of dirt, hay and manure – the scent of cattle and horses. A clank, and the heavy iron gate is pulled open, releasing a panicked bronco that begins to buck and kick for all it's worth, attempting to dislodge the rider that clings on tenaciously to its back.

The crowd cheers and roars with approval and support, although those cheers are soon overlaid with a collective groan of sympathy as the daredevil rider is ejected none too pleasantly from the back of his frantic steed and sent tumbling across the dirt floor of the arena.

Handlers on horseback rush in to subdue the victorious bronco, driving it back into its pen with swishing lassos. As the disgraced rider staggers to his feet, the crowd starts cheering once more, applauding his courage in the face of such raw bestial strength.

This was the bareback riding event at the 41st annual Spartan Stampede, organized by the MSU Rodeo Club.

Adrian Acuná, the vice president of the MSU Rodeo Club, said that the club's main responsibility in the stampede was to gather sponsors to finance the event.

"The Stampede itself is actually coordinated and run by the Wagon Wheel Rodeo Company from Arkansas," Acuná said. "But, some of the contestants themselves are members of the MSU Rodeo Club."

Members of the club competed against rodeo contestants from all over the Midwest, and even contestants from Canada.

The Stampede was opened with a cattle drive, as mounted cowboys herded cattle across the arena with bullwhips before driving them back into their pens. Bareback riding came up next, followed by the steer wrestling event, where contestants rode astride with free-running cattle before attempting to jump off and wrestle the animals to the ground.

The events were interspersed by short skits from a pair of rodeo clowns who, over the course of the rodeo, detonated a homemade explosive in the arena, tossed free gifts to audience members and worked the crowd up to cheer for contestants.

Pairs of cowboys attempted to lasso free-running calves by the neck and legs in the team roping event. More panicked horses were set loose on the arena, with cowboys clinging desperately on to the saddles firmly roped around their steeds' backs in the saddle bronco riding event that came after.

Then the cowgirls took the spotlight in the barrel racing event, weaving their steeds through a three-barrel obstacle course on the arena as fast as possible. The draw of this event, however, was the last rider, who was only six years old. The crowd cheered her on with renewed enthusiasm as she maneuvered the course with remarkable skill for someone so young. The rodeo also featured a donkey derby for comedic effect, with amateur contestants trying to coax their stubborn animals around a simple race course, and a calf-roping event where contestants attempted to lasso a free-running calf and hog-tie it in as little time as possible.

The finale of the Stampede, though, was the bull-riding event, as contestants pitted their mettle against ferocious bulls that were violently ramming against the walls of their pens even before they were let out.

Audience members groaned in sympathy as a few contestants were dislodged within seconds of their bull's release, and the infuriated animal began to trample the unfortunate riders in a flurry of cloven hooves. The handlers were especially skilled during this event, rushing in to subdue the creatures before they could seriously injure the contestants. The riders that did manage to stay on their bulls for the allotted time through sheer force of will, though, won the fever-pitch accolades of their audience.

"The thing that's really cool about the Stampede," Acuná said, "is that everyone in the audience becomes this huge, close-knit family."

"It doesn't matter who you are, where you come from or what your religion is. Here, in the rodeo, everyone in the audience just comes together. And that's just really cool. That's what it's all about."

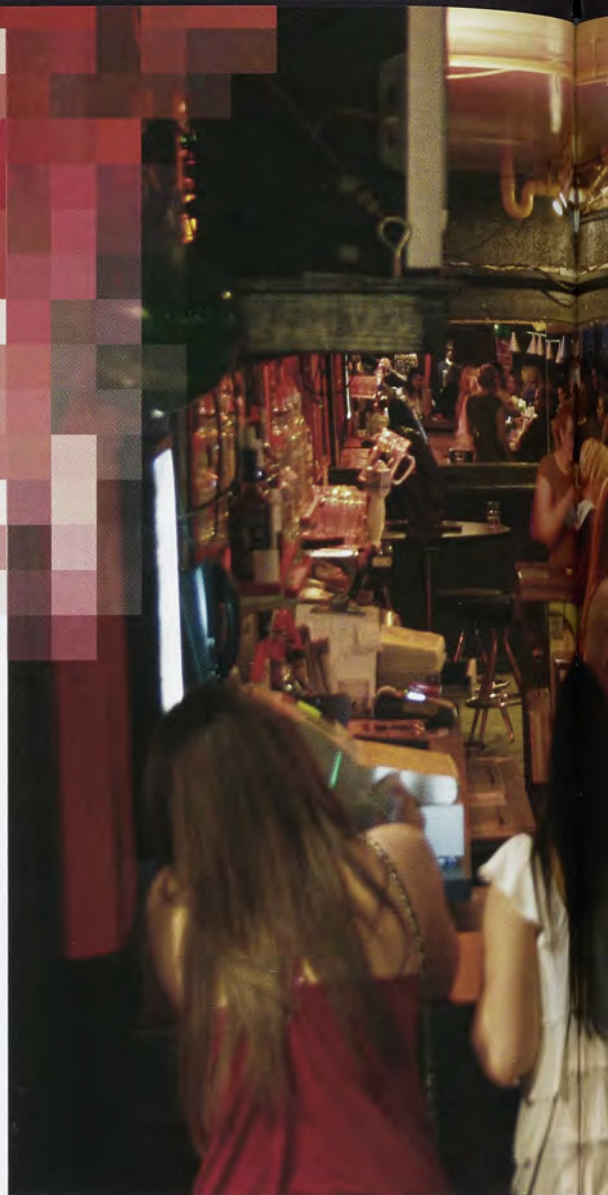
Text: Isaac Hee
Photo: Erica Treais
Design: Jessica Halfyard



Teresa Quay of Urbana, Ohio placed first in the cowgirls barrel racing at Spartan Stampede. Quay made it to the finish line in 14.868 seconds, beating the second place winner by a fifteenth of a second.



Patrons attending the fundraiser at Rick's American Cafe. The venue proved to be a fun alternative for the event.



Junior Joe Baker shows his support for the School of Packaging at Rick's American Cafe. The usual Tuesday night attendance was boosted because of the event.

Juniors Nick Best and Doug Merian have a good time during the Packaging fundraiser at Rick's American Cafe. The usual ambiance was replaced by package-themed decorations, including bubble wrap.



Dan Born, Katie Brink, and Jason Sacco raise funds for the Packaging program with a raffle. The fundraiser took place at Rick's American Cafe.



It was a lively Tuesday night for the folks at Rick's American Café in East Lansing. Most would pass it off as just another mid-week special for the popular downtown bar, but it was actually a fundraiser put on by MSU's packaging students.

How could you tell? The bubble wrap on the walls, of course.

"It was kind of a way to poke fun at ourselves," senior Jessica Meek said. "We thought it would make the place festive."

Bubble wrap "festive?" Why not.

Getting past the humor of the decorations and the idea of a partly-charitable fundraiser being held at a bar, the Michigan State University Chapter of the Institute of Packaging Professionals (IOPP) were on a serious mission to raise money for their various charitable projects as well as for their own packaging events for the year.

"This fundraiser is mostly going to helping us plan a trip to Virginia Tech, which is the nationwide Student Packaging Conference," senior Michelle Stewart said, who is also the fundraising chair for the MSU chapter and the main coordinator for the Rick's event.

But what's all the fuss about this conference? Michigan State was the first school to offer a packaging program, and is among just the five or six schools that can call themselves packaging schools. As the president of the MSU chapter and senior Dan Born explains, MSU wants to remain a leader among the other schools, which includes Virginia Tech and Clemson.

"When we get together with the other schools, (it helps) to have the biggest group of students possible, because we're known as the industry leaders," Born said. "It's important that doesn't die down so we can continue to have presence at all packaging levels, because some of the other big players are catching up."

"When people think of packaging, they think of Michigan State."

So what is this packaging all about, anyway? It's a fair question to ask, considering only about 500 students claim this major at Michigan State. Packaging encompasses a lot of industries, and one can find themselves either working with machinery or working with packaging at a supplier or a consumer goods store. Stewart recently interned with Campbell's, and the guest speakers at the bi-weekly meeting before the bar event were from companies like Mars and Wrigley.

Besides having a night out at the bar smack-dab in the middle of midterm week, the MSU Chapter of the IOPP also provides networking opportunities for its 150 members.

As for the charity portion of their fundraising, the packaging people are quite active. Part of the funds of the event are donated back to the community in different ways, and the MSU Chapter of the IOPP have frequently participated in service events like Relay for Life and the Adopt-a-Family program.

Not bad for a group that enjoys bubble wrap and Tuesday night bar outings.

THE COMPLETE PACKAGE

The IOPP MSU chapter raises money for national conference, charity

Text: Jacob Kanclerz
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Brendan Prost

Red Bull sled participants push their unicorn-shaped sled up the hill. Sledgers were warned of potential hazardous jumps.



COURAGE, CREATIVITY AND SCHLITENTAG

Text: Angie Jackson
Photo: Veronica Nagy
Design: Jessica Halfyard

Fearless Spartans compete in a race with homage toboggans

"I didn't anticipate these jumps here. I know somebody's going to the hospital tonight," an announcer said to the group of daredevils who huddled around a ski hill at Mt. Brighton.

On Feb. 20, 16 groups of students from colleges around Michigan participated in the second annual Red Bull Schlittentag. Eleven groups of thrill-seekers from MSU gave schlittentag, German for "sledding day," a whole new meaning.

Amidst the piles of snow and empty Red Bull cans, students created their own toboggans, which challenged them to put their creativity to the test. Each group assembled their craft with hopes that it could whiz down the hill and launch them over a jump without breaking any bones. Contenders used any odd items they could find, including wooden crates, frozen hot dogs, skis, home gym equipment and couches to personalize their sleds.

Senior Mackenzie Clark and his friends turned their toboggan ride into a performance. The three-man team, "Eazy Girl," decided to attach a pole to a wooden crate the night before the race. Although the temperature barely reached 30 degrees, the group wasn't afraid to expose some skin in their cutoff shorts, suspenders, flannel bowties and sunglasses. These fearless competitors won a People's Choice Award for their presentation, in which they received bragging rights for their ability to seductively swivel on a stripper pole while

cruising down the hill.

"We originally knew we wanted to do something that involved a stripper pole, which we found in our basement," Clark said. "Then we thought of Chippendales. But we wanted to stick with a winter theme so we got flannel bowties."

Three other Spartans aimed for comic appeal with their sled made out of three toilets. Team What is My Poo Telling You said they spent \$350 and nine hours making their toboggan, and even rented their own U-Haul truck to transport the 250-pound sled. Confident in their toboggan, the team hoped to win one of three prizes: tickets to a Red Bull air race, their weight in Red Bull or a \$250 bar tab.

"You might see something funny here," sophomore Jimmy McCarty said before the race. "We're afraid we won't be able to stop, but we have these two metals poles as an un-proven method of stopping."

But the heavy sled didn't have trouble stopping; it had trouble starting. Although they didn't make it very far down the hill, the boys kept their spirits high with their pants at their ankles and toilet paper in hand.

Whether their homemade sled careened smoothly down the hill or crumbled on the way down, most agreed that the combination of snow, creativity and enthusiasm made for an entertaining time.

"The best part is the camaraderie," McCarty said, "but we'll definitely be back to redeem ourselves next year."

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Members of team "What is My Poo Telling You" get a push trying to make it down Mt. Brighton. Red Bull allowed students to get creative with their toboggan.

Teams race down the hill in homemade sleds at the sled race held at Mt. Brighton. The event was sponsored by Red Bull.



Guitarist Shawn Henry Adams of Loune performs a solo during MSU's 8th annual Battle of the Bands. The East Lansing natives placed second with their indie-pop performance.



Erica Treats



Erica Treats

Fans of the band Banana Fever helped liven the crowd during Battle of the Bands. The ska band first began performing together three years ago at West Bloomfield High School.

Lead singer and guitarist Drew Machak performs with his band The Blue Effect. The band performed at the 8th annual Battle of the Bands.



Events: Battle of the Bands

Text: Isaac Hee

Photo: Erica Treais, Ellina Stein

Design: Vicari Vollmar



Sophomore Matt Norman of the band Open To Interpretation jumped on dual amplifiers to perform his solo. The band played a three-song set, mixing acoustic cords with a jazz sound.

Ty Thompson sings back-to-back with bassist Heath Williamson at Battle of the Bands. Both are members of the band Bashful Antics.



DESIRED EFFECT

The Blue Effect's mix of smooth jazz and soft rock win over crowd

The 8th annual "Battle Of The Bands" here at MSU went to the underdogs this year, with repeat contenders The Blue Effect winning over the hearts of both the audience and the judges at the end of a long, musical evening filled with heart, sweat and song.

"It was really a pleasant surprise for all of us," band member Will Jones said about their victory. "We didn't even place among the finalists last year."

The Blue Effect's winning mix of smooth jazz and soft rock was just one example of the varied artistic talents that took to the spotlight that night on Feb. 27 at the International Center. Their line-up of songs also won the coveted "Audience Favorite" vote.

The runner-up was 4-man band Loune, their musical style a distinct throwback to the iconic work of The Beatles. Third place went to The Hangers On, who threw the audience into a frenzy with their head-banging heavy metal repertoire.

Ten different bands vied for victory that night, altogether showcasing a colorful palette of local musical talent here at MSU.

There were the crooning, soulful sounds of Bashful Antics, the synthesized vocals of Past The Pacific, and a lyrical, piano rock performance by Alco. Open To Interpretation

and Wine Me Up injected a dose of classic rock into the lineup, while Banana Fever and Epic Fail worked the audience up with their extremely animated performances.

"It's definitely a lot of fun for us to be back out here again," Jones said.

"There's just a lot of support and camaraderie between all these different groups backstage, so it doesn't even feel like a competition at all. It's cool how we can all just come together here and make amazing art like this."

Each band on display had a dedicated posse of fans, who came just to watch their favorite artists play. There was no small amount of cheering, hooting and screaming, and crowds of fans (as well as members of other bands) would gather at the space before the stage to show their support and dance along to their favorite musical pieces.

"We had a lot of fun tonight," Jones said. "We'll definitely be trying out again next year."

The event was organized by MSU's University Activities Board, and sponsored by the Marshall Music Company and MetroPCS.

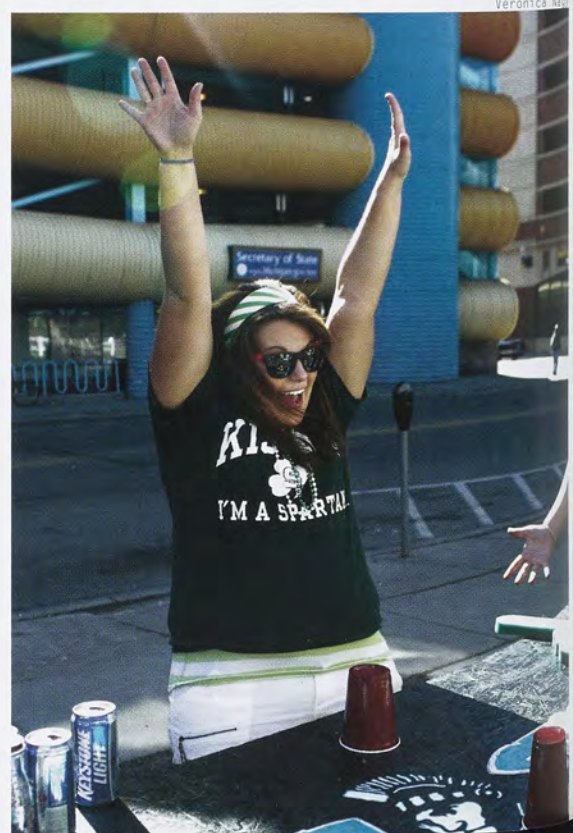
Jones said that interested individuals could download and sample The Blue Effect's music for free at <http://theblueeffect.bandcamp.com>.





Matt Benedetto hula-hoops and drinks a beer without an issue. Benedetto said he was just chilling on St. Patrick's day, and hula-hooping seemed like a perfect idea.

Kayla Swanteck celebrates her victory in flip cup over her friend Emily Schafer. Their St. Patrick's Day involved playing drinking games.



For MSU students, St. Patrick's Day is like Christmas. Traditionally, Spartans rise with the sun to prove that it doesn't have to be football season for them to bleed green. And this year was no different. Bars opened early, house parties raged and students gave cheers with green beer.

As early as 7 a.m., spirited bar-goers crowded East Lansing to take part in breakfast buffets and drink specials. Among them was junior Michelle Rutecki, who crawled out of bed to turn St. Patty's Day into an all-day celebration.

"It's been a wild time. We started at Dublin, and then went to Harper's, and then to Lou and Harry's. Everyone is going crazy and the bars are so packed," she said. Rutecki later attended four house parties and celebrated until midnight. Meeting new friends made this year unforgettable, but she said MSU does it big every year. Sophomore Harrison Hall agreed.

"The reason it's such a big holiday for Michigan State is that for one, it's a reason to drink on a week day, and who doesn't love that?" Hall said. "And number two, everyone wears green." Hall and his 15 roommates hosted an open party at their house. The sun shined, music blared and guests played beer pong, flip cup and drank out of a two-story beer bong.

"We probably have about 300 people here," Hall said. "Earlier we had close to 30 people on our roof. That's probably against city ordinance, but it was fun."

As the day progressed, festivities turned East Lansing into a sea of green. But sophomore Allyson White, a server at Harper's, was one of the unfortunate souls who didn't get to paint the town with Irish cheer. Instead, she went to work at 6 a.m.

"It's a pretty cheerful atmosphere in there right now. There's even been a few bagpipers," White said on her break. "We let people in at 6:45 a.m. I can't believe how many people wanted to drink that early."

As the day came to an end, some stumbled home and others refilled their solo cups and continued to party. Irish or not, students were already counting down the days until they could take part in St. Patrick's Day shenanigans once again.

"I can't wait for next year already," Rutecki said.

IRISH FOR A DAY

MSU partakes in St. Patrick's Day festivities

Text: Angie Jackson

Photo: Veronica Nagy, Erica Treais

Design: Vicari Vollmar



Veronica Nagy

Veronica Nagy



Erica Treais

Students enjoyed warm weather and green beer on St. Patrick's day. They sat with lawn chairs and a sign stating "You Honk, We Drink!"

Graduate student Tom McCollum stands at the steps of Theta Chi in full leprechaun apparel. McCollum began celebrating early, but rushed to his statistics exam by 3 p.m.





STUDENTS STRIVE FOR EXPERIENCE

When competition arises, students use extra-curriculars to pack their resumes

Being an Animal Science major at a Veterinary Medical College on a campus that has numerous dairy, sheep and other agricultural farms obviously has its benefits, but when the Vet-Med students look to their graduate programs, which only accept about 100 students, they know the need to have a competitive edge.

The Pre-Veterinary Medicine Association [PVMA] and its approximately 260 members work closely with the college to provide that edge.

"It's difficult being pre-vet because it's so competitive, only 110 students are accepted [at Michigan State], so everyone is trying to get involved," junior Jeremy Shaba said. "It is about the grades, but they also look to see if you had any leadership roles or field experience."

Shaba is one of the fundraising co-chairs for PVMA. Some of fundraisers that PVMA and the College of Veterinary Medicine put on is the dog-wash, Vet-A-Visit and Vet-Ward-Bound.

"A lot of the opportunities in the college come through this club [PVMA]," Shaba said. "We do wet labs, like dog training and suture on bananas. There are also research opportunities, like right now I work on a dairy research project. It's getting me more experience and it makes me a better person for seeing something other maybe haven't seen."

Being a part of PVMA at Michigan State

means more than just dedicating some time to a club, it's something that members really take pride in because of the prestigious reputation that the club has.

"Potential employers see it and know you're serious so opportunities fall into your lap more," senior Tasha Likavec said. "We're one of the largest pre-vet clubs, every year we go to a national pre-vet symposium, we select only 60 members to go and we are always one of the largest groups there. We have a really good reputation."

Although PVMA sponsors lots of activities that are beneficial to the students, the members of the club really help enhance the amount of exposure the other members get.

"Most opportunities we generate ourselves, everybody knows people and brings back their experiences to share with everybody," Likavec said. "We get a lot of attention not just from Michigan State's Veterinary Graduate Program but also from other veterinary schools."

In addition to the prestige both PVMA and the College of Veterinary Medicine create positive environments for the students to work through their undergraduate degrees.

"It's nice to be at a school with lots of other pre-vet students because it allows you to network early with other pre-vet students," senior Christ Bailey said. "It's also easier to find a variety of experiences on campus."



Events: PVMA Dog Wash

Text: Leslie Tilson

Photo: Ellina Stein

Design: Jessica Halfyard

Parker, a Labrador-mix, is washed at the PVMA dogwash. Her owner comes not only for the free and easy dog wash, but also to support the program and students.



Sarahbeth Barlas, a pre-vet freshman, washed Ranbo. Ranbo is a ten-year-old German Shepard owned by Sgt. Kuchek.



Wooster, a Corgi, is dried by student volunteers from the PVMA program at MSU. Wooster is part of a family of two other Corgis, Indy and Tuscan.

Pre-vet sophomore Chelsea Callow holds on to Parker while freshman Amanda Molicky rinses him. Parker is a Labrador-mix owned by Sarah of the East Lansing area.

EXPLOSION OF PASSION

Student performers show their pride for Latin America

It might have been a cold day in February, but the collaboration of performances at the Latin Xplosion "Carnaval" set the Auditorium ablaze with passion.

On Feb. 19, Cultural de las Razas Unidas hosted the 15th annual Latin Xplosion and proved that their version of a carnival has nothing to do with balloons and cotton candy.

The high-energy celebration of Latin American culture showcased dances, songs, fashion shows and poetry representative of various countries such as Puerto Rico, Mexico and Venezuela. For over two hours, the stage exploded with excitement and highlighted the diversity of each region.

"We hope people learn a little about our cultures and say, 'Wow, I never knew Latin America had so much talent,'" said sophomore Abilene Ochoa, co-chair of the planning committee. With a \$13,000 budget, the committee aimed to enhance this year's Latin Xplosion by recruiting diverse acts from Western Michigan, Grand Valley State and even California.

"Everyone's nerves were high lining up backstage, but we went out there and had so much fun," said Grand Valley senior

Katie Brinks after performing a Brazilian and African-inspired dance with her troupe "Sambrosismo." While each act featured a tradition unique to a specific country, performers radiated a shared sense of Latin American pride.

"The committee made a huge effort to incorporate all different cultures into the performances," said senior Crystal Stoll, who recited two poems addressing Latin American stereotypes. Her poems resonated the message that although Latin America is home to many diverse cultures, "we are all beautiful people."

"I'm a bi-racial Latina, so I've experienced both worlds and was always judged for not being Latina enough. But I'm not afraid to speak out and make changes," Stoll said. As her last year participating in Latin Xplosion, she is happy to leave behind a community of positive, Latino student leaders.

And when you mix student leaders with cultural pride, the possibilities are endless.

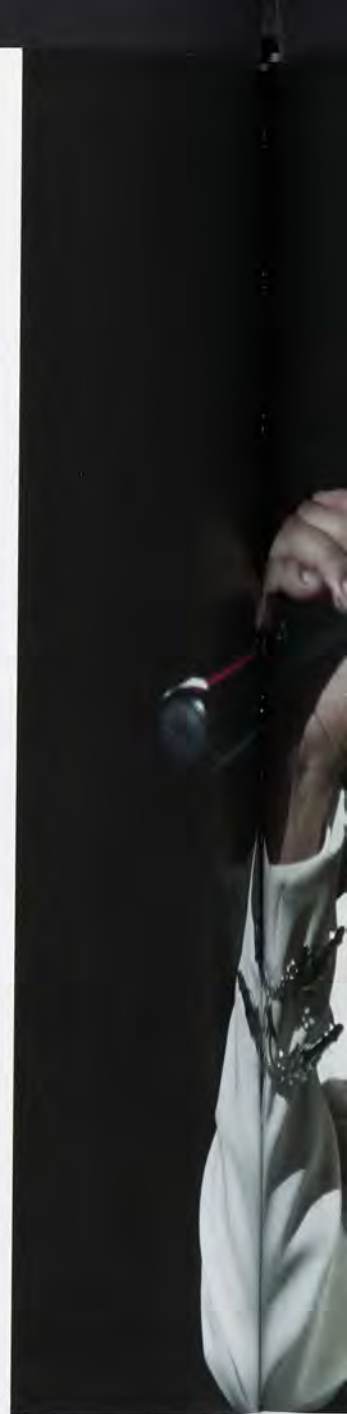
"We want to give people the opportunity to experience our culture," Brinks said. "We're not just dancing, we're promoting cultural awareness in order to make a change."

Text: Angie Jackson
Photo: Ellina Stein
Design: Brendan Prost

Anyel Selman Fermin and Gabriel Alexander Nunez dance at the Latin Xplosion Carnaval. They were part of the Dominican Student Organization dance group from Western Michigan University.



Beto Gudiño from the rock band Signa from Costa Mesa, California plays guitar at Latin Explosion. His band made the journey to Michigan to take part in the show.





MSU sophomore Marliiz Gonzales sings a song at the Latin Xplosion event. Gonzales performed a traditional mariachi song.

The Dominican Student Organizations Dance Group from Western Michigan University takes part in the Latin Xplosion with a routine. The event was held at the Auditorium here at Michigan State University.



ROMEO, O ROMEO!

MSU music students present an updated rendition of The Bard's classic tragedy

Loud tropical shirts, pinstriped suits, and 80's hairdos aren't exactly the first thing that comes to mind when one mentions Shakespearean tragedies. Yet, the MSU College of Music incorporated all of that and more into their stunning operatic rendition of one of The Bard's most well-known tales of star-crossed lovers: "Romeo and Juliet".

The opera rendition of the play, titled "Romeo Et Juliette," was written by Charles Gounod, the man famous for composing the 19th-century opera "Faust." Gounod's rendition of the famous Shakespearean tragedy first premiered in Paris in 1867, and was a huge success on its first night.

The MSU College of Music, however, decided to throw an interesting twist in their presentation of Gounod's opera, by setting it against a backdrop of Miami Beach in the 1980s. While the Romeo and Juliet of the original play descended from two powerful but feuding aristocratic families, the titular characters in this rendition are portrayed as the scions of two rival mafia families.

Professor Melanie Helton, the director and producer, said that she chose that particular setting because she thought it fit incredibly well with the scenario presented in Shakespeare's play.

"If you think about Miami Beach in the 80's, it was pretty much a drug culture, with warring families,

groups and gangs vying for control, so it made sense to me," she said.

"Plus, I like the updating of it because it makes the actors feel very natural with themselves."

Helton also said that funding was a deciding issue for this decision, as it was much cheaper to obtain 80's vintage clothing and set props than to custom-make period costumes for the cast members and to recreate Elizabethan-era backdrops.

The opera was divided into two acts with an intermission in between. The dialogue remained incredibly true to the lines of Shakespeare's original work, and the performers' renditions of the characters even offered some very interesting interpretations of the motives and deeds of the individuals involved in the original play – a treat, if you will, for audience members who were intimately familiar with the work of The Bard.

Helton praised the cast members for their stellar performances, stating that she was incredibly proud of their efforts.

"I'm always proud of them. They (the cast members) are all undergraduates, and this is some pretty difficult stuff, but they really shined," she said.

"This particular production has a group of graduating seniors that has been our most extraordinary yet, in all my time here."

Text: Isaac Hee
Photo: Alissa Lane
Design: Betsy Eber

Ann Marie Theis curls her hair before the performance of Romeo and Juliet. Ann Marie is a freshman vocal performance and music education major.





Vocal music education
freshman Elizabeth
James gussies up in
preparation for the
opera. Elizabeth was
in the chorus in Romeo
and Juliet.



Leads of the opera
help each other
with their makeup
and hair before
the show. Romeo
and Juliet was
the chosen opera
for the music
department's spring
semester show.

Rachel Miller
tunes her harp
for the Romeo
and Juliet opera
performance. Rachel
is a sophomore
music performance
major and has been
playing the harp
for 12 years.

RING IN THE NEW YEAR

Kazakh students put on cultural festivities to celebrate Spring, regional heritage

It is graduation day at MSU. Two longtime friends must part. One heads to Kazakhstan, his home country. After some deliberation, his other friend travels to visit him in Kazakhstan, where he finds himself right in the middle of the cultural festival known as Nawriz, and that's where the adventures begin.

Thus was the scene at the Nawriz 2010 Spring Festival held at the Wharton Center's Pasant Theatre. The fictional scenario between the two friends became the ongoing storyline during the show, between fabulous dances and performances put on by a multitude of cultures that celebrate Nawriz.

Nawriz, known as the Central Asian New Year, is celebrated on the vernal equinox every year by the diverse region that includes Kazakhstan, Turkey, Iran and many other smaller countries surrounding Kazakhstan. Put on by the Kazakh Student Association for the third year, the event not only rings in the New Year and marks the beginning of spring but also serves to celebrate the diverse and proud culture of those who observe Nawriz, and also show off the lifestyle of Kazakhstan, the ninth largest country in the world.

"Through Nawriz we want to show the culture of Kazakhstan, its traditions, its dances, songs, people, costumes, every part of the culture," senior Mikhail Assafov said, a member of the association and a performer in the event's final song. "We want people at MSU to know more about Kazakhstan."

Assafov talked about how the biggest misunderstanding about Kazakh culture is thanks in large part to the movie "Borat" starring Sascha Baron Cohen that was released in 2006. Because of that movie, a stereotype was created for a nation that was barely known to most people in the United States.

"Each of us had different feelings about it," Assafov said. "Personally, yes, I was offended. Some of the parts of the movie didn't show Kazakhstan as it is in real life."

With the start-up of the Kazakh Student Association in 2006, their main role has been to dispel those stereotypes about Kazakhstan through the promotion of the real Kazakhstan. Movies produced in Kazakhstan were shown to students, and with the annual tradition of Nawriz starting in 2007, it has helped in large part to redefine the way Americans may see the Kazakh way of life.

From the very beginning to the end, there was absolutely no trace of the outlandish shenanigans depicted in "Borat." Instead, there were several varieties of dances performed in vibrant colors and traditional outfits to upbeat music of both

old-fashioned and new-age styles.

One performance featured a special duet of two people playing the traditional Kazakh musical instrument, the Dombra. Shaped like a small guitar, sounding like a lower-toned ukulele and played at a breakneck banjo-like speed, the two-stringed instruments were played with excellent precision and sported wonderful melodies. The breathtaking performance was one of many that left the almost-capacity crowd at the Wharton roaring with applause.

Another traditional dance was called "Atkumarkyz," also referred to as the "Jockey Girls" in the event. The dancers wore colorful vests and hats and danced around with horse whips in their hands. Gaukhar Nurseitova, a junior and the director of P.R. for the association explained there is a lot of significance behind this dance honoring horses.

"Kazakhs are from steppes, and horse is really big part of our lives, especially in ancient times, so all the Kazakhs are known as horse-riders," Nurseitova said. "Our dance tries to represent the power of horse."

Between the traditional, serious dances put on by the passionate performers, the two friends and their companions from the first skit would come in and introduce the next act in a blunt and corny sort of way, which gave the show a light-hearted feeling. Nurseitova explained there was an idea behind these antics.

"All the dances were more of a cultural thing, but we wanted to connect it to modern stuff," Nurseitova said. "It's not all about our past, and we're all part of American life now, so we tried to create something more interesting for people."

Either way, the main focus was for people to get in touch with the Kazakhstan beyond "Borat" and shed some light on a region in the world that, while still relatively new politically, is home to a history of ancient traditions.

"One of the things we notice is that Central Asian countries don't get promoted as much as other Eastern Asian or European countries," junior Ruslan Mursalzade said, an MC for the event. "So we wanted to reach out to the community and tell these people that [Central Asian countries] have a beautiful culture."

While the people who missed out on this experience may still be unaware about what Kazakhstan and the Central Asian countries are all about, the fairly decent-sized amount of people that celebrated Nawriz with the Kazakhs this year saw that beauty and had a good time experiencing it as well.

A singer performs during another traditional dance during Nawriz. Although the celebration was put on by the Kazakh Students Association, Nawriz is celebrated in other Central Asian countries.



Events: Nawriz

Text: Jacob Kanclerz

Photo: Elise Lefere

Design: Brendan Prost



Two dancers perform one of the many cultural dances at Nawriz. The festival celebrates the Central Asian New Year, usually set on the spring equinox of each year.

Two students play a riveting riff on the dombra, a native Kazakh instrument. The two-stringed instruments produced beautiful melodies all while being played at breakneck speeds, like the banjo.



The MCs of Nawriz draw raffle tickets to give away Kazakh-oriented prizes. The organizers of Nawriz, the Kazakh Students Association, wanted to make the celebration relatable to western audiences.





Seniors Abhinav Katiyar and Zoe Middleton air root trees in Costa Rica. The two participated in an alternative spring break opportunity hosted by Michigan State University.

Students participating in the alternative spring break program pick weeds from bean plants. On this organic farm, farmers didn't use pesticides to produce healthier food.



Text: Angie Jackson

Photo: Submitted by Katy DeSantis

Design: Brendan Prost

MSU students pose in front of a sign in Costa Rica. These students all participated in an MSU-based alternative spring break program during winter break.



BREAKING AWAY FROM THE NORM

Students share why an alternative spring break can be life changing

While many students were beach-bound this spring break, senior Keith Bouck ventured to South Dakota to benefit a cause more meaningful to him than sipping mojitos.

Having spent his vacation renovating homes on an Indian Reservation, Bouck is among hundreds who chose to immerse themselves in a week of service, social issues and culture on alternative spring break vacations.

"The experience was insane," said Bouck, co-chair of MSU's Alternative Spring Break program. "We went to Todd County, which is the fifth poorest in the nation. It didn't even feel like part of the United States." After going on five trips, Bouck has had many eye-opening experiences. He worked at a rehabilitation center in Georgia, spent time with residents at an HIV/AIDS facility in New Orleans, and said each service project helped develop his passion for volunteering.

"It has completely changed me. Now I definitely want to volunteer after college," Bouck said. "Going to different cultures, you realize a lot about yourself."

This year, 23 groups left East Lansing to make a difference in communities around the

world. Services trips focus on one of seven social issues, including education, health or the environment, and it seems there isn't one person who comes back without a life-altering experience.

"Without my trip I wouldn't have thought of joining the Peace Corp," said junior Peter Kidd, who is thinking of applying after college. "I gained motivation to help people in my career." Kidd volunteered at a wildlife preserve in Puerto Rico this year, where he planted, painted beach markers and chopped acres of milkweed. He said using a machete and holding a tarantula for the first time were more thrilling experiences than spending his spring break in party-mode.

Trip prices range from \$300 to \$1,225, which includes the cost of food, housing and transportation. Senior and co-chair Tiffany Chritz, who has worked in homeless shelters across the nation, said the life-long friendships that are made are priceless.

"You're thrown into an experience with 11 people you don't know who have the same intentions as you," she said, "and you end up leaving with friends and knowing the huge impact you made."

The men and women of Sigma Phi Epsilon, Zeta Tau Alpha and Kappa Sigma perform to a Bob Marley song. The groups jammed to rasta and ska music during Songfest.

The men of Delta Chi and Fiji performed with the girls of Alpha Phi during Greek Week's Songfest. The group danced to songs such as "Don't Stop Believin'" and music from the Motown era.



Erica Treals



Erica Treals

SEVEN DAYS OF GREEK

**Greeks unite to celebrate,
give back to the community**

Text: Colby Berthume, Isaac Hee
Photo: Staff
Design: Betsy Eber

Every time the lights dimmed, euphoric shouts were heard throughout the packed auditorium. With each performance at MTV Fundraising Night, fraternities and sororities came together to cheer on their teams, and for them, it finally felt like Greek Week.

"I believe that the Greek community really comes together throughout the week," sophomore Hillary Russell said. "You see some of your friends from other houses that you might not see as much."

Every spring, a sorority, one large fraternity and a smaller fraternity collaborate to form a Greek Week team. The teams compete against each other trying to raise money for different organizations. This year, the week kicked off with a blood drive to help victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

The next major event was on Wednesday, April 7 at the auditorium. The Greek community came together to celebrate the MTV Fundraising Night by putting on a music and dance performance from each participating team.

Each act lasted about five minutes, and the crowd reacted with excitement and passion while watching members of their fraternity or sorority compete.

"MTV night is a really cool event," Russell said. "It's great to get to come and hang out with everyone from the Greek community and get to see people performing on stage."

The highlight of the entire week, however, was the nightlong Relay For Life event at the Jenison Field House on April 9. The 20-hour walkathon is an annual event that raises money for cancer foundations.

"This is probably the most special event this week because a lot of us know cancer survivors, and I would definitely say that this event is the one that all of us look forward to the most," said Diane Western, the Greek Week coordinator.

"All the proceeds from tonight (the Relay For Life) will be split up between the American

Cancer Society and some other charities that we have chosen," she said.

Each of the 36 Greek chapters participating was required to have two members walking on the field house track in shifts at any time throughout the night. Meanwhile, the organizers conducted a series of activities and games to keep the rest of the participants occupied.

Claire Kolumban, the Relay For Life coordinator, said that the teams involved would be awarded points based on the amount of money that they managed to raise for charity, as well as their performances in the various games and events taking place through the night.

Kolumban said that while the winning team would be honored at the award ceremony at the end of Greek Week, they would not receive any prizes.

"It's not about winning a trophy," she said. "It's about us giving back to the surrounding community. That's all that matters."

The crux of the nightlong event was the luminary ceremony at 9 p.m. where participants heard speeches from cancer survivors, held a candlelight vigil and observed a moment of silence for cancer patients and victims of the disease.

"I'm not going to be getting any sleep tonight," Kolumban said. "But I don't mind at all. Cancer doesn't sleep, so why should I?"

"There are so many people out there who have had sleepless nights worrying about a friend or a loved one with cancer. I don't think going one night without sleep is too much of a sacrifice to make on my part," Kolumban said.

Greek Week, according to Western, was perhaps the best example of what happens when the Greek community at the university combines their efforts towards a common goal.

"When we come together, we are such a positive force to the community, and I think that's something that more people should pay attention to," she said.



Jennifer Garavaglia

Sigma Chi freshman Nick Hinz and Chi Omega junior Julia Rose sing together in Greek Week's battle of the bands competition.



Jennifer Garavaglia

Alissa Lane

Delta Chi, Alpha Phi, and Fiji came together during Greek Week's Songfest event of singing and dancing to show the audience the true meaning of Detroit.

Freshman Missy Sebring of Zeta Tau Alpha gives a Jamaican-inspired performance at Battle of the Bands. Each of the teams had a Greek vacation destination as a theme.



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Tom Izzo high-fives fans as he departs for the Mid-West Regional Championship. This year's final four was Izzo's sixth appearance in the run for the national championship.



FINAL FOUR ACTIVITY

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Ellina Stein
Design: Jessica Halfyard

MSU Students send men's basketball team to Indiana for another Final Four game

For the second straight year, the Michigan State University community spent the later days of March bleeding green in preparation for the Final Four.

"I am fired up," Vinnie Lindqvist said. "I got my Final Four T-shirt from the Student Bookstore already, and I am ready for the whole weekend of festivities."

On Wednesday, March 31, the team departed at 3 p.m. from the Breslin Center with about 150 fans sending them off to Indianapolis to compete in this year's Final Four. Preparation for the a weeklong celebration began the previous Sunday, when the team arrived home to an excited crowd at the Breslin Center after their Elite Eight victory over Tennessee.

"It's really cool to have the community come out and support us," Delvon Roe, sophomore forward, said.

Many students also enjoyed the chance to be a part of the send-off for the team.

"Being able to be a part of sending your school's basketball team off to a Final Four is something special," said Jack Frasco, a sophomore who was also wearing a newly purchased, green Michigan State Final Four T-shirt. "I went to the send-off last year, and I plan on making every send-off from here on out."

Unlike last year, The Breslin Center unfortunately couldn't play the game for students who wanted to watch the Final Four on campus because of a prior event, but Eastwood Cinemas in Lansing showed the MSU game in 3D. Several East Lansing bars also hosted large crowds over the weekend.

"As soon as I knew we were in the Final Four, I started looking for tickets on Ebay, and I never found a ticket for the right price," Lindqvist said. "But even though I was in East Lansing, I'm still enjoyed every minute of it."



Senior Raymar Morgan slaps hundreds of Spartan fans' hands at the pep rally at the Breslin Center. Morgan gave a speech thanking the fans for their support throughout the season.

Fans shake coach Tom Izzo's hand as they send the men's Spartan basketball team to the Final Four Tournament. Students and East Lansing community members gathered outside of the Breslin.

Fans wave goodbye and good luck to the Spartan basketball team as they depart for the Final Four Tournament. Basketball fans were waiting to send the team off outside of the Breslin.

Down in Indianapolis, the Spartan Men's Basketball team's dream of winning the national championship had just died out.

Back in East Lansing, the night had just begun.

In the final minutes of the game, where Cedar Street and Waters Edge Drive meet, the sound of agonized students filled the streets. Over 40 officers from multiple police departments stood waiting and police on horseback patrolled the streets around the apartments. Some officers watched the final seconds of the game through a window outside the first floor apartments. One student standing on a third floor balcony yelled, "There are more cops than students out here."

When the game finished, the ratio quickly changed. Students began flooding out to the streets. Chants of "Go green, go white" were yelled and high disdain was expressed towards Butler up and down Cedar Street.

As more students arrived, police officers took to keeping the streets clear. Some students came just to watch the growing crowd, or to take photos and video. Students posed with cops in riot gear, both smiling. Others filled the lawns on either side of Cedar Street, dancing and cheering with Spartan pride. The rhythmic beating of a bongo drum from within the crowd energized the celebration with dancing and cheering. By the end of the night, over 700 people gathered in the 200 blocks of Cedar Street in Cedar Village.

Freshmen Nate Pasmanter and Katy Brandl followed the crowd out of curiosity. Pasmanter and Brandl walked over from Mason/Abbot when they heard the cheering in the streets.

"We wanted to see what would happen," Pasmanter said. This being his

first Cedar Village celebration, him and Brandl were in awe, excited to see the gathering of Spartan fans.

By 10:00 p.m., police enforcement increased, prohibiting students from standing in the street, to which the gathering students paid little attention. The chanting, laughter and celebrations continued unphased.

"I really appreciate the cops keeping things in hand," said senior Brandon Laventure. Laventure was at the last four Cedar Village block parties, and felt that this year saw a slightly smaller crowd.

"Last year was fantastic, the cops did a good job," Laventure said. "It was just one big party, everyone felt good, and it was handled pretty well. This year we're not allowed in the streets, which is kind of a bummer."

"(Students) might not have come this year because of the rain. But this year it's mostly State fans, which is nice, because most of the trouble makers aren't State fans," Laventure said.

According to the East Lansing Police department, only 27 people were arrested from the crowd on charges including assault, disorderly conduct and indecent exposure. More than half of the arrests were individuals with no affiliation to Michigan State University.

By 12:00 a.m., the crowd dwindled to over half of its original size, and the police began asking individuals to leave, ending the celebrations in Cedar Village peacefully by 1:00 a.m.

"I am proud that my fellow Spartans chose to come out and celebrate this weekend with class," East Lansing Police Chief Tom Wilbert said. "We were able to walk away from last night's events without incident due in no small part to those who celebrated responsibly and all of our assisting officers."



PARTY ON THE BLOCK

Cedar Fest celebration remains peaceful despite Final Four loss against Butler

Text: Matthew Mikus
Photo: Mason Robinson, Ellina Stein
Design: Brendan Prost



Mason Robinson

Cedar Fest participants line the streets after MSU's final basketball game of the season. The unruly congregation dispersed before forceful action had to be taken.

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Mason Robinson

Police officers line Cedar Street after MSU's 52-50 loss to Butler in the Final Four. The mass was much more peaceful in comparison to years past.



East Lansing and Lansing police prepared for Cedar Fest by setting up lights and speakers on top of the apartment buildings. The police lined the streets after the game ended.

Kid Cudi gets intimate with the crowd while performing "Solo Dolo." Those opening for Cudi included XV, Pac Div, Clipse, and a guest appearance by Big Sean.

The crowd cheers on Kid Cudi as he performs "Solo Dolo" in the Auditorium. The performance sold-out the same day that tickets went on sale.



PUT YOUR HANDS UP

Kid Cudi impresses the Michigan State crowd

Text: Jessica Whitmill
Photo: Erica Treais
Design: Jessica Halfyard

Not one seat was filled when Kid Cudi took the stage at the Michigan State Auditorium April 12.

Because everyone was standing.

The ground was shaking, the bass was booming, students were screaming, lights were flashing and excitement pulsated throughout the auditorium as students awaited the famous Kid.

Four opening acts took the stage before Kid Cudi finally stole the stage in front of an anxious crowd.

First, rapper XV from Kansas performed, sampling the Pixies and Notorious B.I.G. to freshen his sound.

Trio Pac Div from Los Angeles made their first appearance in Michigan after XV, showing Spartan pride in MSU hoodies and a Spartan helmet.

Big Sean, a rapper from the Detroit area also made another appearance at MSU after his concert in September with Mike Posner.

Finally, hip-hop duo Clipse from Virginia pumped up the crowd right before Cudi's performance.

With such excitement throughout the auditorium, it's no wonder tickets sold out within minutes of being posted for sale by the Wharton Center.

"I went online at two, and tickets went on sale at one," said freshman Amy Brown. "There was one ticket left. I just bought it by myself."

Students that were too late for Kid tickets might have

been in luck had the concert been at the Breslin.

"Obviously there's a large amount of people who wanted to attend, but can't because it's so limited," said sophomore Jill Silverstein.

However, Amy likes the smaller venue.

"I think the auditorium venue really makes the concert more intimate," she said.

Cudi's intimacy could be felt once he sang a portion of his set a cappella to a silent, entranced crowd and proceeded to play three songs in a row, including his well-received hit "Day N Nite."

The Kid also brought in Chip Tha Ripper, featured on the track "Hyyerr" from his debut album "Man on the Moon: The End of Day."

After an electric performance, with a lavish light show, Kid returned to the stage once more to deliver one of his more famous tracks, "Pursuit of Happiness," and proved to not only be a rapper, but a crowd-pleasing performer as well.

"I'm a big mix tape junkie," Amy said. "I heard him a few years ago and it's good to see that more people are gravitating toward him."

Jill agrees that Cudi is quickly emerging as a big name. "He has a fresh taste, look and sound," she said. "He appeals to a wide variety. He's relatable. I feel like he has a lot to offer."



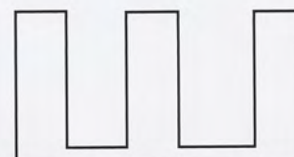


Rapper XV livens up the crowd as the opening act at the Kid Cudi concert. The performer started creating music at the age of 15, and has released 14 mixtapes and two albums since 2006.



Screaming fans cheer on Kid Cudi as he slowly appears behind the smoke of the stage. Cudi performed an encore, keeping the energy strong during his performance of "Pursuit of Happiness."

Rapper Kid Cudi performs a set from his album "Man on the Moon." After great anticipation, the crowd began to sing along to Cudi's track, "Up Up & Away."



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Drake performed at the MSU auditorium for over an hour Wednesday on April 14. ASMSU brought Drake for the main spring concert.



DRIZZY DROPS IN

Ascending young rapper Drake visits MSU

When Drake came to MSU on April 14, he wasn't here to make his comeback filming for "Degrassi," a Canadian teenage drama TV series.

Instead, Drake filled the MSU Auditorium thanks to the enormous popularity he has garnered on his way to his sudden rise in the rap world.

His first solo album wasn't released at the time of the concert, but the success of a few mixtapes, radio-heavy singles and the benefit of receiving the mentorship of rap star Lil Wayne has helped Drake explode onto the scene.

Right off the bat, this rap concert proved to have the potential to be extremely random. After Francis and the Lights departed the stage, which was an odd, out-of-place '80s electronic band that had some promise, rapper k-os took the stage. At one point, k-os had his DJ play Journey's timeless "Don't Stop Believin'," letting the crowd sing along as he frolicked around on stage, tossing CDs to the crowd every once and awhile. For another part of his act, as his guitarist played the intricate intro to Led Zeppelin's "Stairway to Heaven," k-os started off gently singing, then rapping over the riff. Even k-os strapped on a guitar and played a song.

After Michigan-native Mike Posner performed a few songs as a surprise guest, Drake, or as he said he preferred to be called, "Drizzy-Drake," finally took the stage to the roar of the excited crowd, coming out strong with one of his big hits, "Forever." After this, Drake took the time to rap a few laid-back, chill songs, temporarily killing the buzz in the room,

as it appeared most people weren't familiar with his non-radio material. When he moved back into his mainstream successes, like "I'm Goin' In," "Best I Ever Had" and "Over," to name a few, the show picked up.

For rappers like Drake that usually feature a guest performer singing on nearly every track they record, it was interesting to see how they accounted for this in their live show. For Drake, it looked like he was only concerned with singing his part of the song, then moving on. Because of this, Drake would start and finish a song all in a minute's time, moving this part of the show at a rapid pace.

Drake knew how to entertain, and it wasn't all just his rapping. For the most part, Drake saw no one but ladies in the crowd. He told the crowd he really wanted to slow dance with a girl, so he did just that: he picked a girl out of the crowd and had her come on stage to share a dance.

Drake was all over the place. He held a tribute to the currently incarcerated Lil Wayne, briefly singing his and Wayne's collaborative effort "Every Girl." He got the crowd to chant "Free Weezy" and even voiced his differences about the police that arrested Wayne, saying "F**k the NYPD!" Of course, Drake gave a justification for why Lil Wayne and other rappers should be released from jail: "We need these rappers in our lives, man."

Whether you love him, hate him or not really sure what to think at this point, you can't walk away from that concert and say Drake doesn't know how to entertain. He and his band put together a good show musically, and he made it through most of the songs on fans' checklists. In addition to that, his dreaminess tickled the fancies of every female in the crowd, and one lucky girl even got a special kiss from him.

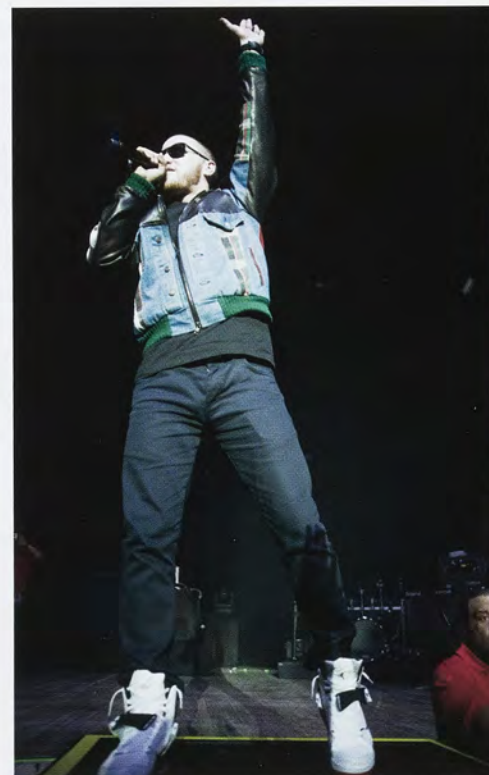


Events: Drake

Text: Jacob Kanclerz
Photo: Ellina Stein
Design: Brendan Prost

Drake gains popularity with his songs as they top the hip-hop charts. He opened the concert with "Forever."

During the entire concert Drake talked to the crowd. He even brought a young woman up on stage for a slow dance.



Mike Posner made a surprise appearance at the Drake concert. The young Michigan native performed his popular songs such as "Drug Dealer Girl" and "Cooler Than Me."

GOING ONCE, GOING TWICE

Indian undergraduates purchase dates to fund cultural celebration

Apparently, men's basketball star Kalin Lucas' number is worth \$38.

That's how much senior Radhika Menawat, the alleged bearer of the basketball star's number, paid for Lucas at the Coalition of Indian Undergraduate Students Date Auction on Feb. 25, 2010.

One by one, both guys and gals marched up to the front to be auctioned off to the sparse but active crowd. Many were crushed to be only sold for the minimum bid of \$10. As it turned out, those who could exhibit a special skill could garner more money.

Senior Makesh Chandrashekhar demonstrated a little bit of his singing ability. He sold for \$24.

Chandrashekhar's singing could definitely come in handy in the next month, as he and his fellow dates were actually raising money for the CIUS' huge annual event, Satrang, a festive celebration of Indian culture put on by the executive board of the CIUS. The show will include all types of Indian dances, performed and choreographed by the CIUS students themselves.

Freshman Akhilesh Menawat, a \$20 auctionee, is planning on participating in this year's Satrang at the Wharton Center on April 3, making it the first time the show has been at the Wharton.

"It's something I've wanted to do ever since I saw my cousin do it [perform at Satrang]," Menawat said. "It's a lot of effort and a lot of work, but I really hope it pays off in the end; it's going to look cool."

Menawat is participating in a South Indian dance, and prepares with practice for at least two and a half hours for three days a week. Menawat describes South Indian dances as having more distinct moves than North Indian dances.

"You know the robot? It's kind of like that," Menawat said.

In addition to the nine or so dances to be performed that originate from all corners of India, the event helps to reconnect parents with Indian culture, as well as enlighten the rest of the audience who wouldn't know Calcutta from California.

"This is our Super Bowl, our championship game," CIUS event chair and senior Sumeet Aggarwal said, referring to Satrang. "Our group is known, basically, for the show we put on at the end of the year."

Considering the importance of Satrang, the members were excited for the move to the bigger venue for their crowning event. Aggarwal hopes better advertisement and press will boost attendance for Satrang.

However, with the bigger event comes bigger costs, and the CIUS had to meet the higher price tags for rehearsal costs through the annual date auction.

A \$25 Pizza Hut certificate given to the highest bidder and a raffle by test prep and admissions company Kaplan that offered a free course to the winner helped to boost sponsorship and attendance. The Kaplan raffle received a lot of attention, much to the delight of the many law and pre-med students there that have to take tests to get into their respective schools.

So while these Indian students took the stage only to be sold away to potential dates, (or not, as often is the case) it was to fund a greater stage appearance down the road that would promote Indian culture and exhibit their talents in dance. And if her date doesn't exactly work out, Radhika Menawat still has Kalin Lucas' number, so it's all good.



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President of the CIUS and senior Sumeet Aggarwal serves as auctioneer to successfully sell Senior Varun Avula, as Senior Rupal Patel takes notes. Aggarwal and the CIUS host this date auction and other fundraisers throughout the year to lessen member dues.

Freshman Akhilesh Menawat shows himself off before being auctioned off for \$20. Menawat is also performing in this year's Indian Cultural Festival at the Wharton Center, also known as Satrang.

Events: Date Auction

Text: Jacob Kanclerz

Photo: Elise Lefere

Design: Jessica Halfyard



Freshman Mona Patel laughs while her friend is auctioned off. Her friend, freshman Vinuthna Venigalla (not pictured) was auctioned for \$22.

Savannah Sadler consults with Senior Rahil Dharia. Sadler was at the date auction on behalf of the Kaplan Test Admissions Center, who was offering a free test preparation course through a raffle.



Students at their dinner table learned the dos and don'ts at a professional dinner. Sherri Henri quizzed them at the end by asking review questions.



MIND YOUR P'S AND Q'S

Senior students host dinner to promote proper etiquette and good manners

Not sure which fork goes where? Unaware of where to put your napkin when you get up?

Don't fret, because the Senior Class Council can give you some pointers after hosting their annual etiquette dinner.

Featuring guest speaker Sherri Henri, the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions, the two-hour, three-course meal was held in the Big Ten Room at the upscale Kellogg Center; the perfect backdrop for a lesson in proper manners in a business setting.

"It's held to help out seniors before they get into their interviews," senior and coordinator of the event Jodie Gmyrek said. "It lets them ask questions, and it's really a hands-on experience, instead of getting a lecture."

Indeed, the students aren't just being served a meal. As they eat, Henri patrols the tables, quietly observing students' habits as she gives pointers on how to handle business interviews over meals.

"Right now, the students have to understand that they are always on," said Henri, a professor in the Business College. "There's always an opportunity to network, to make a connection."

Gmyrek said she learned some helpful hints through Henri's use of examples and anecdotes.

"I never knew employers were so picky, like the little things they looked at, like (Henri's) story about the shoes," Gmyrek said, referring to Henri's account of a smart, qualified girl who couldn't land a job until after Henri persuaded her to change her interview attire,

which included what was apparently not-so-fashionable footwear.

Henri had lots of tidbits that covered all facets of dining and proper business behavior. She got down to the nitty-gritty, like knowing how to pass food around a table, (counter-clockwise, or just follow the lead) who to introduce first (any female in the group, or the oldest person there) and how long it takes for employers to decide whether to consider you for a position (approximately 90 seconds). Also, Henri covered topics like business cards and how to properly give and take them (never with the left hand, which Henri identifies as the international "no-no" hand).

Henri's expertise comes from her four years of experience of training the homecoming court for the proper etiquette they need for being in the public's eye. Henri argues that the presentation provides more than just how-tos for interviews.

"Well it is something that happens depending on a person's major, and with the school of hospitality business it could happen a lot," Henri said. "So for those students, they would often times be invited to award dinners, or a visiting professor or a visiting industry leader."

So Henri and the Senior Class Council's annual dinner have plenty of lessons and uses for the real world in business. Whether you are out to dinner with a potential employer or an expert in your industry, it always helps to know to put your napkin on your chair when you get up and that the forks always go on the left.



Seniors Katie Carly and Emily Pines attend the etiquette dinner to prepare themselves for the professional world. The dinner was open to anyone, but mainly seniors were in attendance.

Sherri Henri, the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions, reflects on the etiquette dinner. Henri not only gave the whole room information, but personally checked out their eating style.

Receiving a three-course meal, students learned more than just what order you use your silverware. Henri taught them how to introduce themselves, and the proper order for passing dishes.

Text: Jacob Kanclerz
Photo: Veronica Nagy
Design: Brendan Prost



Sophomore Lauryn Schroeder passes out breast cancer awareness pamphlets and pink ribbons by Wells Hall. Schroeder, member of Zeta Tau Alpha, attempted to raise money and make women on campus aware of breast cancer.



Senior Sara Winoski sells T-shirts to sophomores Brenda Tule and Rosa Torres. The money earned by the shirts was donated to a local breast cancer foundation.

Zeta Tau Alpha hands out pink ribbons at Wells Hall. The sorority handed out mammogram pamphlets and Kotex tampons to give back to the females on campus.



Breast cancer is a devastating disease, but members of Zeta Tau Alpha gave students a glimpse through their rose-colored glasses during their "Pink Out" on Thursday, April 1. In support of their philanthropy, breast cancer education and awareness, sorority members sold shirts outside of Wells Hall.

The T-shirts, with witty phrases such as "Save Second Base" and "I Heart Boobs," attracted a crowd of females and males alike.

"We didn't expect students to have a lot of money between classes, but we've done well so far. We've already ran out of small sizes," sophomore Devon Cooley said an hour into the sales.

Each shirt sold for \$10, or \$8 if the buyer was wearing pink. With handfuls of THINKPINK ribbons, mammogram information and tampons, the girls had something to offer everyone.

"We thought the shirts were fun and perfect for college students to wear while thinking about the bigger picture," said sophomore Kathleen Loftus.

This was their first year selling T-shirts, but the sorority supports the philanthropy year-round by hosting a yogurt-eating case race and a 5K walk/run, and volunteering at the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. Since breast cancer hits home for many of the members, they don't allow their passion for philanthropy to fade.

"My grandmother had breast cancer. So when going through recruitment, this philanthropy meant a lot to me," Lanpher said.

Freshman Amanda Flegal, who bought a shirt, saw the event on Facebook and was pleased to find a group supporting breast cancer education.

"It's important to spread awareness for everyone on campus because we usually put breast cancer to the back of our minds," she said.

Sorority members hope that supporters dressed in pink will make breast cancer awareness a topic that's difficult to ignore. Overall, 295 shirts were sold, and Cooley said after the success of this first event, ZTA hopes to keep it going for years to come.

TICKLED PINK

ZTA sells T-shirts to raise breast cancer awareness

Text: Angie Jackson

Photo: Erica Treais

Design: Jessica Halfyard

Juniors Alyson Zimble and Christy Swope talk and eat at Sparty's Spring Party. The event was attended by students, alumni and visitors who enjoyed the events put on by UAB.

Junior Alex Marcinkowski and sophomore Paul Sauve take a ride on the flying bike machine. Two people raced against each other trying to get the most times around.



Events: Sparty's Spring Party

Text: Angie Jackson
Photo: Veronica Nagy
Design: Vicari Vollmar

Students gather to play a dart game for prizes. The event had numerous food stations, games, prizes and rides for all ages.



SPARTY ON

Students celebrate at Sparty's Spring Party despite undesirable weather conditions

As if there weren't enough distractions from studying two weeks before finals, Sparty's Spring Party gave students another excuse to ditch their textbooks and celebrate.

On Saturday, Apr. 24, the University Activities Board joined with the Student Alumni Foundation and ASMSU to bring the ninth annual spring party to the Demonstration Field from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Traditionally, the spring party is one of the biggest events on campus, which offers students an afternoon of activities, live music and food, all for free. Unfortunately, there was a slight damper on this year's festivities: the rain. Although the outdoor activities, such as inflatable jousting and rock climbing, were short-lived, the weather didn't stop students from taking advantage of the free food.

Freshmen Lisa Vogel and Ryan Reynolds were among those who braved the rain in exchange for something to tickle their taste buds.

"We did the balloon pop a little bit ago, which was fun," Reynolds said in line for Buffalo Wild Wings. "But we're probably going to go dry off after this."

Before attending the spring party, Reynolds and Vogel watched the MSU football green and white game. SAF Vice President of Alumni Engagement Janel Rutzen said that conveniently having the two events on the same day is a big crowd attractor. To Rutzen, the Sparty's Spring Party is a chance for the entire community to come together.

"It's a celebration," she said. "At the end of the semester a few weeks before finals, and everyone wants to get out to enjoy the day and the freebies."

Although students didn't flock to the field to soak up the sun, the indoor activities, such as a three-on-three basketball tournament and a concert, carried on.

From 9 a.m. until 7 p.m., students competed in the basketball tournament at IM West. With \$1,000 to Spartan Bookstore as prize money to the winning team, Rutzen said the tournament got competitive.

To wrap up the weekend, Cobra Starship played at the Wharton Center on Sunday, April 25. The group, with the hit song "Good Girls Go Bad," crooned to students for only \$5.

As her third year behind the scenes of Sparty's Spring Party, Rutzen said this year was a success and she wouldn't change a thing. Except for maybe a little sunshine next time.

Students wait in line for free food handed out by Buffalo Wild Wings and Chipotle. The free giveaways are a major attraction for the hungry student population.





CELEBRATING THE END OF **AN** ERA

MSU students come together to say goodbye

Text: Jessica Whitmill
Photo: Ellina Stein
Design: Jessica Halfyard

Cramming four years of memories into one week sounds like a difficult task, but Michigan State's University Activities Board was determined to do so.

For the first time at MSU, UAB held a week of commencement activities for graduating 2010 seniors.

"A lot of other schools do it," said UAB chairwoman and senior Lisa Figlan. "We wanted to celebrate tradition on staple locations around campus."

Commencement week activities were held April 30 to May 6, and included everything from a performance from Doop and the Inside Outlaws at the rock, to photo ops with both the Spartan statue and Sparty himself, the signing of the rock, a candlelit ceremony at Beaumont Tower, and the opportunity for seniors to chalk their last will and testament along the banks of the Red Cedar.

All of the events were sponsored by MSUFCU and the Student Alumni Foundation.

"It's like a bucket list of things to do before you graduate," Figlan said. "We wanted to incorporate Spartan pride."

As she lined up to take her photo with Sparty, senior Andie Gonzalez said she was excited because she's never had her photo

taken with him before and plans to frame it.

"This is the event I'm most looking forward to throughout the week," she said, "but I still plan to go to all of them."

Other students sported their green graduation caps and gowns, with grins from ear to ear as they stood next to their mascot.

"I think these events give you a chance to either do things you've never done, or a reason just to do stuff during your last week," said senior Erica Myrold.

Students at the rock expressed similar excitement.

"The rock is a legacy," senior Andrea Hunt said. "I feel like it's something you have to be a part of before you leave. Everyone knows about it."

Senior Katie Bechtel agrees.

"Signing the rock has been a goal for me," she said. "I've always seen people gathering around here, camping out."

UAB and participating students agree that commencement week activities serve as a good ending to such an important part of their lives.

"This graduation is definitely going to be more emotional than high school graduation," Bechtel said. "I grew up here."

Senior Theresa Hamilton added, "I think events like this bring unity to our really big school."



Many students sign the rock as their final farewell to MSU. The signing of the rock was put on by UAB and they handed out green sharpies to students so they could sign their names.

Seniors Sarah Sparks, Michelle Zalupski and Lisa Frentz sign the rock. Signing the rock has been on their bucket list of things to do before they graduate.



Senior human biology major Patrick Atisha signs the rock during his final days at MSU. He was passing by after he just took a Zoology 409 exam and decided to make his mark on the rock.

Seniors Cierra Crawford, Falasha Dawkins, Shantell Cleveland and Joi Nevils pose with Sparty. It was their first picture with Sparty and they wanted to make it one of their last memories at State.





Twenty-one men's and women's varsity sports teams contribute to Michigan State University's outstanding athletic talent.

Fiercely competitive on and off the field, MSU's athletes are yet another component of excellence contributing to the composition of our campus.

Competing and winning in several nationally recognized events and championships, MSU varsity athletes truly demonstrate what it means to have the heart of a Spartan.

These are the varsity athletes, dedicated students, and friends that instill our sense of camaraderie, provoke school spirit and protect the Spartan honor shared by all members of this campus community. ■

varsity sports

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The MSU baseball team anxiously watches from their dugout during a home game. The teams played over fifty games during their four-month season.

ROSTER

Name	Class
A.J. Achter	Junior
Eli Boike	Senior
Torsten Boss	Freshman
Tony Bucciferro	Sophomore
Andrew Carpenter	Freshman
Kyle Corcoran	Senior
Stephen Doty	Junior
Brandon Eckerle	Junior
Bo Felt	Senior
Michael Ferry	Sophomore
Kurtis Frymier	Senior
Jeff Holm	Junior
Jared Hook	Freshman
Cody Huge	Freshman
Andy Johnson	Sophomore
Ryan Jones	Freshman
Jordan Keur	Freshman
Ryan Martin	Freshman
John Martinez	Freshman
Trey Popp	Sophomore
Andrew Rademacher	Freshman
Chase Rihtarchik	Freshman
Chris Roberts	Senior
Taylor Robson	Sophomore
Jonathan Roof	Junior
Tim Simpson	Junior
Ben Vrobel	Senior
Andrew Waszak	Freshman
Andrew Webb	Sophomore
Tony Weiber	Freshman
Seth Williams	Junior
Kurt Wunderlich	Junior
Joe Zwierzynski	Freshman



VS

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Iowa	L, 5-3
Iowa	W, 16-2
Iowa	W, 26-11
Minnesota	W, 5-3
Minnesota	W, 12-5
Minnesota	L, 6-3
Ohio State	L, 10-1
Ohio State	L, 4-3
Ohio State	W, 14-7
Illinois	L, 4-3
Illinois	W, 10-2
Illinois	W, 16-1
Penn State	L, 18-7
Penn State	L, 22-5
Penn State	L, 9-1
Purdue	L, 8-5
Purdue	L, 6-5
Purdue	W, 5-4
Michigan	W, 13-10
Indiana	W, 9-8
Indiana	W, 10-4
Indiana	L, 10-7
Northwestern	L, 2-1
Northwestern	W, 2-1
Northwestern	L, 8-6

Senior outfielder Bo Felt waits on deck for his turn to bat. The rest of the baseball team cheered from the dugout in support of teammates.



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several fans
from the
home game,
over fifty
their four
month season.



Junior pitcher A.J. Achter throws at an MSU home game. The Spartans ended the season with a 11-13 Big Ten record.

Junior Jonathon Roof turns over a double play at second base versus Ohio State. MSU home games are played at the newly renovated McLane Baseball Stadium.



After finishing last season 23-31, the Spartan baseball team was determined to finish this season better. Finishing above .500 was a goal, but when they finished the year 34-19, it exceeded all expectations.

The Spartans opened up the season with a 8-6 win over Furman, and then proceeded to win five out the next nine games before going on an 11-game win streak. Their 17-4 record to open up the season was the Spartans best start to a season since 1992. During the win streak, the team collected series sweeps against Notre Dame and Oakland.

"We played well defensively and got some good pitching along with timely hits," Head Coach Jake Boss Jr. said about his teams good start.

Finally, after 11 games, the Spartans saw their winning streak come to an end when it opened up Big Ten conference play against Iowa. They did, however, come back to win the series, winning the rubber game 26-11. Junior centerfielder Brandon Eckerle tied the Big Ten single-game hits record with six in the victory.

"It felt good," Eckerle said of the record. "Today was on of those days where no matter where the ball was, I felt like I was going to get a hit."

Another highlight of the season for the Spartans was their fourth-annual Crosstown Showdown against the Lansing Lugnugs at Cooley Law Stadium. Last year the Spartans earned a victory over the Lugnugs in the exhibition match, but this year they lost 5-4.

"It's a fun event for everyone involved from the players to the fans," Boss said. "It's a great atmosphere and our guys had a good time playing."

After the Lugnugs, the Spartans struggled to find consistency and played their way to an 11-13 overall record in the Big Ten.

Although the team failed to reach the Big Ten tournament, their 34 wins was the fifth most in program history.

HIGH FIVE

Spartans finish with fifth best record in program history

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Vicari Vollmar

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Jessica Halfyard

THE ROAD TO INDY, PAVED IN GREEN

Coach Tom Izzo leads Spartan basketball team to sixth Final Four Tournament

Expectations were high after playing in the National Championship only 113 miles away from their home stadium, and the Spartans knew what had to be done coming into a new season.

Coach Tom Izzo was not shy about his goals for the team. They would make it to Indianapolis.

The team started the season with a six game winning streak, only then falling to Florida in the Legends Classic Tournament. The team continued with the regular season, ending with only five losses, only two of which were Big Ten competitions.

Next, the Spartans headed to the Big Ten tournament, where they were defeated in overtime by Minnesota in the first round.

Izzo's team then received a NCAA bid to the five-seed team in the tournament. This was the 13th year in a row that Izzo's team has gotten a tournament bid. The Spartans were matched up against 12th seed New Mexico State.

"If we're a sleeper this year that's good, at least in somebody's mind," coach Izzo said. "I'm just crazy enough to think that we can do something in March."

Izzo's determination and drive to succeed was reflected in every one of his players' attitudes.

"We have something to prove," junior Kalin Lucas said. "A lot of people don't think we were a Final Four team last year."

The Spartans went on to beat New Mexico State 70-67. Their next match up was 4th seed Maryland, in a game that would send one team to the Sweet Sixteen and one team home.

Although the Spartans were able to prove themselves against Maryland with a win of 85-83, the game was not a cakewalk. During the first half of the game, key player Kalin Lucas ruptured his left Achilles tendon, ending his season earlier than planned. Without one of their teammates, the Spartans had to make up some ground. Down by one with six seconds left in the game, sophomore Korie Lucious made a three-pointer at the buzzer, sending the Spartans back to the Sweet Sixteen.

Not everyone expected the Spartans to make it that far in the tournament, after the mediocre regular season that kept them under the radar, only to come back out just in time for the tournament.

"We didn't forget who we were," junior Durrell Summers said. "We didn't forget how we play our style

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ROSTER

Name	Class
Kalin Lucas	Junior
Raymar Morgan	Senior
Chris Allen	Junior
Delvon Roe	Sophomore
Austin Thornton	Sophomore
Durrell Summers	Junior
Mike Kebler	Junior
Isaiah Dahlman	Senior
Draymond Green	Sophomore
Jon Crandell	Senior
Korie Lucious	Sophomore
Tom Herzog	Junior
Garrick Sherman	Freshman
Derrick Nix	Freshman

Junior Chris Allen celebrates during a 60-53 win versus Minnesota. During the season, Allen shot a career-best 39.8 percent from 3-point range.





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Junior Durrell Summers shoots a free throw during a game versus Northwestern. During the game, Summers posted his second-straight double-double with 24 points and 10 rebounds.

VS

of basketball. I think we just had to get together and get closer as a team and realize we can come up from this. Things happen throughout the season. Once we got to tournament time, we said we'd have a fresh start."

In the next round, the Spartans were paired with the Northern Iowa Panthers to battle it out for a spot in the Elite Eight. Once again, the Spartans prevailed with a 59-52 win and a ticket to the next round.

"The regional championship. It feels great to be back. We still got bigger dreams, but you gotta take it one game at a time," sophomore Draymond Green said. "It feels great being back to the Elite Eight."

The Elite Eight match-up proved to be a close one, with five-seed Michigan State matched up to six-seed Tennessee. With another buzzer-beating shot from Raymar Morgan, the Spartans beat the Titans 70-69 and earned their spot

in the Final Four. Just as promised, they were headed to Indianapolis.

"I'm proud of these guys. I mean I just can't tell you what we've been through with all the injuries," Izzo said in a post-game press conference. "There's nothing greater than going to a Final Four that I know of, except maybe winning it."

Inside the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis the Spartans Final Four match up proved to be a tough one as the Butler Bulldogs were only playing six miles from their home stadium. Unfortunately for Izzo's team, the tournament injuries finally caught up and the Spartans fell to the Bulldogs, once again in the final seconds of the game, only losing by two points.

For a team that said they were going to make it to Indianapolis, even when their toughest critics said they wouldn't even receive a tournament bid, the Spartans proved the tradition of Michigan State basketball. Again.

Detroit native Derrick Nix shoots during a game versus Minnesota. The freshman earned 44 percent of his rebounds on offense during the season.



SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Stanford	W, 3-2
Syracuse	L, 3-1
Boston University	W, 2-0
New Hampshire	W, 6-1
Miami (OH)	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

Freshman Derrick Nix and sophomore Draymond Green celebrate after a dunk by Green. Green led the Spartans in both rebounding and steals during the season.





Dedicated Izzone members and Spartan Basketball fans cheer on their home team. The Izzone is more than 3,000 strong, one of the largest student sections in the country.

Sophomore guard Korie Lucious passes through defenders to freshman teammate Garrick Sherman during an MSU win versus Northwestern.

Tom Izzo contests an official's call during an MSU home game. Izzo led the Spartans to their sixth Regional Championship since he has been head coach.



Senior Ally...
congratulate...
breaking the...
record. Det...
her four ye...



Freshman gua...
the basket. M...

Senior center...
over three P...
went four for...
against the B...

Text: Colby Berthume

Photo: Elise Lefere

Design: Vicari Vollmar

Senior Allyssa DeHaan is congratulated by her teammates after breaking the all time NCAA blocks record. DeHaan had 503 blocks in her four years as a Spartan.



PLAY TIME

Key play leads women to above average record

Last year's surprising run to the Sweet Sixteen for the women's basketball team did nothing less than raise expectations for this year.

"We know it's a long way to go, but the coaches are confident the players bought into it this year, so we expect to go far," Julie Dombroski, director of operations, said at the end of last year.

For the first time in 10 years, the Spartans dropped their season opener in a 77-74 loss to Dayton. The women did however set some milestones in the opening loss. Sophomore Courtney Schiffauer tied her career high with 21 points while senior Allyssa DeHaan, with six blocked shots, moved into seventh place on the all-time NCAA Division I blocked shots list with 408.

After the loss to Dayton, the Spartans reeled off a 4-1 record that included a thrilling 93-90 victory over Oklahoma State in double overtime. The team reached number 25 in the rankings after their five-game stretch, but took a blow when the team lost Schiffauer for the year after a knee injury suffered during practice.

Before the Spartans began Big Ten play, they faced fourth-ranked North Carolina in the Big Ten/ACC challenge. DeHaan scored 14 points in the second half to help the team take down the Tar Heels in a 72-66 victory.

"Certainly it was a big win," Suzy Merchant, head coach, said. "They are a very very good basketball team with a storied program."

The Spartans then reeled off a 6-2 record as they began Big Ten play. DeHaan provided consistently at the center position, but they were hampered by turnover problems. Merchant said that the quality teams they faced during the opening of the season helped the team overcome the turnover problems.

>>Continued on pg. 269



Freshman guard Jasmine Thomas drives to the basket. MSU beat Penn State 65-44.

Senior center Allyssa DeHaan shoots over three Purdue players. DeHaan went four for seven in field goals against the Boilermakers.

Junior Kalisha Keane goes up for a shot over Purdue's Samantha Woods. Keane had four points in the Spartan's 72-54 victory over Purdue.

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Wayne State	W, 79-47
Grand Valley State	W, 88-53
Dayton	L, 77-74
Detroit	W, 71-62
Notre Dame	L, 68-67
Western Michigan	W, 74-51
George Washington	W, 78-47
Oklahoma State	W, 93-90
North Carolina	W, 72-66
Indiana	L, 68-63
Xavier	W, 66-53
Florida Gulf Coast	W, 94-71
Washington	W, 69-52
St. Bonaventure	W, 67-59
Wisconsin	L, 62-54
Michigan	W, 86-71
Indiana	W, 53-44
Ohio State	L, 65-62
Wisconsin	L, 48-45
Penn State	L, 68-60
Purdue	W, 72-54
Minnesota	W, 66-57
Northwestern	W, 56-52
Penn State	W, 65-44
Iowa	L, 77-66
Michigan	W, 50-45
Northwestern	W, 68-55
Illinois	W, 64-43
Ohio State	W, 71-68
Purdue	W, 79-64
Minnesota	W, 70-50
Michigan	W, 61-50
Iowa	L, 59-54
Bowling Green	W, 72-62
Kentucky	L, 70-52



The team gathers for pre-game festivities before matching up against Purdue. The Spartans beat the Boilermakers 72-54 at the Breslin Center on Jan. 21.

Sophomore guard Porschè Poole inbounds the ball to senior Aisha Jefferson against Purdue. The game ended in a Spartan victory.



VS

After some ups and downs, the team finished the regular season with a six-game winning streak, including wins over Michigan and Ohio State and an overall record of 21-7. The women lost in the second round of the Big Ten tournament to Iowa.

During the season, the Spartans were led in scoring by DeHaan, who averaged 10.6 points per game. She also set the NCAA career record for blocks and finished the season with 101 blocks.

"The whole team was behind her," Merchant said. "It's such an honor. It's something she's really earned and worked hard for."

The team's regular season performance earned them a fifth seed in the NCAA tournament. It was the team's seventh appearance in eight years. They surged past Bowling Green in the first round with a 72-62 victory but were overmatched by Kentucky's speed in the second round and lost 70-52 to end their season.



Junior forward Cetera Washington and Senior forward Aisha Jefferson shake hands with fans after the game against Northwestern. The win on Feb. 14 marked the 13th straight victory over the Wildcats.



Junior guard Brittney Thomas drives to the basket against Northwestern. The Spartans defeated Northwestern 56-52.

ROSTER

Name	Class
Lauren Aitch	Senior
Taylor Alton	Sophomore
Allyssa DeHaan	Senior
Jasmine Holmes	Senior
Aisha Jefferson	Senior
Lykendra Johnson	Sophomore
Kalisha Keane	Junior
Tracy Nogle	Freshman
Mandy Piechowski	Senior
Porsche Poole	Sophomore
Courtney Schiffauer	Sophomore
Kelsey Smith	Freshman
Brittney Thomas	Junior
Jasmine Thomas	Freshman
Cetera Washington	Junior
Taja Wilson	Sophomore

TRY TO RUN AROUND THE CORNER

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Lauren Wood
Design: Brendan Prost

Men's cross country team continues improving the direction of their program

Last season, the men's cross country team placed sixth at the Big Ten Conference and was paced by junior Spencer Beatty, their top finisher in three of their meets. This season was meant to be the one the men finally turned the corner, but unfortunately, the team failed to deliver any championships. They did, however, continue to move in a positive direction.

"We had some good fifth-year seniors," coach Kim McGreevy said, "but we also had a lot of good young depth."

Sienna Heights transfer Alex Rousseau started the season out strong for the Spartans with a victory at the Jeff Drenth Memorial, hosted by Central Michigan in Mt. Pleasant. The junior won the race by six seconds with a time of 15:34.8 beating Spartan freshman Ben Miller.

The outcome of the race proved that the team's youngest athletes would be highly influential to the team.

"The freshmen showed they can come in and immediately help out," Walt Drenth, director of track and field/cross country, said. "It will give us great depth throughout the season."

Following the Jeff Drenth Memorial, the team continued to grow when they hosted the annual Spartan Invitational at Forest Akers East. Senior Patrick Grosskopf led the team with a time of 24:53 and a fourth overall finish. Beatty finished sixth overall with a time of 25:03, and Rousseau, in his second race ever for the Spartans, finished eight overall with a time of 25:05.

"Since I've been here, this was the biggest team effort we've had at the Spartan Invitational," Beatty said.

After the Spartan Invitational, the Spartans placed sixth and seventh at the Griak Invitational and the Michigan Intercollegiate. Then the men had a setback with a 21st place finish at the Pre-Nationals. Continuing to grow throughout the season, the men finished second at the NCAA Great Lake Regional qualified for the NCAA championships for the first time since 2006.

The men traveled to Indiana State University looking for a top 10 finish but instead came back with a 31st place finish. Sophomore Isaiah VanDoorne led the team finishing 108th overall with a time of 31:17. Although the team finished in a disappointing 31st place, the team ended the season with much to work on for future seasons.

"It was a good learning experience for the guys. We have everyone from our top-seven back next year, except for Max [Goldak]," Drenth said. "From an overall standpoint, I think we learned quite a bit. With a young group and the progress we made this fall, especially towards the end, it is a really good stepping stone for us next year."





Varsity Sports: Men's Cross Country

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Jeff Drenth Memorial	NTS
Spartan Invitational	NTS
Griak Invitational	Sixth
Michigan Intercollegiates	Seventh
Pre-Nationals	21st
EMU Open	NTS
Big Ten Championships	Eighth
NCAA Great Lakes Regionals	Second
NCAA Championships	31st

ROSTER

Name	Class
Sam Aklilu	Freshman
Joe Banyai	Sophomore
Spencer Beatty	Junior
Travis Borchard	Freshman
Ian Boyle	Senior
Brett Burdick	Freshman
Joe Dimambro	Junior
Shaka Dukes	Freshman
Max Goldak	Senior
Patrick Grosskopf	Junior
Brian Hankins	Sophomore
Brandon Hoffman	Freshman
Stephen Humes	Junior
Jon Hurrell	Freshman
Mike Katsefaras	Sophomore
Shane Knoll	Senior
Kenny Laskowski	Freshman
Dan Lewis	Senior
Josh McAlary	Sophomore
Ben Miller	Freshman
Alex Russeau	Junior
Aaron Simoneau	Junior
Alex Toloff	Freshman
Isaiah VanDoorne	Sophomore
Stephen Walker	Freshman
Aaron Winter	Sophomore
Kevin Yarnell	Freshman

VS

Juniors Stephen Humes and Aaron Simoneau run with the pack near the one-mile mark of the men's 8K race. The men's cross country race had over 200 runners from schools of all sizes.

ROSTER

Name	Class
Tiffany Abrahamian	Sophomore
Dana Al-Nasrallah	Sophomore
Olivia Allen	Freshman
Lauren Calhoun	Sophomore
Ashley Casavant	Senior
Megan Creutz	Sophomore
Shannon Cruz	Freshman
Adellie Drillock	Freshman
Liana Eckert	Freshman
Leah Elenbaas	Senior
Klare Essad	Freshman
Tiffany Evans	Junior
Amanda Field	Freshman
Meggan Freeland	Freshman
Carlie Green	Junior
Jackie Gross	Senior
Katie Haines	Sophomore
Diane Hamilton	Senior
Jennifer Hamilton	Senior
Allie Hock	Freshman
Jordan Huegli	Freshman
Thereseann Huprikar	Senior
Emily Langenberg	Junior
Emily MacLeod	Junior
Laura Malnor	Senior
Becky McCormack	Junior
Taylor McCurdy	Junior
Rachel McFarlane	Sophomore
Kelsey Meyers	Junior
Sloan Secord	Sophomore
Rebekah Smeltzer	Sophomore
Kristen Smith	Freshman
Olivia Sydow	Freshman
Elizabeth Watson	Junior
Veronica Wilson	Freshman
Paige Winne	Freshman
Jennifer Yee	Junior

Junior Emily Langenberg takes the first step out of the shoot after the gun is fired at the Spartan Invitational, the team's only home meet. Langenberg kept a 5:57-a-mile pace throughout the race, finishing 13th overall.

Junior Carlie Green leads a pack of runners near the end of the women's cross country 6K race. Green placed second on the team, and fourth overall at the fall Spartan Invitational.



Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Lauren Wood
Design: Jessica Halfyard

RUNNING PAST EXPECTATIONS

Women's cross country finishes better than expected with young team

Coming off an 11th place finish at the NCAA tournament and four top 10 finishes in 2008, the women's cross country team had a lot to live up to. The team also had to replace Big Ten cross country Athlete of the Year: Nicole Bush. In spite of this, the team still found a way to record five top 10 finishes.

"Nicole was irreplaceable," coach Kim McGreevy said, "but we have a really great group of young runners that should help us out."

The team began the season at the Jeff Drenth Memorial in Mt. Pleasant. Freshman Kristen Smith placed second with a time of 19:02.1 to lead the women's team in the race.

"We held out our top nine runners, so it was an opportunity to see how our underclassmen performed," director of track and field/cross country Walt Drenth said.

Following the Jeff Drenth Memorial, the Spartans came home to host their only event, the Spartan Invitational at Forest Park East. The previous year the Spartans had seven of their runners finish in the top 10, and they looked to return with another impressive finish. In the 2009 Spartan Invitational, the ladies felt the effects of losing some strong seniors from the year before but still placed three runners in the top 10.

"Our team did pretty well," Green said. "The depth of our team gave us a real advantage to run together."

Following the Spartan Invitational, the team placed third at the Griak Invitational. The ladies followed up with a fifth place finish at the Michigan Intercollegiate Invitational.

The team then traveled to Indiana State University for Pre-Nationals. Senior Emily Macleod led the Spartans to a 10th place team finish by finishing 11th with a time of 20:47.2. Junior Carlie Green finished 42nd overall with a time of 21:40.9, and sophomore Tiffany Abrahamian finished 68th overall with a time of 21:50.9.

The Ladies closed the season out with a fourth place finish at the Big Ten Championship and a fifth place finish at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional before finishing 26th at the NCAA Championships. It was the ladies' 11th straight trip to the NCAA's and 18th overall. They were led by Macleod, who narrowly missed All-American honors with her team leading 42nd place finish with a time of 20:57.

"We exceeded our seeding, and 26th is good progress," Drenth said. "We have everyone in the top five coming back. I feel like we can make some pretty good progress next year."

SV

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Spartan Invitational	NTS
Griak Invitational	Third
Michigan Intercollegiate	Fifth
Pre-Nationals	10th
EMU Open	NTS
Big Ten Championships	Fourth
NCAA Great Lakes Regionals	Fifth
NCAA Championships	26th

Sophomore Rebekah Smeltzer runs with a pack of others competing in September's Spartan Cross Country Invitational. The event had over 170 participants from schools around the Mid-West.



IN-STATE PRIDE

Football team goes .500 but defines season with win over Michigan

After a 9-4 season in 2008, and a prestigious bowl game on Jan. 1, the Spartan football program seemed like it had all the making to take it to the next level in 2009.

Except for the fact that they had to replace 1,688 yards of rushing from Javon Ringer and solid quarterback play from Brian Hoyer, both who departed for the NFL.

The Spartans looked to replace Ringer with several running backs, while they relied mainly on sophomore Kirk Cousins to replace Hoyer. And in Cousins' first start against Montana State, he led the team to a 44-3 victory with 183 yards passing and three touchdowns.

"It was a dream come true and a great opportunity," Cousins said of his first start.

A rough patch followed their opening win, and the Spartans lost three heartbreakers to Central Michigan, Notre Dame, and Wisconsin.

With a 1-3 record, the team found themselves with one last chance to save their season when they faced in-state rival Michigan. And that's exactly what they did. All it took was for freshman running back Larry Capper to run for a 23-yard touchdown in

>>Continued on pg. 277



Alissa Lane

The Spartan football team lines up on the field in preparation for the game. The National Anthem is played before each sporting event.

Sophomore quarterback Kirk Cousins throws the football down the field during the night game against Iowa. The night game was only one of eight night home games ever held.

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Staff
Design: Jessica Halfyard



VS



Lauren Wood

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

Freshman Edwin Baker rushes the ball down the field, trying to avoid the four Western Michigan opponents. For rushing, Baker had a total of 80-yard gains throughout the game.



Alissa Lane



Sophomore running back Ashton Leggett runs with the ball to score a touchdown against Western Michigan University. Leggett's touchdown helped lead to the Spartans' win, 49-14.

Sophomore Keshawn Martin scores a touchdown late in the fourth quarter of MSU's final home game. Martin led the team with all-purpose yards, totaling 1,451 for the season.



Mason Robinson



Lauren Wood

overtime amid a steady rain, and the Spartans suddenly found themselves owning a two-game winning streak against Michigan for the first time since 1967.

"We did something that hasn't been done in 42 years," head coach Mark Dantonio said. "That's amazing. But facts are facts. This game has a way of defining you."

The win propelled the team to two more victories over Illinois and Northwestern to get to 4-3 for the season. They finished Big Ten play by going 1-3. The team also won a non-conference game against Western Michigan.

Cousins led the team with 2,680 passing yards and finished the season with 19 touchdowns and a 60.4 completion percentage. The offense was led by the running back tandem of Caper and freshman Edwin Baker, who combined for 895 yards and 7 touchdowns, and

senior wide receiver Blair White, who recorded nine touchdowns and 990 yards receiving.

The 2009 Big Ten Defensive Player of The Year Greg Jones led the defense with 154 tackles, 62 more tackles than any other player on the team.

After finishing the season with a 6-6 record, the Spartans earned a birth to play Texas Tech in the Alamo Bowl on Jan. 2. The team took a 28-27 lead into halftime, but failed to make a stop in the final minutes and lost 41-31.

"In some ways you can look [at the season] and say that we are right there, but in other cases we are much farther away," said Dantonio about the status of his football team. "When you take in the fact that this is our third straight bowl game you can say that we are having some success, and that is something you can build on."



Alissa Lane

Senior Brandon Denson takes hold of a Northwestern ball carrier. Denson finished the game with a total of ten tackles.

Senior Blair White takes a moment to celebrate after one of his two touchdowns against Northwestern. This helped lead the Spartans to their 24-14 victory over the Wildcats.



Alissa Lane

VS

VS

Sophomore Chris Mory winds back for a chip on the first day of the Fossum Invitational. The Spartans hosted the tournament at Forest Akers West Golf Course.

Sophomore Jimmy Dewling scopes out the green before making his put. Dewling placed 22nd at the Fossum Invitational hosted by MSU.



ROSTER

Name	Class
Jimmy Dewling	Sophomore
Dan Ellis	Sophomore
Dave Ellis	Sophomore
Andrew Ladwig	Senior
Will Morris	Freshman
Chris Mory	Sophomore
Matthew Moseley	Freshman
Chenai Mushiri	Freshman
Jack Newman	Senior
James Ross	Freshman
Derrick Williams	Junior

Freshman Will Morris drives a shot down the green at the Fossum Invitational. Morris was one of few players with family members cheering him on during the tournament.





Freshman James Ross tees off at the ninth hole. During the first day of the Fossum Invitational, Ross tied for 10th place.

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Topy Cup	7th
Spartan Classic	3rd
Rees Jones Intercollegiate	4th
Firestone Intercollegiate	3rd
Bridgestone Intercollegiate	8th
Ohio State	L, 5-1
Wisconsin	L, 4-2
Wisconsin	W, 4.5-1.5
Pinehurst Intercollegiate	7th
Jacksonville University	L, 308-311
River Landing Intercollegiate	8th
Western Intercollegiate	10th
Fossum Invitational	1st
Big Ten Championship	7th

DIFFERENT STROKES

Men's golf team begins successful season in a foreign country

The men's golf team opened up their season just a little bit different this year. Instead of teeing off in the States, the team went international, all the way to Japan for the 2009 Topy Cup.

The Spartans came away from the tournament, which featured four American schools, with a seventh-place finish. They were led by a 16th place showing from freshman James Ross.

Following the Topy Cup, the Spartans returned home to host the Spartan Classic. In the second-annual tournament, the team finished third out of 13 teams. Continuing to South Carolina, where they hosted the Rees Jones Tournament, Ross again led the team, posting three over par to finish ninth.

Two losses to Ohio St. and Wisconsin opened up match play for the Spartans before they earned a 4.5-1.5 victory over Wisconsin.

With match play wrapped up, the men continued the season with tournaments. Their best finish came out at the Fossum Invitational, a tournament hosted at Forest Akers West. A 15-over-par finish for the team earned them a first place tie with Ferris State University. Senior Jack Newman finished second overall with six under par.

The team followed up the Fossum Invitational by posting a seventh place finish at the Big Ten Tournament, the last team tournament of the year. Jack Newman finished as the top Spartan with a tie for 24th. Newman was also the only player to make it to regional play.

In the NCAA Notre Dame Regional, Neman narrowly missed a chance to play in the NCAA Championship, taking an 11th place finish.

"We did some things this year that should help the younger guys improve in the future," Newman said. "I'm proud with everything that happened."

VS



SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Spartan Classic	NTS
Mary Fossum Invitational	2nd
Mary Fossum Invitational	1st
Lady Northern Invitational	2nd
Lady Northern Invitational	2nd
Tar Heel Invitational	1st
Tar Heel Invitational	1st
Tar Heel Invitational	1st
NCAA Preview	8th
NCAA Preview	11th
NCAA Preview	10th
Regional Challenge	7th
Regional Challenge	11th
Regional Challenge	13th
Central District Invitational	10th
Central District Invitational	4th
Liz Murphey Invitational	6th
Liz Murphey Invitational	7th
Gator Invitational	2nd
Gator Invitational	NTS
Lady Buckeye Invitational	3rd
Lady Buckeye Invitational	2nd
Big Ten Championship	2nd
Big Ten Championship	3rd
Big Ten Championship	2nd
NCAA Regionals	10th
NCAA Regionals	8th
NCAA Regionals	10th

Sophomore Lindsey Solberg prepares to putt during the Mary Fossum Invitational. Solberg finished in a tie for third in the tournament, shooting a three-round total of 216.



Varsity Sports: Women's Golf

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Vicari Vollmar

Junior Michelle Bowles putts with teammates during the Mary Fossum Invitational. Bowles is the first women's golfer to hail from Mexico, her hometown being Queretaro.

Sophomore Shannon Warner lines up a putt at the Mary Fossum Invitational. MSU won the tournament by three strokes.



ROSTER

Name	Class
Michelle Bowles	Junior
Natalie Brehm	Junior
Ashley Dewling	Senior
Jen Domagalski	Senior
Laura Kueny	Senior
Maddi Massa	Sophomore
Liz Nagel	Freshman
Aimee Neff	Junior
Sarah Nirenberg	Junior
Caroline Powers	Freshman
Lindsey Solberg	Sophomore
Shannon Warner	Sophomore

ON PAR

Women's golf team completes excellent season despite a two-stroke deficit for the championship

Two strokes was all it took to end the Lady Spartans golf season. But before the team failed to qualify for the NCAA Championship, they completed a memorable season filled with ups and downs.

The team kicked off the season, ranked 20th in the nation, by competing in the 26th annual Mary Fossum Invitational held at their home course of Forest Akers West. For the fifth straight year the women won the tournament. Seventh-ranked Purdue finished in second, three strokes behind the Spartans.

"The Mary Fossum Invitational is such a special event for us," Head Coach Stacey Slobodnik-Stoll said. "Not only is it our only home event of the year, but we also get to showcase Mary Fossum, who is a very special part of the Spartan family, along with showcasing our home course of Forest Akers West."

After their victory in East Lansing, the women took their game on the road. They tied for second at the Lady Northern Invitational before winning the Tar Heel Invitational by 12 strokes. Senior Laura Kueny led the Spartans, tying for second with a career best score of 212 (69-72-71). The Spartans were also aided by a top 10 finish from sophomore Shannon Warner.

"Beside the Big Ten Tournament, this is the biggest tournament win since I've been coaching here," said Slobodnik-Stoll of her team's school-record 54-hole score of 880 (four under par) victory. "We beat teams we've never beaten before, and they are consistently the top teams in the country."

A rough patch followed after the impressive victory at the Tar Heel Invitational. The team finished 10th at the NCAA Preview and finished 13th at the Regional Challenge. Kueny, who finished seventh at the Regional Challenge, was the only Spartan to finish in the top 10.

The highest the team would finish the rest of the season was second, doing so at the Lady Buckeye Tournament and the Big Ten Championship.

In an individual honor for the Spartans, Kueny was named the Big Ten Women's Golfer of the Year.

And then came time for those two strokes. The Spartans finished in 10th place at the NCAA Central Regional, just two strokes back of eighth-place Kent State. The top eight teams earn a place in the NCAA Championships.

It may be cliché, but collegiate sports teams rely on their seniors for leadership and their experience in competition. Nowhere else is this impact as important than on the MSU Women's Gymnastics Team, who have reaped the benefits of a historic senior class.

"This is probably our strongest senior class we've ever had here," Coach Kathie Klages said, with 20 years of experience under her belt.

The senior class is made up of Emily Lopatofsky, Kelly Moffitt, Nicole Curler and Rochelle Robinson. Two seniors, Curler and Robinson, stand out especially from the seniors, not just on the gymnastics team but from the entire MSU athletic community.

"Those two girls are the first two athletes in history at MSU to make [one of] the All-Big Ten Teams all four years," said Klages. "That tells you the kind of athlete they are." Curler has been on the First Team three times, Robinson twice. No basketball, football or hockey player can match the pair's accomplishments.

In addition to their personal achievements, the seniors have really helped to steer the MSU gymnastics team in the right direction. In the 38-year history of the program, the girls had only made it to 13 regional meets before these seniors arrived. The team has made regionals four times the last four years.

Last year, the girls finished sixth at the Big Ten Championships but fourth at the NCAA regionals, very close to making nationals, which requires a top two finish. However, even though the girls wanted to pick up where they left off, they still needed to make improvements in their consistency of hitting routines without falls.

"The year before we only had two meets where we didn't count a fall, and this year we only had two or three meets when we did count a fall, and that's a difference of about nine meets," Coach Klages said. In a sport where scores become lopsided by something as small as a half point deficit, precision is key, and errors are huge.

"A fall is worth five-tenths off your score, and that's huge in college," junior Kelsey Morley said, who made the All-Big Ten Second Team. "We're scored on quarter-tenths and half tenths."

So how did the team crack down on falls? It took a more focused practice effort instituted by the coaching staff.

"You go about it by practicing pressure type of situations in the practice arena," Klages said. "Even though we had done that the year before and we were very successful in the gym, we couldn't take it out on the competition floor, so we had to do a lot of talking to convince these athletes that if they could do it in the gym, they were able to do it on the competition floor."

For the most part, the psychological effect worked, as the Spartans enjoyed a prominent season. The team posted their highest team score, a 195.950 against UCLA, as well as jumping up two places in the Big Ten Championship to 4th place, as well as a 6th place finish at regionals. Robinson performed a noteworthy vault routine against Iowa and scored a nearly perfect 9.95. Even though the team didn't make it to nationals, Curler moved on individually to the NCAA Finals in Gainesville, Fla.

Klages believes that the focus and discipline to perform more consistently more often came from the usual suspects: the senior class.

"I think the senior class had a lot to do with it in the sense that they are such strong leaders and they emit so much confidence in their performances," Klages said. "They really helped to set the tone for the season."

They also set the tone for the future, and as they head out, they hope that they have instilled in the incoming gymnasts what is expected of them. That, and it looks like their history-making tenure here has really inspired the next generation to follow in their footsteps.

"Really what we did was went out there and did it for the seniors for how much they contributed to this program for all four years," freshman Shanthi Teike said of their improved Big Ten finish. "They have been absolute leaders, and if it wasn't for them, we wouldn't have gotten this far."

SENIOR MOMENTS

MSU Gymnastics team relies, looks up to senior class

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Green & White	NTS
Penn State	1st, 193.925
West Virginia	1st, 193.925
Western Michigan	1st, 193.925
Iowa	1st, 194.425
UIC	1st, 194.425
Michigan	L, 194.200-193.750
Minnesota	L, 195.350-193.350
Ohio State	W, 194.875-191.425
Eastern Michigan	2nd, 194.550
Central Michigan	2nd, 194.550
Western Michigan	2nd, 194.550
Illinois	L, 195.600-195.500
New Hampshire	W, 194.975-192.400
Oklahoma	L, 196.825-194.125
Cal State Fullerton	W, 194.850-191.250
UCLA	2nd, 195.950
Cal State Fullerton	2nd, 195.950
Pittsburgh	W, 194.975-193.575
Big Ten Championships	T-4th, 195.350
NCAA Regionals	6th, 194.475
NCAA Nationals-Indv.	NTS

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VS



Varsity Sports: Gymnastics

Text: Jacob Kanclerz
Photo: Elise Lefere
Design: Jessica Halfyard



Sophomore Jackie Berg flips on the beam. Berg received a 9.000 for her routine against Ohio State University.

Senior Nicole Curler performs a routine on the bars at the Jenison Field House at the Jan. 30 meet against Ohio State University. Curler won the bars competition with a 9.850.



ROSTER

Name	Class
Nicole Argiros	Junior
Jackie Berg	Sophomore
Alyssa Brennan	Sophomore
Elise Craig	Junior
Nicole Curler	Senior
Daneen Haba	Sophomore
Nicole Heikkila	Junior
Emily Lopatofsky	Senior
Kathryn Mahoney	Junior
Kelly Moffitt	Senior
Kelsey Morley	Junior
Taira Neal	Freshman
Rochelle Robinson	Senior
Selina Rodriguez	Sophomore
Shanthi Teike	Freshman

Junior Kelsey Morley flips on the beams. Morley received a 9.800 for her routine against Ohio State University.





ROSTER

Name	Class
Layne Averill	Freshman
Corey Block	Freshman
Molly Cassidy	Freshman
Chelsy Coil	Freshman
Camille Dagorn	Junior
Jeannie Deacon	Senior
Elizabeth Helffrich	Freshman
Kristen Henn	Freshman
Abbey Huck	Sophomore
Amanda Huck	Junior
Christie Jones	Freshman
Adelle Lever	Freshman
Jessica Lindner	Freshman
Angie Lucik	Sophomore
Julie Mackay	Junior
Meghan Magee	Junior
Chantae Miller	Sophomore
Angela Pagura	Junior
Floor Rijpma	Senior
Holly Sherman	Sophomore
Jantine Steinmetz	Junior
Elissa Unger	Senior
Joelle van Ierland	Junior
Manouk Vernij	Freshman

Senior midfielder Jamie Deacon hits the ball, passing it to a teammate up field in a game against the University of Michigan. The Spartans won 2-1, which lead to their Big Ten Conference regular season championship title.



Senior midfielder Floor Rijpma shoots on the Indiana goal in hopes of scoring, while junior Julie McKay looks on during the Big Ten tournament. Rijpma led the team with 13 points during the season, scoring 4 goals and four assists.

Freshman Adelle Lever attempts to score on the University of Michigan goal while sophomore Chantae Miller stands ready to assist. The Spartans beat the Wolverines, 2-1.



VS

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Central Michigan	W, 10-1
Delaware	W, 7-2
Duke	L, 3-2
American	W, 5-1
Ohio	W, 5-2
Old Dominion	W, 4-1
Syracuse	L, 2-1
James Madison	W, 4-1
Virginia	L, 3-0
Northwestern	W, 5-2
Maine	W, 2-1
Rutgers	W, 5-0
Louisville	W, 2-1
Indiana	W, 6-2
Central Michigan	W, 2-0
Iowa	W, 3-0
Ohio State	W, 2-1
Michigan	W, 2-1
Penn State	W, 5-1

CONTINUED EXCELLENCE

Spartans capture Big Ten Championship title in another successful year

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Lauren Wood
Design: Betsy Eber

Being a sport that might not get much attention, it would be easy for the women's field hockey team to just fall into oblivion. Instead, the Spartans contend for superiority every year in the Big Ten and continue serving as the definition of excellence as a field hockey program. This year was no different, with the Spartans playing to an 18-4 record while winning the Big Ten regular season and tournament championship.

The team began the season ranked eighth after advancing to the NCAA quarterfinals the previous year and returning four of its top five scorers and their top goalkeeper, senior Elissa Unger. Starting off the season with high expectations, the team finished their first eight games with a 5-3 record. The Spartans faced six teams ranked in the top 20 during their stretch and were aided with hat tricks in different games from players such as senior Floor Rijpma and freshman Manouk Vernij.

"[Vernij] is a great addition for us," head coach Rolf van de Kerkhof said. "She is a great player, and if she gets possession of the ball, she allows us to set up our attack."

After their third loss of the season to fifth ranked Virginia, the Spartans did nothing but win. They earned key wins against teams like Northwestern, 15th ranked Louisville, 15th ranked Ohio State and archrival Michigan to end the regular season with a 10-game win streak. Beating Michigan was extra sweet for the Spartans due to the fact that it cinched their first ever outright Big Ten Regular

Season Title. Seniors Jeamie Deacon and Rijpma both scored goals to give the Spartans a 2-1 victory.

"We are very happy to be Big Ten Regular Season Champions," said Kerkhof. "It's a fitting tribute to our players and the work that they've put in since the beginning of the season."

With the conclusion of the regular season, the Spartans looked to continue their dominance of the Big Ten in the Big Ten Tournament. The team easily won the tournament by beating Iowa 5-1 in the semifinal and Indiana 3-2 in the final. Unger was the tournament MVP.

After finding out they were to face Delaware in the first round of the NCAA tournament, it looked as if the Spartans had a good chance to advance to the final four. It continued to look that way after the first round with the Spartans beating Delaware 7-0. Unfortunately for the Spartans, their tournament ended abruptly when they lost a 3-2 heartbreaker in overtime to Virginia.

And even more unfortunately for the Spartans, they have to replace the offensive firepower of senior All-Americans Rijpma and Deacon.

"It's great to have two players represented in the All-American selections," said Kerkhof. "Both Floor and Jeamie have done an excellent job with our team helping to put our program in the top five nationally. They will be missed, but they can look back on great careers as members of the Spartan field hockey family."

VS

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Captain Nick Sucharski prepares for the faceoff in a match against the Ohio State Buckeyes on Jan. 23. The Spartans fell to the Buckeyes in a 4-2 loss.

Captain Nick Sucharski fights for the puck after a faceoff. Ohio State defeated the Spartans.



ROSTER

Name	Class
Tim Buttery	Sophomore
Dean Chelios	Freshman
Matt Crandell	Sophomore
Chris Forfar	Freshman
Dustin Gazely	Junior
Zach Goleblewski	Freshman
Derek Grant	Freshman
Matt Grassi	Freshman
Anthony Hayes	Freshman
Bobby Jarosz	Senior
Justin Johnston	Senior
Zach Josepher	Freshman
Torey Krug	Freshman
Daultan Leveille	Sophomore
Kyle McMahon	Sophomore
Mike Merrifield	Sophomore
Trevor Nill	Sophomore
Drew Palmisano	Sophomore
Brett Perlini	Sophomore
Jeff Petry	Junior
Andrew Rowe	Junior
Joey Shean	Junior
Brock Shelgren	Sophomore
Jay Sprague	Senior
AJ Sturges	Junior
Nick Sucharski	Senior
Corey Tropp	Junior
Kevin Walrod	Freshman

Defensive freshman Matt Grassi sends the puck up the ice. The match against the Ohio State Buckeyes on Jan. 22 led to a 5-2 win for the Spartans.





FORWARD PROGRESS

Hockey team shows much improvement after dismal season

Text: Jacob Kanclerz
Photo: Ellina Stein
Design: Betsy Eber

Winning a national championship in a Division I NCAA sport is a feat that only a select group of athletes can accomplish. As the ultimate end to a season, it sets the bar high, and anything less is a major disappointment.

That's why when the MSU Ice Hockey team went 10-23-5 in 2008-2009, it was the ultimate disappointment for a program that won the whole thing in 2007.

"There's a lot of pressure just being one of the big schools in the Big Ten to win games, win championships," sophomore Drew Palmisano, team's starting goalie, said.

The pressure added to the Spartans' collapse that season, especially with a young team that suffered a lot of injuries. Still, Coach Rick Comley introduced more new freshmen faces this year yielding different results. The Spartans reestablished some legitimacy and finished second in the CCHA with a 14-8-6 record and overall were 19-13-6.

"Our freshman class this year had five 21-year-olds, so it's actually a pretty old freshman class, which kind of helps

us move in and start playing right away," freshman forward Derek Grant said.

Grant, as well as some of the other guys, credited an important off-ice factor: team chemistry.

"The guys got along real well, we had a good locker room," Junior forward Corey Tropp said. "I think that showed on the ice, you know, guys cared about each other."

The team gained this confidence and trust in each other early on in the season, when MSU split two tough weekend series with perennial powerhouses Maine and Miami (OH). The Spartans continued their consistent play in November, the highlight including a weekend sweep of Michigan.

The Spartans had a good season series against the Wolverines, winning three of four in the regular season. Ironically, the team's season ended at the hands of the Wolverines in the CCHA playoffs, via a 2-0 best-of-three series loss. It was a disappointing way to finish despite being ranked in the upper reaches of the national polls all year long.

>>Continued on pg. 288

Although the team was disappointed with the outcome of the season, there were still notable personal and team achievements. Tropp excelled for the Spartans offensively, scoring 20 goals and adding 22 assists for 42 points. Grant and junior forward Andrew Rowe also hit double digits in goals. Junior Jeff Petry was the defensive leader on the blue line, and at season's end the NHL's Edmonton Oilers signed him.

One of the biggest stories was the Spartans' stellar goaltending thanks to new starter Palmisano, who took over for the legendary Jeff Lerg—a key factor in the 2007 National Championship. Palmisano started 31 games and maintained 2.44 goals-against average and a .917 save percentage.

The Spartans agree that taking the Great Lakes Invitational Tournament, an annual four-team tournament held at the Joe Louis Arena in Detroit, was the best moment of the year and a great stepping-stone for this class of players. The Spartans beat Michigan Tech in the semifinals 10-1, and went on to beat Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) 6-1, who had upset Michigan in the first round.

"Winning the GLI was [the best

moment of the year]. It's kind of our first championship we've won as a team," Grant said. The Spartans have won 12 GLI tournaments and have had four in the last decade, two more than the Wolverines.

In addition to the GLI, the team focuses on winning the "Big Four" every year, which includes the GLI, the CCHA league title, the CCHA playoffs and also the national championship. The Spartans have been to the top before, and the memory of the loss to Michigan and the continued development of the young core will only contribute to next year's goals, which includes winning it all.

"Playing against Michigan this year at the end left a sour taste in our mouths," Torey Krug, defensive player and freshman, said. "I think using that as fuel for the fire this summer in working to get better and to come together even more so as a team. Just using that as fuel will help us in the long run and really try to accomplish our goals next year."

With one goal down, it's no doubt that Coach Comley will have this hungry young group legitimately going after goals two, three and maybe even four next year. It's been done before.

Freshman forward Anthony Hayes prepares for a face off in the match on Oct. 30 against Western Michigan. The Spartans held the Broncos to one goal leading to a 2-1 win for Michigan State.



Varsity Sports: Ice Hockey

Forward sophomore Daultan Leveille heads for the goal in the Nov. 19 match against Notre Dame. The match was the seventh home game of the season and ended in a 1-1 tie against Notre Dame.

Defensive freshman Torey Krug carries the puck up the ice in a match against Ferris State. Michigan State beat Ferris State 3-2 at home on Feb. 20.



SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Western Ontario	W, 5-2
Clarkson	W, 6-1
Clarkson	W, 4-3
Maine	W, 5-3
Maine	L, 5-3
Miami (OH)	L, 2-1
Miami (OH)	W, 3-2
Western Michigan	W, 5-3
Nebraska-Omaha	W, 3-0
Nebraska-Omaha	T, 3-3
Michigan	W, 3-2
Michigan	W, 2-0
Notre Dame	T, 1-1
Notre Dame	L, 4-1
Wisconsin	L, 7-3
Minnesota	L, 2-1
Northern Michigan	W, 1-0
Northern Michigan	L, 3-2
Bowling Green	W, 3-2
Bowling Green	W, 4-1
Michigan Tech	W, 10-1
Rensselaer	W, 6-1
US NTDP U-18	W, 8-2
Lake Superior State	W, 4-2
Lake Superior State	T, 3-3
Notre Dame	L, 5-2
Notre Dame	T, 4-4
Ohio State	W, 5-2
Ohio State	L, 4-2
Michigan	W, 3-2
Michigan	L, 5-4
Alaska	L, 2-0
Alaska	T, 1-1
Ferris State	L, 4-1
Ferris State	W, 3-2
Bowling Green	W, 3-2
Bowling Green	T, 2-2
Michigan	W, 5-1
Michigan	L, 5-3

VS

[G]ROWING

Rowing team proves themselves against tough competition, finish second in Big Ten

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Michigan	NTS
Notre Dame	NTS
Wisconsin	NTS
Iowa	NTS
Ohio State	NTS
Indiana	NTS
Virginia	NTS
Michigan	W, 43-26
Notre Dame	W, 43-26
Cornell	NTS
Yale	NTS
Syracuse	NTS
Buffalo	NTS
Gonzaga	NTS
Indiana	W, 44-25
Ohio State	W, 36-31
Michigan	NTS
Southern Cal	NTS
Big Ten	2nd

Winning takes hard work, hard work takes dedication. For the women's rowing team, they wouldn't settle for less. In their pursuit of a National title the team put in the time to see the results.

"Through fall, winter training, and now the spring we have endured many physically and emotionally challenging practices," senior Victoria Woodard said. "I think I can speak for my team in saying we would not have wanted it any other way."

After a disappointing finish to last year's season, the team made it their goal to work hard in preparation for the next season.

"We changed our training plan in March, April and May to allow for a better peak at the end of May," coach Matt Weise explained. "We increased the level of our competition to allow us to assess our progress throughout the spring. Potential is a great thing if it can be realized. This team's potential is high."

The team showed their talent in the regattas against the University of Michigan, Indiana University, Ohio State University and Notre Dame University, beating all four schools by almost double the points, leaving a positive outlook for the Big Ten Championship. The Spartans took second place to the Wisconsin Badgers, but only by 16 points.

"The Big Ten Conference is one of the top conferences for rowing in the country," senior Emily Regan said. "Therefore the Big Ten Championship is a great gauge for our team as we move into the championship portion of our season. Big Ten always shows us where we need to improve most before the National Championship at the end of May."

The team's competitive edge came through not only against Mid-west teams, but also against schools with intense rowing programs.

"We had a big weekend racing against Yale at the beginning of April," senior Michelle Mussett said. "The V8 (varsity eight) had a close race with the Yale V8 and we showed ourselves that we are competitive against the top teams in the country."

Rowing in Rancho Cordova, California for the National Championship, the women were able to finish ninth out of sixteen teams. Both the varsity eight and second varsity boats finished higher than their seed rankings.

"I'm really proud of our two eights this weekend," head coach Matt Weise said. "We are going to lose six really good seniors, but if you look at our NCAA lineup, there's a lot of juniors and sophomores, too. This was a learning experience, and something we can build on as we go forward."

The competition was stiff at the Championship, as expected, but the task at hand was made no easier when the Spartans were placed in the same semifinal heat as the top three ranked teams.

"It was important for us to go out with a strong finish," Regan said. "We weren't able to advance into the grand final, but a lot of that had to do with us not having a good Friday heat and ending up with Yale, Cal and Virginia."

After a successful season, the rowing team is beginning to prepare for the next.

"Last year's team was dominated mostly by upperclassmen. This year we have an even balance between underclassmen and upperclassmen," Regan said. "The balance in experience from the upperclassmen and the eagerness from the underclassmen to learn new skills and push the team forward has really helped our team come together and find new levels of speed."



Ellina Stein

Freshmen Samantha row in a game and

Varsity Sports: Rowing

Text: Leslie Tilson

Photo: Ellina Stein, Erica Treais

Design: Vicari Vollmar

ROSTER

Name	Class
Julie Bawden	Sophomore
Danica Bevan	Senior
Stephanie Bochenek	Junior
Laura Boice	Sophomore
Brie-Anne Breton	Freshman
Monique Carter	Junior
Laura Cowal	Junior
Kristina deJong	Sophomore
Elise DeWolf-Ott	Senior
Brittany Diamantoni	Sophomore
Shannon Dunn	Junior
Alyse Egner	Junior
Emily Fesler	Junior
Jaclyn Gribeck	Sophomore
Emilie Gross	Senior
Catherine Hannum	Freshman
Joan Hayner	Sophomore
Blake Holtz	Sophomore
Elizabeth Horne	Sophomore
Emily Huddleston	Senior
Megan Kursik	Senior
Brianna Lakanen	Sophomore
Jessie Lambouris	Sophomore
Kellie Lapointe	Junior
Kathleen Leighton	Sophomore
Alexandra Maibusch	Senior
Amanda McGeachie	Sophomore
Michelle Mussett	Senior
Michelle Neuder	Sophomore
Camille Press	Sophomore
Emily Regan	Senior
Alex Reinink	Sophomore
Shelby Rockwell	Freshman
Stephanie Shaw	Sophomore
Kelly Sherman	Junior
Jesse Shynal	Sophomore
Jocelyn Smith	Sophomore
Clare Vandelinder	Junior
Breanne Walkowiak	Sophomore
Victoria Woodard	Senior



Erica Treais



Ellina Stein

Freshmen Elizabeth Blankshmen and Samantha Palmer and sophomore Carly Mocny row in a meet. MSU competed against Notre Dame and the University of Michigan.

The Spartans remove their boat from the water after a race against the University of Michigan and Notre Dame. During the season opener the Spartans beat the competition, 43-26.

The MSU rowing team sprints to the finish line in their meet against Notre Dame and Michigan University. MSU defeated both Notre Dame and the University of Michigan by 17 points.

NEW COACH, SAME RESULTS

Spartans still have successful season with new coach

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Ellina Stein, Erica Treais
Design: Brendan Prost

ROSTER

Name	Class
Garret Back	Sophomore
Domenic Barone	Sophomore
Mark Barone	Sophomore
Rubin Bega	Sophomore
Matt Cebula	Sophomore
Jeremy Clark	Sophomore
Kevin Cope	Freshman
Bryce Dobbins	Freshman
Jake Fullerton	Junior
Colin Givens	Junior
Tim Granaderos	Senior
Joe Gregus	Junior
Nosa Iyoha	Junior
Stephen Lucianek	Sophomore
Joe Paljaj	Sophomore
Sam Radelet	Freshman
Jeff Ricondo	Junior
Cyrus Saydee	Sophomore
David Sayre	Freshman
A.W. Stanek	Junior
Avery Steinlage	Junior
Ryan Thelen	Freshman
Spencer Thompson	Junior
Nick Wilson	Freshman

A Big Ten regular season and tournament championship is hard to top, especially if your team is the first to accomplish said feat. To make matters worse, the men's soccer team played for the first time in 32 years without legendary coach Joe Baum. Even so, the team finished with an 11-8-2 record.

Six of 11 starters returned this year, including their star junior goalkeeper Avery Steinlage who entered the season playing 805 minutes without allowing a goal. Steinlage also led the nation in save percentage last season.

New head coach Damon Rensing earned his first victory with the Spartans with a 3-1 win over Duquesne. Ranked 20th, the men won after receiving goals from Rubin Bega, Mark Barone and Domenic Barone.

"It feels great. I'm really happy for the players because they are the ones that win the games," Rensing said about his first collegiate victory.

Following the Duquesne victory, the team went four games without a loss and extended their record to 4-0-1. Throughout the run, Steinlage continued to increase his shutout streak. Steinlage set the NCAA record for scoreless minutes in the Spartans 0-0 draw with the University of Illinois Chicago on Sept. 6 and kept the streak going against Wright State and Loyola Marymount.

"It's a pretty amazing record when you think of all the quality teams and goalkeepers that have gone through Division I soccer," Rensing said.

Steinlage wasn't able to take all the credit though. He had to make only nine saves in four games, and Rensing credits that to the play of his defense.

"Defense has been a real focus at Michigan State," Rensing said. "I think we do kind of view this as a team award, because there's definitely been some games where Avery wasn't tested because our other players did such a good job. But then some games he's had to come up really big."

The streak was snapped in a 2-0 loss at San Diego.

What followed was a season of back-and-forth wins and losses. The Spartans went 2-4 in the Big Ten and beat the University of Michigan and Notre Dame 2-1. A highlight of the men's season was a 1-0 win over third-ranked Northwestern. Beating the No. 3 team propelled them to the semi-finals of the Big Ten tournament and secured them a spot in the NCAA tournament for the third consecutive year. Half of the team matches were against others that made the NCAA tournament. Still, the Spartans earned a 4-6 record.

Bega led the team with ten goals while redshirt junior Jeff Ricondo led the team with seven assists. Ultimately, the 14th-seeded Spartans fell to Duke 2-1 in the second round of the tournament.



Erica Treais

The Spartan's take a moment to recuperate during halftime. The team tied San Diego State 1-1 during their Nov. 1 meeting.

Junior Spencer Thomas beats a UofM player to the ball. The match ended in victory for the Spartans.



Erica Treais

VS

MSU's men's soccer team defeated UofM, 2-1. The trophy is passed on to the winner of the rivalry game each year.



Ellina Stein



Erica Treats

Midfielder Mark Barone tries to stay upright as a Michigan defender pulls him down. The play ended with a yellow card for the Wolverine player.

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Evansville	T, 0-0
IPFW	W, 2-1
Duquesne	W, 3-1
UIC	T, 0-0
Lipscomb	W, 2-0
Wright State	W, 4-0
Loyola Marymount	W, 3-0
San Diego	L, 2-0
Ohio State	L, 1-0
Valparaiso	W, 2-0
Penn State	L, 1-0
Western Michigan	W, 2-0
Wisconsin	L, 2-1
Indiana	W, 1-0
Bowling Green	W, 2-1
Michigan	W, 2-1
Notre Dame	W, 2-1
San Diego State	T, 1-1
Akron	L, 2-1
Northwestern	L, 1-0
Northwestern	W, 1-0
Penn State	L, 3-0
Duke	L, 2-1



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Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Ellina Stein
Design: Vicari Vollmar

MEETING GOALS

Women's soccer team's successful season earns second consecutive NCAA tournament bid



The expectations were high for the Lady Spartans as they were coming off a season of recording their most wins and scoring the most goals since 1991. The team also returned 10 of 11 starters. To add to the hype, breakout sophomore Laura Heyboer was returning after leading the conference in scoring and becoming the first freshmen in league history to earn Big Ten player of the year honors. All of that culminated into an 11-5-4 overall record.

Trying to live up to the hype, the women's soccer team started out with a bang by going nine games with out a loss that resulted in a 7-0-2 record. During the streak, the Lady Spartans beat the school record for longest home unbeaten streak at 16 games against Detroit. They were also led by the scoring of senior Lauren Hill who scored eight goals during their unbeaten streak to start the season.

"She has been on a roll and we want to keep it that way," coach Tom Saxton said about Hill's performance.

Finally, on October 2, the streak was snapped against Indiana when the Hoosiers scored with 21 seconds remaining to deal the Lady Spartans a 1-0 crushing defeat. A 1-1 tie against number 12 Purdue and a 0-0 tie against Michigan followed up the loss.

>>Continued on pg. 297

Junior Cara Freeman keeps Minnesota's Shari Eckstrom off the ball. MSU beat Minnesota 2-1.

Freshmen Kelsey Kassab fights to keep the ball in against Wisconsin's Leigh Williams. MSU fell to Wisconsin 1-0.

VS

MSU celebrates the only goal scored against Ohio State University that also gave them the win. Lauren Hill scored the winning goal.

Senior Lauren Hill kicks the ball away from Ohio State during the game on Nov. 6. MSU beat Ohio State 1-0.

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Milwaukee	W, 2-1
Oakland	W, 3-0
Bowling Green	W, 4-0
UCSB	T, 1-1
Central Michigan	W, 4-0
Illinois State	W, 2-0
Detroit	W, 3-1
Kent State	W, 2-0
Eastern Michigan	T, 1-1
Penn State	W, 3-2
Indiana	L, 1-0
Purdue	T, 1-1
Michigan	T, 0-0
Loyola Chicago	W, 1-0
Northwestern	L, 1-0
Wisconsin	L, 1-0
Minnesota	W, 2-1
Illinois	L, 5-0
Iowa	W, 3-2
Ohio State	W, 1-0
Santa Clara	L, 1-0



ROSTER

Name	Class
Desiree Aber	Freshman
Megan Brown	Senior
Katelin Chaklos	Sophomore
Samantha Cook	Junior
Mikki Dennis	Sophomore
Carly Foguth	Sophomore
Jill Flietstra	Sophomore
Cara Freeman	Junior
Laura Heyboer	Sophomore
Lauren Hill	Senior
Kelsey Kassab	Freshman
Kelly Lindsay	Freshman
Taylor Miller	Sophomore
Jordan Mueller	Freshman
Chelsea Peterson	Freshman
Hannah Peterson	Sophomore
Danielle Petri	Senior
Megan Pines	Sophomore
Kate Rehor	Senior
Kori Reinhart	Freshman
Courtney Shegos	Junior
Lauren Sinacola	Senior
Olivia Stander	Freshman
Sarah Stern	Sophomore
Ashley Swartz	Freshman
Kelsey Tait	Junior
Melissa Timko	Freshman
Jennifer Ulmer	Junior
Elizabeth Watza	Sophomore





"It's a positive to say we came out of the game and say we had chances to score," Heyboer said of the tie with Michigan. "We definitely dominated offensively and forced them to play a lot more defense than offense."

Following the tie to Michigan, the Lady Spartans went 4-3 to wrap up the regular season. They finished 4-4-2 in the Big Ten, and Heyboer and freshmen Cara Freeman earned All-Big Ten First Team, while Hill earned All-Big Ten Second Team honors. Hill's selection to the All-Big Ten Team was her second consecutive selection, and her 38 goals and 91 career points put her in sole possession of second place on the respective all-time lists at the University.

After the regular season wrapped up, the Lady Spartans earned a birth to the NCAA tournament for their fourth appearance overall. It was the first time in school history that they received bids in consecutive seasons. They were set to face Santa Clara.

In the opening round, the Lady Spartans played Santa Clara evenly, and despite being outshot forced the game to overtime. A little over a minute into overtime, Santa Clara scored a goal to end the Lady Spartan's season in a heartbreaker.

Hill ended the season as the leading goal scored with 10 while sophomore goalkeeper Jill Flietstra led the team with 92 saves while only allowing 18 goals.

Sophomore Hannah Peterson fights Ohio State's Lauren Steuer for the ball. The game ended with a Spartan victory.

VS

VS

CONSISTENTLY INCONSISTENT

Softball team struggles for consistency with inconsistent wins and losses

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Iowa	L, 3-1
Iowa	L, 7-6
Minnesota	W, 2-1
Minnesota	W, 7-6
Indiana	L, 6-4
Indiana	W, 5-2
Penn State	W, 1-0
Penn State	L, 2-1
Ohio State	L, 12-3
Ohio State	L, 7-3
Northwestern	L, 15-0
Northwestern	L, 9-0
Purdue	L, 2-0
Purdue	L, 10-2
Illinois	L, 11-1
Illinois	L, 5-0
Michigan	L, 10-0
Michigan	L, 4-1
Wisconsin	L, 6-1
Wisconsin	W, 11-3

Sophomore Ali Grant runs to first base after making a hit against the Ohio State Buckeyes. Ali had a hit and a run in the match-up on Apr. 17.

The Spartan softball team returned to action this year looking to build off of last season where they depended on many underclassmen to carry the load.

Unfortunately for the team, they weren't as ready as they hoped.

The Spartans began the season with a 3-10 record, collecting wins only against Missouri State, Stetson and Wright State. About the only bright spot of their losing streak was when sophomore Lauren Kramer became the first Spartan since 2007 to pitch a no-hitter. Kramer threw the no-hitter in a 8-0 victory over Stetson.

"Lauren was absolutely dominant," head coach Jacquie Joseph said. "She has the potential to rewrite all the record books here at Michigan State."

After their 3-10 start, the team finished up tournament play by going 9-5, recording wins. Joseph also earned her 500th victory for the program when her team downed Connecticut 4-1.

"I think it is a great achievement," said Joseph of her milestone. "I love being the head coach

here at Michigan State, and I have really enjoyed all of the players over the years. I know a lot of people always downplay these milestones, but in today's world, to be able to stay at a school this long is more unusual than not, and I very much enjoyed and am proud to be the head coach at Michigan State."

When the team finally headed home to East Lansing, they completed a 4-2 record, raising their overall record to 18-14.

Offense became a problem for the Spartans though as they struggled to find consistency at the plate. The team followed up a 2-9 stretch with a 3-5 stretch to end the season with an overall record of 21-31.

Junior shortstop Lindsey Hansen led the team with a .368 batting average, while junior outfielder Jessica Brocamante led the team with 28 hits. Kramer finished the season with a 16-19 record and a 3.01 E.R.A.

"I was very proud of our players all year," Joseph said. "We have never put our chins down and have competed hard all year."





Sophomore Lauren Kramer pitches the ball to an Ohio State batter. Lauren had a .244 average in the match against Ohio State on Apr. 17.

Freshman Kylene Hopkins swings the bat at the plate against Illinois. Kylene had a .263 average in the match-up with no runs.

Varsity Sports: Softball

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Ellina Stein
Design: Vicari Vollmar



Number 13 Jessica Bracamonte rounds first base. Jessica is a player for the MSU Spartans.

ROSTER

Name	Class
Melanie Bensema	Sophomore
Jessica Bracamonte	Junior
Kelly Confer	Senior
Mary Kate DiVirgilio	Freshman
Karen Fox	Junior
Ali Grant	Sophomore
Lindsey Hansen	Junior
Kylene Hopkins	Freshman
Lauren Kramer	Sophomore
Kalie Lamb	Sophomore
Jayne O'Bryant	Freshman
Lori Padilla	Sophomore
Heidi Purtzer	Junior
Jenny Ramsaier	Freshman
Rebecca Rogers	Sophomore
Brett Williams	Sophomore
Shelby Wise	Freshman

VS

Junior Stephanie Fisher starts off strong during the Spartans' meet against Oakland. Fisher finished the season with the top time in both the 50 and 100 Back.



Alissa Lane

STRENGTH IN TOUGH COMPETITION

Text: Leslie Tilson
Photo: Alissa Lane, Mason Robinson
Design: Brendan Prost

Hard work shows small improvements in the tough Big Ten Conference

Every team has goals, some as lofty as winning the National Championship, others are set for small improvements. Through hard work and dedication, the swimming and diving team achieved all their goals this season.

For the men, moving up in the Big Ten standings was achievable.

"We swam great at the end of the year," senior Matt Massman said. "We moved up a spot over all in the Big Ten. We came in ninth, which is pretty good for us. We also sent a swimmer to the NCAA Championships; I would say that everyone on the team is pretty happy with the outcome of the season."

Through hard work, freshman Jacob Jarzen was able to represent the men's team at the NCAA Championships in the 100-meter fly and the 200-meter backstroke. Jarzen was also named Big Ten freshman of the year.

The men finished the season with a winning record of 6-3. They also broke long-standing pool and school records in the 800-meter freestyle, 400-meter medley and 400-meter freestyle relays.

Although the men showed strength this year in all their competitions, the outlook for next season is positive, even after losing some senior talent.

"We're losing six seniors," Massman said. "But the coaches are bringing in a lot of new talent and the kids we have now have talent. If you give them

the opportunity to step up—it will happen."

As the men's swimmers saw success at the Big Ten Championships, four Spartan divers headed to the National Championship. Seniors Ivan Zalessov and David Garry finished 10th and 13th respectively for the men, while senior Kayla Kalmbach finished in 11th place and junior Jordan Jackson took 17th in the women's competitions.

Across the pool, the women's team faced stiff competition at the Big Ten Championships.

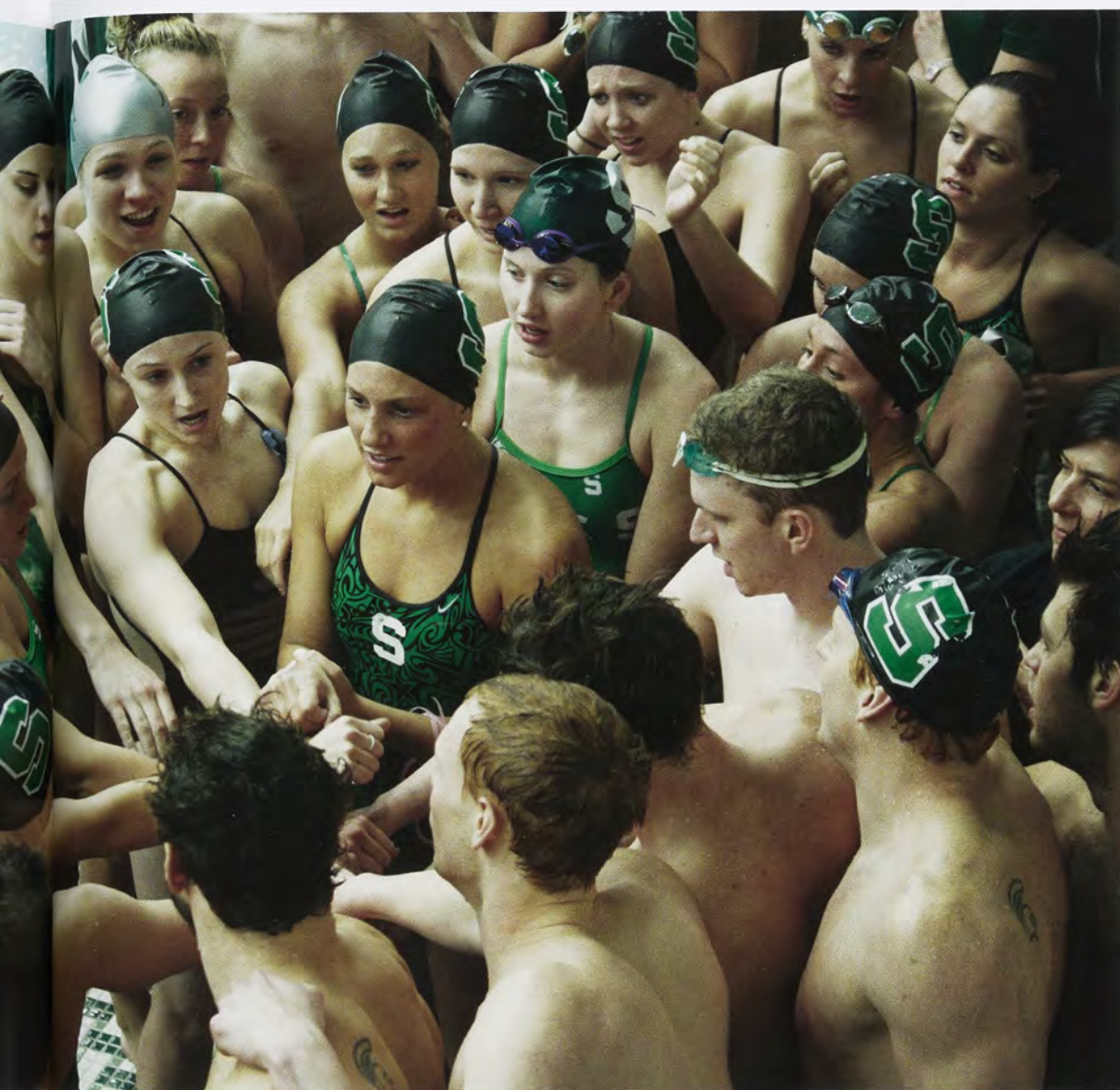
"We're swimming well, but the league is so deep its tough to collect points," Head Coach Matt Gianiodis said.

The women finished 10th in the Big Ten with notable performances from sophomore Kerry Sodonis, who swam the second fastest 200-meter breaststroke time in school history and junior Becca Ebner, who placed in the 200-meter fly.

Outside the Big Ten, the women's talent showed as they swept Oakland University with first place finishes from the 200-meter medley relay team, the 400-meter free relay, Sodonis in the 100-meter and 200-meter breaststroke, Ebner in the 200-meter and 100-meter fly, and freshman Jenny Rusch in the 50-meter freestyle.

Both the men and women will continue rigorous training, breaking records and preparing for future competitions in the ever-strong Big Ten Conference.





Mason Robinson

During the last home meet of the season senior Sarah Biasello led the team in a final hoorah. The swim team also wished St. Bonaventure good luck at Big Tens.



Alissa Lane



Mason Robinson

Senior David Garry glides into McCaffree Pool. Both the men's and women's swimming and diving team won their meet against Oakland.

Sophomore Sarah Falconer swims the fly during the team's meet against St. Bonaventure. She placed in the top three during the 200-yard IM, along with two fellow teammates.

VS

Sophomore Ronnie Hulewicz plays at a home match. The men's tennis team ended the season with one Big Ten victory.

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Duquesne	W, 5-2
Bradley	W, 7-0
William & Mary	L, 6-1
Cleveland State	L, 4-3
Wright State	W, 6-1
Northern Illinois	W, 7-0
Detroit	W, 6-1
Ball State	W, 5-2
Nebraska	L, 6-1
Toledo	W, 6-1
Notre Dame	L, 6-1
Butler	W, 7-0
IUPUI	W, 6-1
Eastern Illinois	W, 6-1
Dayton	W, 6-1
Michigan	L, 6-1
Iowa	L, 5-2
Minnesota	L, 5-2
Northwestern	L, 6-1
Wisconsin	L, 6-1
Ohio State	L, 7-0
Penn State	L, 4-3
Western Michigan	W, 4-3
Purdue	W, 5-2
Indiana	L, 7-0
Illinois	L, 7-0
Indiana	L, 4-0



PREPARE TO PROVE

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Mason Robinson
Design: Vicari Vollmar

Men's tennis team channels motto to boost morale and improve during season

Starting in early September, the men's tennis team set out on a mission to improve upon their 12-14 record from last year, and following their season motto, they were "prepared to prove."

Head Coach Gene Orlando, entering his 19th year with the program, was looking to rely on his six returning starters along with contributions from his four newcomers.

The team opened up dual play by playing 13 of 15 matches in East Lansing. The Spartans went 11-4 during that stretch.

"We dropped those four matches in the first two months," Orlando said. "We had a good start but those matches proved there are no guarantees."

During the middle of the season, the men hit a rough patch, losing seven straight Big Ten matches, including a loss to in-state rival Michigan. Their losing streak was snapped when they picked up a victory against another in-state rival, Western Michigan.

"We really needed that win over Western Michigan," Orlando said. "That's been an ongoing rivalry but we put ourselves in a position to win. It gave us some momentum heading into the Purdue match."

The following match the men earned their one and only Big Ten victory with a dominating 5-2 performance.

"We knew we would struggle in the Big Ten, but we felt like we had a legit chance to win this match because the guys worked hard and they were focused heading into this match."

Sophomore Ronnie Hulewicz was a key part of the Spartan's lineup playing at the number one singles spot. He made the jump from number five singles last year. Hulewicz posted the most overall wins, compiling a 23-15 record.

Although the men finished the season 13-14, the future for the team looks bright. They are losing only two seniors and are hoping to add on to the youth and

Varsity Sports: Men's Tennis



Sophomore Austin Brooks serves during a doubles match versus Western Michigan at MSU. Brooks and his partner won the match.

Junior Clark Richardson and sophomore Austin Brooks celebrate during a close doubles match. The duo was able to pull off a 9-7 victory over their Western Michigan opponents.



ROSTER

Name	Class
Denis Bogatov	Freshman
Austin Brooks	Sophomore
Will Davis	Freshman
Ronnie Hulewicz	Sophomore
Brendan Kinkopf	Senior
Jason Norville	Junior
Clark Richardson	Junior
Christian Roehmer	Freshman
John Stratton	Junior
Joe Vallee	Senior

Freshman Dennis Bogatov volleys during a spring match at home. Bogatov boasts a 22-13 record for the season in singles.



Nichole Herzog gives teammate Manon Noé a passing high-five after a successful point. Herzog and Noé were the only successful doubles partners during this match.

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Arkon	L, 6-1
Cleveland State	W, 6-1
Detroit	W, 6-1
UCF	L, 4-3
Florida Atlantic	L, 4-2
Syracuse	L, 5-2
Toledo	W, 5-2
Bowling Green	W, 5-2
Evansville	W, 6-1
Western Michigan	L, 4-3
Cal Poly	L, 6-1
Santa Clara	L, 6-1
Michigan	L, 7-0
Eastern Michigan	W, 4-3
Minnesota	L, 6-1
Iowa	L, 4-3
Wisconsin	L, 7-0
Northwestern	L, 6-1
Ohio State	L, 6-1
Penn State	W, 6-1
Purdue	L, 7-0
Indiana	L, 5-2
Illinois	L, 5-2
Ohio State	L, 4-0

YOUNG FACES SERVING ACES

Women's tennis team is young, aggressive, and improving

The women's tennis team is a very young team. How young are they? Of the 12 girls on this year's roster, Christine Milliken is the only senior.

A roster dominated by underclassmen may explain why the Lady Spartans have struggled to a 1-7 record in the Big Ten and a winless 0-9 on the road. However, Coach Simone Jardim can still point out some positives from the tough season.

"We are getting better, that's for sure. We're getting stronger, improving the level of the team," Jardim said. "We're expecting more, having higher expectations. The wins will come and we have done better this year than last."

Having high expectations is a must in Big Ten Women's Tennis. Jardim said most of the teams are ranked, and the Lady Spartans' only win came against Penn State, a convincing 6-1 win that many members of the team say has been a bright spot in the season.

While the girls have struggled during their singles matches, except for sophomore Elena Ivanova's 18-14 record, the team as a whole has a better percentage in doubles matches. Jardim believes the girls' aggressiveness has really shown in their doubles this year.

"Sometimes having a partner helps, having someone out there with you gives you more confidence, that sense that there's somebody else there to pick you up," she said.

"We play really well as a team, and when we are together we feed off each other, so that makes the energy level higher," freshman Nicole Herzog said, who was one of the top three players in the starting rotation this year.

Jardim said that the girls have played better inside this year than outside, mostly due to the faster courts indoors, resulting in shorter rallies.

Off the court, the team unity has remained strong despite the season-long struggles.

"Our team has really come together as a unit, and that's something we haven't had the past few years I've been here," Milliken said, also one of the top players in the rotation. "That's really working towards our advantage, and next year that should help out a lot."

"We are like a little family, and that really does help us on the court and off the court," junior Whitney Wilson said, the third major part of the top of the rotation. "We can address what's going on as a team because we can share everything with each other."

The team will most likely finish the season at the Big Ten Championships in Iowa City, Iowa. The Lady Spartans are hoping to win at least one round, but a few more wins would help the girls come closer to their goal of competing in the Big Ten.

"Next year we are going to have a really good team, and next year we hope we can do better at the Big Ten," Herzog said.

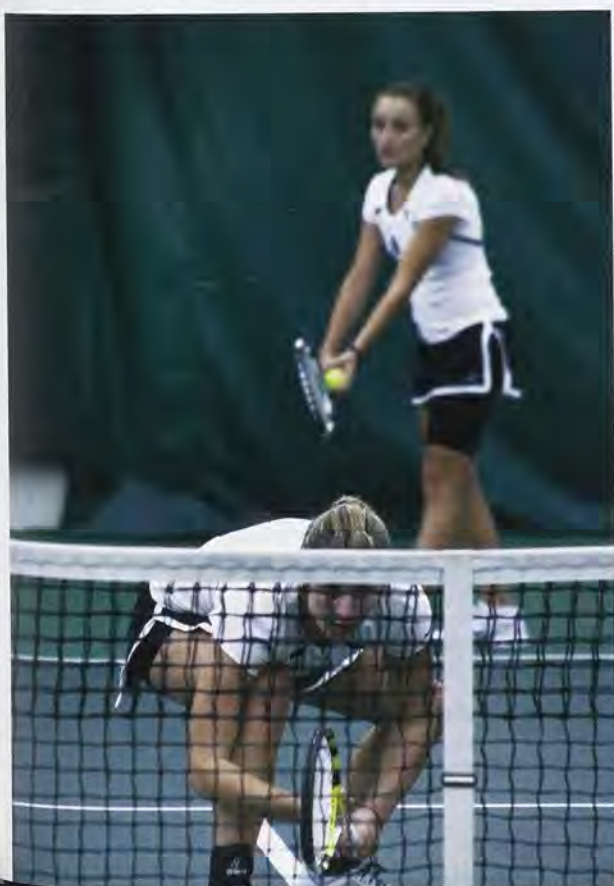
Jardim is shooting for a Top 50 national ranking. It's possible, considering her thoughts on the program's newfound direction.

"I think we're finally in the right position to move forward," Jardim said. With a slew of young talent, women's tennis may very well be in that position.

ROSTER

Name	Class
Amy Barton	Freshman
Kate Bonnen	Junior
Renata de Palva	Freshman
Dana Guentert	Sophomore
Nichole Herzog	Freshman
Elena Ivanova	Sophomore
Michelle LeBlanc	Freshman
Christine Milliken	Senior
Manon Noe	Junior
Michaela Silesova	Freshman
Ashley Stockwell	Sophomore
Whitney Wilson	Junior

Nicole Herzog, freshman, serves while Manon Noe, junior, eyes the opponents. Though the team lost overall, Herzog and Noe won their match.



VS

Freshman Allie Hock and Senior Ashley Casavant run the women's 1500-Meter during the Spartan Invitational. Spartans had several first place finishes.

Junior Ashley Lawrence prepares to throw a shot put. Last year Lawrence recorded the Spartans' top five shot puts and placed first again this season with 14.37 meters.

HOLDING STRONG

Track team channels last season's strong points



Jennifer Garavoglio



Elise Asay

As the team headed to Kentucky for the indoor season opener, focus was key. The men started the indoor season ranked 31st in the country and the women ranked 66th in the country.

"The Kentucky Invitational is one of the best early season meets in the country," Head Coach Walt Drenth said. "It is important we get in the right competitive mind set. Our program expectations are going up and a meet like this will not only give us an important point of reference for what the national level looks like, but also a point of reference for where we are jumping in for the season."

After ending on a good note last season, the team's goal was to pick up where they left off and continue improving. One outstanding performance came from junior Kyron Foster who beat the defending national champion in the triple jump, setting the bar high for the rest of the season.

The competition continued throughout the indoor season at the Notre Dame Invite where the men finished in first and the women in third. The team worked towards the indoor Big Ten Championships, posting qualifying times along the way.

While the men were in Minnesota wrapping up the indoor season with a ninth place finish, the women were at Penn State University walking away from the Big Ten Championships with a tenth place finish.

Again Foster showed his strength in the triple jump with a first place finish and a bid to the NCAA National Championships, where he placed sixth. Although the women had no first place finishes, junior Erica Mann had two top 10 finishes in the 60 and 200-meter dashes, while sophomore Leslie Aririguzo finished sixth in the 60-meter hurdles.

"Overall, there were a lot of things the girls did well this weekend," assistant coach Randy Gillion said. "We have been showing a lot of progress as a team at every meet this season, and this weekend was no different. Everyone competed strong and it's nice to know we are only a few steps away from being in the middle of the Big Ten."

The outdoor season began with the Spartan Invite, the team's only home meet of the season, where bad weather didn't stop the Spartans from dominating on their home track. The team walked away with 17 first place finishes, including junior Ashley Lawrence in both

the shot put and discus, junior Yury Ratomski in the 400-meter dash, and both the 4x100-meter and 4x400-meter relays, Mann in the 100-meter dash and junior Charelise Davis, who not only finished first, but also ran a personal best time in the 200-meter dash.

The success on the outdoor track continued at the Indiana State Quadrangular where the men placed first and the women second.

"We started off with really good performances from the men's and women's discus throwers. Both Emily MacLeod and Patrick Grosskopf went really strong all weekend long," coach Drenth said. "I talked to the team about the importance of getting off the mark strong, and I thought it was important for us to send a message as to how we were going to compete as a team."

The season continued with several relay meets where no team scores were recorded, but many school records were broken. Sophomore Brad Wentzel broke his own school record in the hammer throw with a first place finish at the Purdue Open and senior Emily MacLeod ran a 4:18 1,500-meter run at the Jesse Owens Classic posting not only a new school record, but also a record time in the Big Ten.

"In terms of confidence and decision making, it has definitely helped," MacLeod said. "But, I feel that most of the success this year is actually from the learning last year."

As the team headed to the Big Ten Championships, Coach Drenth pushed them towards their maximum potential.

Both the men and women finished seventh in the Big Ten. Three team members received All-Big Ten Honors for including sophomore Becca Buchholtz for the high jump, and two other teammates for the triple jump. Twenty-six individuals qualified for the NCAA Championships.

"I don't think there is any more pressure than what I already have on myself," Buchholtz said of her achievements thus far in the season. "With this being my first national champion experience, I think that it is more exciting. Doing well at regional's showed just how well I can do at nationals."

Confidence is key when competing at a national level, as the qualifying Spartans have proved their talent in the past, all they can do now is perform at their highest potential.

Varsity Sports: Track and Field

Text: Leslie Tilson

Photo: Jennifer Garavaglia, Elise Lefere

Design: Vicari Vollmar

Junior Ashely Smith makes a successful vault at the only home meet of the season. Smith won the event with the top height of 3.81 meters.



Jennifer Garavaglia

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Notre Dame Invite	M: 1st, W: 3rd
Men's Big Ten Indoor	8th
Women's Big Ten Indoor	9th
Indiana State Quadrangular	M: 1st, W: 2nd
Big Ten Championships	M: 6th, W: 6th



Elise Lefere



Elise Lefere

Sophomore Tiffany Evans runs the Women's 3000-Meter Steeplechase for the first time at the Spartan Invitational. When asked about running the race, Evans said "It's tough, but it isn't impossible."

Spartans round the corner during the Spartan Invitational. Despite adverse weather conditions, the team was able to record 17 first-place finishes throughout the day.

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VS

VS

SPARTANS' FAST START GETS SPIKED

Spartan volleyball team loses momentum after winning nine straight matches

The Spartan volleyball team found themselves in a usual place at the beginning of the year when they won their ninth-consecutive MSU Showcase title with a victory over North Carolina.

"The tournament really helped us in preparing for the Big Ten Conference schedule," Cathy George said. "All of the teams we faced challenged us in their own ways, and it provided a great learning experience for our team."

The team was unable to grasp the concept of losing. They won nine straight matches while winning the Cleveland State Invitational, the UIC Invitational, and the Clemson Classic. The 12-0 record for the Spartans was their third best start to a season in program history.

"[Senior Mischelle Nelson] had solid play to begin the season," George said. "She added kills in clutch situations and put the ball down when needed."

After the fast start for the women, the team then dropped eight of their next 10 matches to begin the Big Ten season before winning their next two home games in straight sets against Iowa and Wisconsin.

Unfortunately for the team, they only won

one more match, a straight set victory against Purdue, to finish the season 17-15. In the final home game of the season against number 12 Minnesota, seniors Vanessa King and Mischelle Nelson were honored for their four years of hard work and were recognized as the first recruiting class of George's to graduate.

During the season, sophomore Natalie Emro led the team with an average of 10.65 assists per set, and King finished the season with a team high of 1.05 blocks average per set.

On Nov. 29, the Spartans found out that they would be competing in their third NCAA post-season tournament. They were set to face No. 13 Kentucky.

The team lost in straight sets, but Emro tallied 32 assists, and junior Allyson Karaba led the team with 18 digs.

"I think that the last game was a summary of our season with its ups and downs," King said. "We would get ahead, let them come back, get up again but then let them finish with the win. This was the last game of my career, but I will be back to help out the younger girls reach their potential."

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Elise Lefere
Design: Brendan Prost



Head Coach Cathy George talks with the team after the Nov. 14 win against Purdue. This was George's fifth season as head coach at MSU.

Freshman Cheyenne VanDerSteen and junior Allyson Karaba dive for a ball against Purdue. Karaba led the team with 515 digs during the season.





SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Southern California	W, 3-2
Albany	W, 3-0
North Carolina	W, 3-2
Syracuse	W, 3-2
Cleveland State	W, 3-1
Cleveland State	W, 3-0
Duquesne	W, 3-0
Georgia State	W, 3-0
UIC	W, 3-1
Furman	W, 3-0
Clemson	W, 3-2
Presbyterian	W, 3-0
Purdue	L, 3-1
Indiana	L, 3-1
Illinois	W, 3-2
Northwestern	W, 3-1
Wisconsin	L, 3-0
Iowa	L, 3-0
Ohio State	L, 3-1
Penn State	L, 3-0
Michigan	L, 3-0
Minnesota	L, 3-2
Iowa	W, 3-0
Wisconsin	W, 3-0
Northwestern	L, 3-1
Illinois	L, 3-0
Indiana	L, 3-2
Purdue	W, 3-0
Michigan	L, 3-2
Minnesota	L, 3-2
Penn State	L, 3-0
Ohio State	L, 3-0
Kentucky	L, 3-0

Senior Natalie Emro sets the ball to an outside hitter. Emro had 1299 set assists throughout the season.

ROSTER

Name	Class
Kyndra Abron	Sophomore
Amy Dentlinger	Freshman
Elizabeth Egerer	Freshman
Natalie Emro	Sophomore
Allyson Karaba	Junior
Mandi Karaba	Freshman
Vanessa King	Senior
Alexis Mathews	Freshman
Mischelle Nelson	Senior
Nicole Peter	Junior
Jenilee Rathje	Sophomore
Megan Schatzle	Junior
Cheyenne VanDerSteen	Freshman
Carli Weiler	Sophomore
Becca Zlabis	Sophomore

The Spartans' front row goes for a block against Purdue at Jenison Field House on Nov. 14. The Spartans successfully completed 276.5 blocks during the season.



HARD DAY'S WORK

Wrestlers work to stay competitive every day

Returning Senior, Franklin Gomez quickly takes down his Purdue opponent, and finishes with a 17-1 win for MSU. Gomez had a third place finish for the 2010 NCAA championship.

Senior Franklin Gomez tried following up a memorable 2008-09 National Championship with something even more memorable, a repeat championship. Unfortunately, Gomez could only wrestle his way to a third-place finish in the NCAA Wrestling Championships in Omaha, Neb.

"The respect the crowd showed felt good," Gomez said. "I feel like it was a good way to end my career."

Gomez's coach, Tom Minkel, could not agree anymore.

"He is one of the very best," Minkel said. "He's had a spectacular career and he's just such a fine young man."

After three open invitation tournaments to begin the season, the Spartans opened up with a 26-9 decision in their first match play against Eastern Michigan. The team got off to a quick start with wins by red shirt sophomore Ian Hinton at 174 pounds and redshirt sophomore Tyler Dickenson at 197 pounds. Gomez, who wrestled at 133 pounds, also helped the team close out Eastern Michigan with a victory.

"It was an excellent team effort tonight," Minkel said. "We had some tough, hard-fought matches, and I think it was the best team effort we've had in some time."

Following the victory of Eastern Michigan, the wrestlers faced an up and down Big Ten season. They received losses against Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Penn State, Ohio State and Indiana, but collected victories over Michigan and Purdue. They finished seventh with 68.5 points in the Big Ten Tournament.

"We wrestled very, very hard as a team this year," Minkel said. "The Big Ten Tournament was very successful for us in a lot of ways."



Jennifer Garavito

SCOREBOARD

Event	Outcome
Eastern Michigan	W, 26-9
West Virginia	W, 24-9
Minnesota	L, 18-16
Illinois	L, 23-12
Michigan	W, 17-15
Iowa	L, 37-0
Purdue	W, 20-13
Penn State	L, 26-12
Ohio State	L, 30-7
Indiana	L, 24-15
Big Ten Championships	6th
Big Ten Championships	7th
NCAA Championships	18th



Alissa Lane

Franklin Gomez takes down a Minnesota wrestler. Gomez went on to take third at the NCAA Wrestling Championships.

VS



Alissa Lane

Varsity Sports: Wrestling

Text: Colby Berthume
Photo: Jennifer Garavaglia, Alissa Lane
Design: Jessica Halfyard

ROSTER

Name	Class
Eric Anderson	Junior
Steve Andrus	Sophomore
Grant Ankney	Freshman
Jeremiah Austin	Freshman
Ben Boudro	Junior
Kyle Bounds	Senior
David Cheza	Sophomore
Bryant Craft	Freshman
Zach Crim	Freshman
Tyler Dickenson	Sophomore
Luke Domanski	Freshman
Collin Dozier	Sophomore
Franklin Gomez	Senior
Josh Harper	Freshman
John Hebert	Freshman
Ian Hinton	Sophomore
Neil Hyska	Freshman
Curran Jacobs	Sophomore
Anthony Jones Jr.	Junior
Nick Kaczanowski	Freshman
Philip Khozein	Sophomore
Brenan Lyon	Freshman
Michael McClure	Freshman
Alan O'Donnell	Senior
Eric Olanowski	Sophomore
Dan Osterman	Freshman
Nick Palmieri	Senior
Joe Rizqallah	Sophomore
Levi Stace	Freshman
Joel Trombly	Junior



Jennifer Garavaglia

Senior Franklin Gomez continues his 27 consecutive match winning streak with a major decision over Thane Antczak. Gomez improved his record to 13-0 for the season.

Freshman Dan Osterman took down Purdue opponent Juan Artchuleta with an 8-5 win. This match gave Dan his 18th win of the season.

Michigan State University Commencement Week

the Rock and the Inside Outlaws

the Rock on your way home and enjoy some
the Rock on your way home and enjoy some
the Rock on your way home and enjoy some
the Rock on your way home and enjoy some
the Rock on your way home and enjoy some

the Scurry mascot? Kill two birds with one stone and stop
the Scurry mascot? Kill two birds with one stone and stop

1/

2. We'll make sure that you do before you
2. We'll make sure that you do before you
2. We'll make sure that you do before you

after the bells chime. Join us in
after the bells chime. Join us in
after the bells chime. Join us in

the Farm Lane bridge |

dar and leave your last
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iversity
ek

joy some
the Rock
put on

Michigan

Michigan



seniors

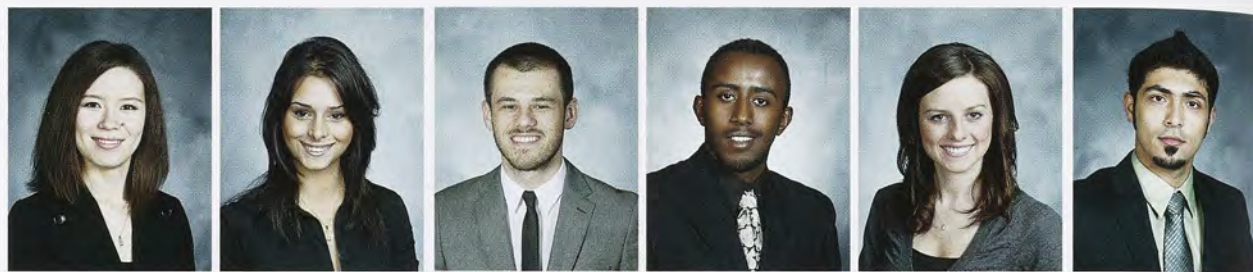
After spending four or more years immersed in the diverse culture offered at Michigan State University, each senior class is released from the confinement of campus to share their experiences and knowledge with the rest of the world.

Each of them sharing one common goal of advancing knowledge and transforming lives.

Upon their departure, we recognize their accomplishments, and forever remember them as our leaders, mentors and friends.

As a new chapter begins in each of their lives and new paths are travelled, seniors, with their newly acquired alumni status, will always remain pieces of the greater MSU community. ■

Ainagul Abdikalikova
Rana B. Abdilmajeed
Muamer Abdurahmanovic
Eskender Melese Aberra
Kathleen Abood
Kamel Abulfaraj



Andrew John Adams
Ashley Lauren Adams
Brenda L. Adams
Jessica K. Adams
Katherine Adams
Clare Adamus



Marwa Adawe
Joel Adelsberg
Felix Adisaputra
Iqbal Adjao
Alexander Ian Adrian
Brandon K. Agee



Marie Agocs
Raghav Agrawal
Shruti Agrawal
Joseph Ahlquist
Ishtiaque Ahmed
Tokie Akinwumi



Ahmed Alabdulhai
Antonia Aladjova
Alexandra Albers
Jeffrey Alent
Marwa Aleskafi
Megan Alexander



Malcolm Alexander-Neal
Ibrahim Omar Alfahl
Shaimah Al-Failakawi
Mogdad Alhajji
Abrar Alhusain
Brad Douglas Allen



Jennifer Allen
Kelsey Allen
Paul Allen
Jillian Allison
Khaled S. Al-mansour
Basheer Almatrar



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Al-Saleh
Meqren Mohammad Alshalan
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Sarah Alverson
Ahmed Al-Yaqub

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Paul Amatyakul
Jared Ambrosier
Bryant Anderson
Caitlin Anderson
Kathleen Emily Anderson

Keith Anderson
Kendra Anderson
Matthew D. Anderson
Megan Anderson
Rachel Anderson
Stephen Anderson

Nichole Anderson-Whiting
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 Charles A. Baird



Max Baisel
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 Sarah Ann Ballman
 Hasani Gamba Bandeale
 Si Bang



Whitney Banks
 Teresa-Jo Barabe
 Brian Barg
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Kalen R. Barnhart
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Darkhan Beisenbay
Dequindre Sequia Bell
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Kaitlyn Bellingar

Philip Benedict
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William Berti
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Nicole Berz

Dywayne Betts Jr.
Dawn Bezanson
Mayank Bhardwaj
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David Bigelow
Amy Bittinger



Haley Blair
Michael Blair
Eric Blake
Sarah L Blakeley
Susan Rae Blalock
Bryan Blase



Katherine Therese Blicharz
Derrick Dwight Block
Jane Blount
Rebecca Blundy
Candace Boahene
Lisa Bober



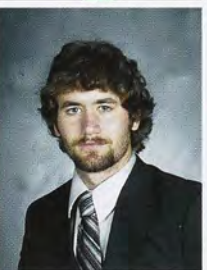
Joseph Bochinski
Ricka Boehmer
Elizabeth Boes
Nicole Bogart
Kateryna Bogdanova
Maureen Bohr



Gihye Bok
Chanda Bolander
Shirley Bolden
Nicole Boling
Brian James Bollman
Frank Anthony Bommarito



Vincent Bond Jr.
Synoequia Caprice Boone
Brandon Boozer
Julie Borgesen
Derek Borton
Nicholas Bott



Carolyn Botting
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Sharde Burton
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Kevin Butler
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Latia Butts
Lekeysha Renee Byrd
Thomas Byrnes
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Sandy Cabello
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Tamika Shamese Cage
Vaness Lynn Cain
Ashante Calhoun
Jeffrey Camarra



Scott Campfield
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Catrice Canty-Pope
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Joseph Lawrence Morales
Cardenas
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Stephanie Carlson
Eduardo Carmona-Nieves
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Stephanie Carr
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Alexandra Carrico
Joseph Maxwell Carrion
Elizabeth Carroll
Beth Carter



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Yuncong Chen
Jack Cheng
Anthony Chester
I An Chiang

Venus Pui Yiu Chiang
Szu-Cheng Chien
Situnyiwe Chirunga
Bennett Cho
Boram Cho
Hyoli Cho



Namyoon Cho
Yoon Kyung Cho
Chanyoung Choi
ChingMan Choi
Joonho Choi
Kendall Ann Christensen



Kai Christiansen
Tiffany Chritz
Yi-Chiao Chuang
Kaitlin Chuchran
Dae Chun
Randal Audrey Cieslak



Stephanie Cieslinski
Nicole Cillette
Robert Cinninger
Giacomo Cirrincione
Alexandria Marie Claes
Robert Claesys



Alexandra Clark
Carmen Clark
James D. Clark
Janiece Clark
Jessica Clark
Kathryn Clark



Melissa Clark
Meghann Elizabeth Clary
Andrew Clearwaters
Shantell Cleveland
Barron Cline
Mychal Cocke



Kelby Coffelt
Lisa Michelle Cole
Ashley M. Coleman
Sarah Coleman
Cynthia Collings
Lillian Collins



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Jennifer Colton
Nicholas Combes
Hilary Commans
Kayla Comstock

Kimberly Comstock
Emily Victoria Conine
Nathan Conley
Riann Conner
John Connolly
Artiera Cook

Briahna Cook
Chantal Cook
Heather Cooke
Sophie M. Cooper
Monte Cooper Jr
Corinne Copeland

Nicole Corriveau
Emil Cosman
Stephanie Costigan
Cynthia Cotton
Sara Cottrill
Benjamin Cox

Laura Ann Cox
Kaitlyn Cramer
Marcie Crandall
Erika Kathleen Cranmer
Cierra Crawford
Debrina Crawford

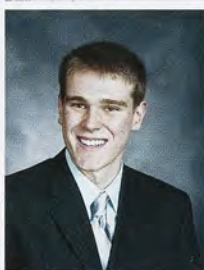
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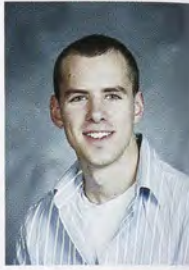
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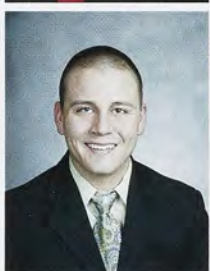
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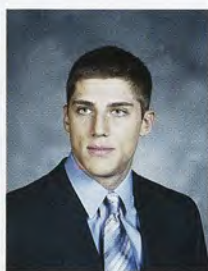
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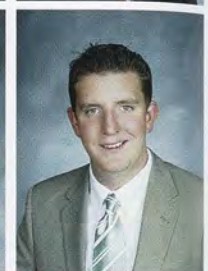
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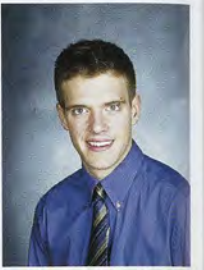
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Kelley Regula
John Reimann
Maureen Reimann
Henry Reinart

Nicole Reincke
Theodore Reinhart
Eva Reiter
Daniel Reikant
Jeremy Revord
Mikhail Revyakin

Carla Marie Reyna
Ryan Dave Reynolds
T'Aria Reynolds
Michael Raymond Rhoby
Katherine Rhodes
Andrew Richards

Krystal Richardson
Shelley Richbow
Adam Richter
Christopher Ricotta
Emily Ries
Rachel Elaine Riggs

Marissa Rose Righetti
Elizabeth Riley
Justin Riopelle
John Risk
Matthew Z. Robb
Matthew Robbie



Zakk Roberts
Timmie Othelle Roberts Jr.
Katie Robertson
Maribeth Robertson
Matthew Robertson
Anna Robinson



Calista Robinson
David Alexander Robinson
Duane W.D. Robinson
Ellen Robinson
Erin Robinson
Gregory Brian Robinson



Kristina G. Robinson
Rochelle Anita Robinson
Elise Rockey
Oliver Rodriguez
Alexander Roeder
Andrew Rogers



Katie Rohn
Arish Rojas
Marlene Alvarez Roland
Merek Leo Roman
Casey Rook
Kelsey Lyn Root



Mark Roper
Elena Rosas
Maria Carmen Rosas
Brett Rosbury
Avery Rose
Kristin Rose



Tyler Rose
Megan L. Ross
Kathryn Rostan
Jason Rosum
Lisa Rotenheber
Katherine Rothley



Senior Portraits

Ian Rothney
Jeremy Rowe
Casey Rowley
Jacquelyn Rowley
Arcel Roxas
Erika Royce

William Roycraft
Ashley Rudolph
Eric Rue
Elizabeth Loraine Rummel
Lena Southwick Runestad
Kimberly Runge

Andrew J. Rupprecht
Brittany Elise Russell
Steven Russo
Hattie Inese Rutledge
Ashley J. Ryerse
Gem Sabolboro

Jason Sacco
Andrea Saieh
Yuta Sakai
Kevin Salata
Azra Salihovic
Kiley Salomon

Kimberly Sammut
Katherine Sanchez
Jenna Sander
Emily K. Sander
Nathan Sanders
Abigail Sandmann

Ricki Santilli
Anna Sapak
Shota Sato
Joshua Sattler
Arleigh Savage
Erin Savage

Jade Savage
James Joseph Savage
Leslie E. Saxon
John Scaramucci
Jennifer Lynne Scarff
Emily Schaefer

Nicole Schaendorf
Kimberly Schaub
Jonathan Schemer
Jacob Schering
Jonathan Schiller
Nicole Schippel



Megan Schira
Daniel Schleh
Lindsay Schmidt
Raymond Schmidt
Stephanie Schmitt
Danielle Schmitz



William Schneider
Nicholas Schock
Sarah Schoenherr
Haley Schrauben
Erik Schreefel
Melissa Schriener



David Schrock
Chelsea Schroeder
Sarah Schroeder
Joshua Schultz
Laura Schultz
Blair Schwartz



Robert Schwartz
Lee Schwinghamer
Kristen Marie Sciarino
Kyle Scicluna
Jessica Renee Scott
Lauryn Ranae Scott



Ross Scott
Mara Beth Sculler
Paige Seabrook
Nickolas Sears
Katherine Sedlak
Linsey Seitz



Anna Selgert
Darrin Sembarski
Brandon Semrau
Xeniya Serbina
Michelle Server
Josh Seward-Carrasquillo



Senior Portraits



Mario Sexton
Ruchi Shah
Jason Shalla
Mary Irene Shannon
Sarah Shapiro
Mengyu Shi

Shangyun Shi
Shaheen Shidfar
Daniel Shillair
Jee-min Shin
Rachel Shina
Tasha D. Shines

Joseph Shipman
Chadwick Shirk
Abdulkadir Shoble
Christine Shorter
Gregory LeShun Shorter Jr.
Saurav Shrestha

Maxwell Shuftan
Eric V. Shutman
Ian Sibinic
Audrianna Lynn Sibiski
Emily Sicheneder
Anthony Siciliano

Elise Sidlosky
Rachel Sioff
Malani M. Simmons
Ashley Simms
Amanda Simon
Willie Sims

Shahmi Ilham Sinan
Reecha Singh
Zorawar Singh
Joshua Sinnaeve
Julie Sinon
King Yeung Siu

Amanda Skalski
Erika Skalski
Trisha Slocum
Russell Slusarczyk
Salena Smedley
Caitlin Smeenge

Kevin Smiley
Amber Smith
Bianca Denise Smith
Chanelle Smith
Christian Smith
Darell Jack Smith



Elizabeth Smith
Heather Smith
Ian Smith
Jason Henry Smith
Jeffrey Smith
Johnetta Smith



Lisa Marie Smith
Mark Smith
Michelle Kristen Smith
Rachel Smith
Richard Smith
Stephen Smith



Whitney Smith
Erinn Frances Smyth
Nicole Snabes
Meagan Snavelly
Raquel Snyder
Giordana Sobel



Kendra Sokol
Christopher Solimano
Jennifer Solomon
Natasha Solomon
Janelle Sommerville
Sooyong Son



Heejin Song
Noh-Min Song
Whitney Spanka
Amy Spanske
Stephanie L. Sparks
Molly Spearin



Emily Spence
Brian Jonars Besana Spielberg
Agnieszka Spieszny
Chelsey C. Spriggs
Hope Springstead
Tim Stachelski



Senior Portraits



Janeen Stalder
Emily Stall
Adam Starks
Brian J. Starr
Cameron Joseph Starr
Shane Stecher

Randy Steffer
Benjamin Stein
Gregory Stein
Michael Stein
Sumira Stein
Stephanie Stephens

Brian Stevens
Vanessa Stevens
Helena Stewart
Ryan Stewart
Mark Stiles
Emily Jean Stith

Joseph Stoiko
Anthony Jermome Stone Jr.
Bart Stoneman
Jennifer Stout
Kaite Stouten
Elizabeth Stoutenburg

Daniel Strayer
Lauren Nicole Strickland
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Andrew Struska
Jennifer Stuard
Loren Su

Tiffany Suell
David Suggs IV
Ji-Won Suh
Andrew Sullivan
Christopher Sullivan
Mika Sumner

Britney Sumpter
Katherine Sundberg
Robert Thomas Super III
Jessica Lynn Surdock
Stephanie Suther
Tiffany Mary Svoboda

Eric Swanson
Ashley Marie Swartz
Nicholas Swartz
Kaitlin Sweeney
Garrett Swezene
Emily Swirsky



Rachel Swyer
Stephanie Symons
Megan Szalony
Kathryn Szykowski
Melissa Danielle Talamonti
Sze Man Veronica Tam



Nicole L. Tanghe
Joseph Michael Tasse Jr.
Janel C. Taylor
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Susan Teegardin-Jackson



Capri Tennis
Gabrielle Tepp
Simone Terfa
Nicquel Terry
Biruktawit Tessema
Lisamarie Aniela Tessman



Matthew Thalls
Thomas Theisen
Sarah Thelen
Jennifer Therrian
Henry Thoenes
De'Andre Thomas



Lauren Thomas
Noble Anthony Thomas
Shaneka Thomas
Tanisha Thomas
Caitlin Thompson
Cassandra Thompson



Maggie Thomson
Mark Thomson
Evan Thorlakson
Tometka Thurman
Michael Joesph Tiano
Jena Jolaine Tiller



Senior Portraits



David Tindle
Giuliana Tirella
Samuel Tkac
Dhanielle Ciara Tobias
Nelly Tomas
Alexandra Tomasek

Sarah Tomek
Silvana Irina Totan
Mallory Totzke
Tony Towns
Kristen Nichole Townsel
Josh Townsend

Elizabeth Toy
Kevin Tracey
Adam Tran
Khoi Quang Tran
Nhung Tran
Vinh Tran

Alex Traskal
Christopher Traviglia
Alina Tredeau
Lauren Tremonti
Shane Jay-Lynne Trent
Kyle Treptow

Joseph Trocino
Jennifer Trotta
Allyson Trudell
Craig Trudell
Wei Tsao
Matthew Turckes

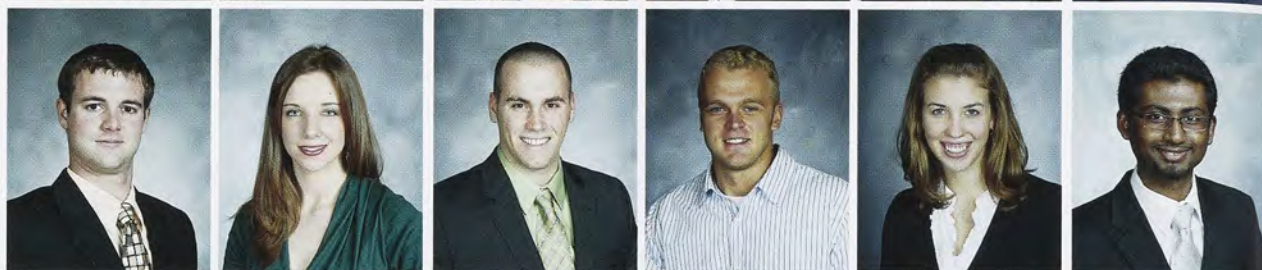
Sara Turcotte
Sierra Tyran
Brandon Uhl
Emma Linden Ulrich
Benjamin Underwood
Kate Unitis

Ashli Ordine Upchurch
David Uschwald
Kimberly Sue Usitalo
Peter Vaclav
Rochelle Brooke Vallade
Roel Valle

LaMonica Nicole Van
Ariel Vanderboght
Ashley VanderBroek
Joy Elizabeth VanderWeele
Leah Vandever
Valeri VanDeVusse



Kyle Vandonkelaar
Elizabeth Van Fleteren
Mitchell James VanSumeren
Anthony Vanwoerkom
Gina Rae Varner
Jobin John Varughese



Stephen Vecchio
Sarah Mae Vedolich
Jezreel Anne Vedua
Philip Veenhoven
Stephanie J. Vella
Alicia Verardi



Kunal Verma
Heather Verran
Heidi Vick
Cynthia Victoria
Samantha Victoria
Robert Vigil



Martin D. Villarreal
Kyle Vincek
Brent Visser
Krishna Vistarakula
A. Francesca Vitale
Stephanie Vizachero



Renee Voelker
Allison Voglesong
Brandon D. Volsan
Martin Vowell
Darice Vuong
Kelly Wagner



Alexander Walker
Brad Walker
Chayse Eugene Walker
Akia Wallace
Darcy Wallace
Troy J. Wallace



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aBrienne Walsh
Erica Waltz
Michael Wandersee
ChenChen Wang
Sichun Wang
Michael Warakowski

Katie Ward
Erika Warda
James Wardrop
Brian Warner
Aaron Warshay
Matthew Waselik

Lindsay Washeleski
Jamal A. Washington
Evan Michael Wasserman
Cecelia Wasylewski
Dayna Watson
Michael Watson

Jarome Watts
Samantha Wax
Andrew Way
Michael Webber
Mallory Weddon
Sarada Weerasinghe

Nicholas Weil
Kristen Weiland
James Weiner
Danielle A. Welch
Michael Welch
Lauren Elyse Weller

Robert Wells
Victoria Wells
Jonathan Welter
Ya Wen
Nicholas Wendling
Beth Wenkel

Alicia Wentzloff
Brett Werblow
Anthony Wernette
Phillipe Wernette
Sarah Louise Wernette
Janae Westbrook

Diane Western
Amanda Marie Westrick
Chad Westveld
Dennis Wey
Tamika Renee Whaley
Kristine Whall



Demetrius Alexander White
Domonique Rochelle White
Erica White
Jennifer Arice White
Neil White
Jessica Whitehurst



Allison Whitfield
Courtney Whitmore
Nichole Wickens
Mark Wickman
Alyson Wiefraert
Allison Wielgos



Daniel Wilcox
Lydia Wiley
Taibriana Wilkins
Heather Wilkinson
Aleisha P. Williams
April Y. Williams



David Williams
Doretha Je'Han Williams
Jennifer Williams
Leah Williams
Sean Xavier Williams
Anthony Willis



Erika E. Willis
Jennifer Willner
Ashley Wilson
Breanna Wilson
David M. Wilson
Elizabeth Ruth Wilson



Emma Lucille Wils-Plotz
Jennifer Wilt
Kyle Wimbush
Emily Winn
Sasha Wise
Megan Wisely



Senior Portraits



Katelyn N. Wiseman
Sara Wisnoski
Cassandra Wissink
Karlie Witbrodt
Jillian Witherspoon
Jacob Wittbrodt

Kelly Wnuk
Heather Woelkers
Kevin Wojcik
Brittney Wojtaszek
Daniel Wolf
Hilary Wolf

Kristen Marissa Wolfe
Cooper Wolfson
Shari Wolke
Ka-Sing Wong
Kristyn Wong
Veronica Wood

Brent Thomas Woodman
Katie Woods
Gwendolyn C. Woolfolk
Krystina Workman
Faris Wright
Joshua Wrinkle

Keeley Wrook
Felicia Wun
Antjuan Wyatt
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Christine Shoua Xiong
Haoli Xue

Byung-Ho Yang
Nhua Yang
Marvin Yates
Ko Yun Yeh
Emily Yelvington
Juncheol Yeom

Leonard Yip
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Natalie Youakim
Andrew Kai Hong Yuen
Lina Yun
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Kristen A. Zackery
 Mohamed Zaghloul
 Jawad Zaheer
 Mohamad Zainal
 Joseph Zalokar
 Sylvia Zannis



Enrique Zaragoza Jr.
 Matthew Zebula
 Lauren Zedan
 Stephen Zell
 Julianne M. Zelony
 Amy Pinar Zerwas



Xian Zhang
 Xianglin Zhang
 Xiaowan Zhang
 Theodore Michael Zielinski
 Karl Ziemelis
 Aubrey Zimmerman



Mary-Caitlin Zoet
 Nada Zohdy
 Whitney Zoll
 Gina Zoratti
 Katie Zuker
 Steven Zuraski



Christopher Zwick
 Carli Zyskowski





Spartan graduates donned green robes and red tassels for their spring graduation. Congratulations to the class of 2010.

Matthew Mikus



Erica Treas

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 Master Suite and Microsoft Office 2004. Other software included Spyder3Elite 3.0.1.

Type: All body copy and headlines were created within the Helvetica family. All captions, folio and page numbers were within the Letter Gothic Standard family.

Photography: The photography of the Red Cedar Log, with the exception of senior portraits and some outside submissions, is wholly the original work of the photographers that worked on this issue. 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, ASMSU provided a set amount of revenue through student tax dollars, which

equals about \$3 per student, for the publication of the yearbook. As students returned to school in August, the previous year's yearbook could be picked up at various local book stores and in on-campus buildings. For a small fee, alumni can have books shipped to them. All expenditures were paid for with funds earned through partnerships with Lauren Studios and Educational Services, Inc. Content in the yearbook were determined by the Editor-in-Chief, the Content Managing Editor, the Photography Managing Editor and the Design 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 16,000 copies of the 400-page, full-color yearbook printed from Jostens Inc., costing about \$131,000.

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, Paul Bilgore, Everyone from Lauren Studios, Debra Gleason, Brian Jeffries, Shannon Spainhower, Kyle Dysarz, Chris Schotten, John Vandercruyssen, Eric Endlich, Kyle Hartwig, Kathy Waliczek and Jesse Spears.



Alissa Lane
Mason Robinson

RCL editors listen as Jostens employee, Art Grundfast, gives a tour of the plant. Staff members visited Jostens' factory in February.

Editor-in-Chief Matthew Mikus speaks to his staff during a Tuesday night meeting. Jessica Halfyard, staff designer, ignored Mikus during his weekly shpeel.



Red Cedar Log staff members pose for a group photo during the staff's year-end celebration. The staff displayed an outstanding family bond.



Intern photographer Veronica Nagy waits patiently as Photo Editor Alissa Lane pulls camera equipment from the storage closet. The closet was full of various lenses and camera bodies.

Former staff photographer Lauren Wood, Photo Editor Alissa Lane, and former staff photographer Elise Lefere prepare for a helicopter ride. The photographers flew over campus for aerial photos.



Mason Robinson

Submitted by pilot

2010 RED CEDAR LOG

The Red Cedar Log is an award-winning, professional publication produced by students- students who have a passion for writing, photography, design, business, editing and producing a yearbook that many students and alumni will cherish and keep for years.

Producing a four hundred page book is no small feat, and every year brings a new set of challenges. After a long, difficult year, we created a book that shows the individual voices that together, make up Michigan State University.

Our approach this year was a little different. Before the start of the 2009-2010, our editorial staff decided to try a new approach. We focused our creative energy behind one central idea "Pieces of the Whole." Based on the theme, we decided to focus on individual people, groups and events that were part of the experience of Michigan State University.

Though we can't cover every event that happens on this great campus throughout the year, we hope that our book helps you think about your individual moments in college. Whether it be skipping class, joining student organizations, or going to sporting events, we hope this book brings back memories of your time at Michigan State and reminds you how you are, and always will be a Spartan.

Channeling her inner child, staff photographer Erica Treais makes a mask using her hands. Treais brought a unique, memorable sense of humor to the staff.

2010 RED CEDAR LOG STAFF

Editor-in-Chief: Matthew Mikus | **Business Manager:** Yin Yu | **Design Managing Editor:** Vicari Vollmar | **Photography Managing Editor:** Alissa Lane | **Assistant Photo Managing Editor:** Mason Robinson | **Content Managing Editor:** Laura Dzik | **Copy Editors:** Erika Ffelski, Tim Keith | **Journalists:** Colby Berthume, Isaac Hee, Angie Jackson, Jacob Kanclerz, Leslie Tilson, Jessica Whitmill | **Photographers:** Jennifer Garavaglia, Veronica Nagy, Ellina Stein, Erica Treais | **Designers:** Betsy Eber, Jessica Halfyard, Brendan Prost | **Distributors:** Andrew Struska | **Special Thanks to:** Natalie Calloway, John Gelardi, Jeff Hicks, Elise Lefere, Dustin McNees, Emily Robinson, Rachel Sylvester, Chris Winfield, Lauren Wood



Ellina Stein

Photo staff members Ellina Stein, Mason Robinson, and Erica Treais practice technique in a Kresge studio. Photographers proved their dedication by practicing their craft outside of their yearbook employment.

Attempting to hide her identity, staff photographer Erica Treais places a box on her head. Treais' outrageous humor often kept the staff laughing.



Ellina Stein



Hilary Higgins



Alissa Lane

Staff members Yin Yu, Laura Dzik, and Dustin McNees listen as a Jostens employee explains the printing process. RCL editors toured the plant in February.

Sitting on the ledge of a bridge in Providence, Rhode Island, former Assistant Photo Editor Lauren Wood and Photo Editor Alissa Lane enjoy the water. Staff members visited for a journalism conference.



Yin Yu

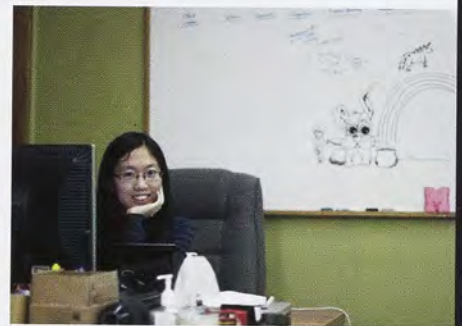
Photo Editor Alissa Lane reviews her notes during a weekly staff meeting. Lane coordinated assignments with three staff photographers and three intern photographers.

Red Cedar Log Staff



The Red Cedar Log design staff, composed of Betsy Eber, Brendan Prost, Vicari Vollmar, and Jessica Halfyard pose for a family portrait. Designers displayed a bond capable of lasting a lifetime.

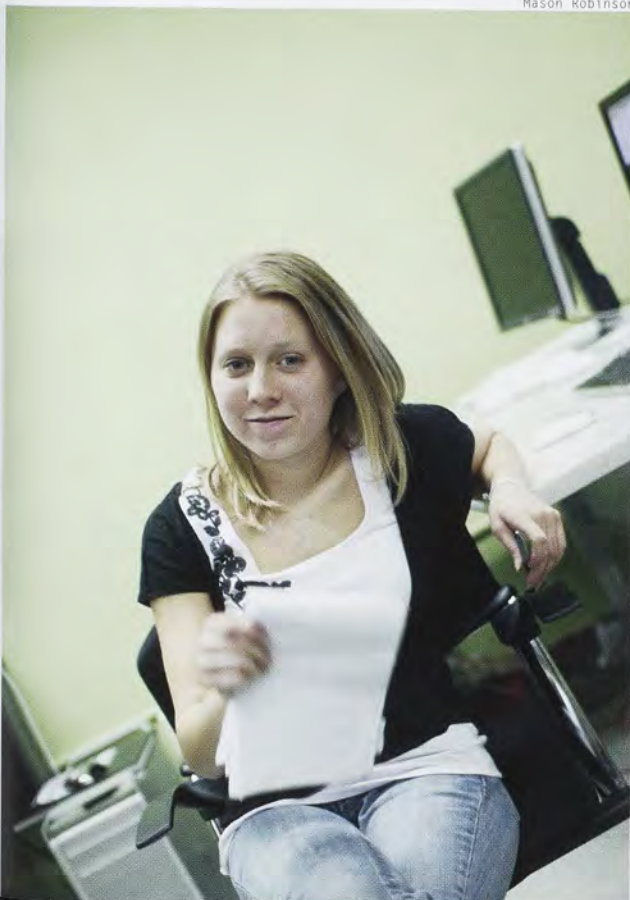
Always staying busy, Business Manager Yin Yu gets work done at her desk. Staff members often drew pictures on her white board.



Mason Robinson

Mason Robinson

Mason Robinson



Lining up a shot during a game of pool, Design Editor Vicari Vollmar participated in a match against other RCL staff members. Vollmar and her teammate were victorious.

Matthew Mikus

The content staff, consisting of Colby Berthume, Angie Jackson, Leslie Tilson, Jacob Kanclerz, and Isaac Hee gather at the RCL year-end celebration. The staff made great contributions to the creation of the yearbook.



Leslie Tilson

Assistant Content Editor, Laura Dzik, lines up a shot during a game of pool. Members of the staff visited Dave and Buster's during a conference in Providence, Rhode Island.



Matthew Mikus



Mason Robinson

Approving of the staff meeting, Design Editor Vicari Vollmar shoots a thumbs-up at the camera. Staff photographer Veronica Nagy looks on, observing the staff's 'about me' posters.

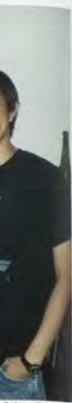
Assistant Content Editor, Laura Dzik and Business Manager, Yin Yu pose in Jostens' yearbook library. The editors toured the company's plant in Tennessee.



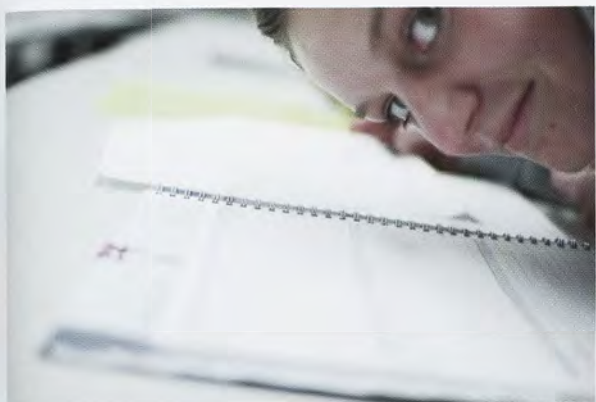
Alissa Lane



Red Cedar Log Staff



Elie Tilson



Mason Robinson



During a weekly staff meeting, staff photographer Elise Lefere (above) goofs around for the camera. Photographers chose their events to shoot during each meeting.

The Red Cedar Log photo staff poses for a family photo. Each member of the photo staff contributed excellent work to the yearbook.

Mason Robinson



To photograph the entire campus, Lauren Wood, former Assistant Photo Editor, rides in a helicopter above MSU. Unfortunately, Wood was afraid of heights.

During a weekly staff meeting, Assistant Content Editor, Laura Dzik, reviews assignments with several staff members. Stories were assigned every Tuesday evening.

Alissa Lane



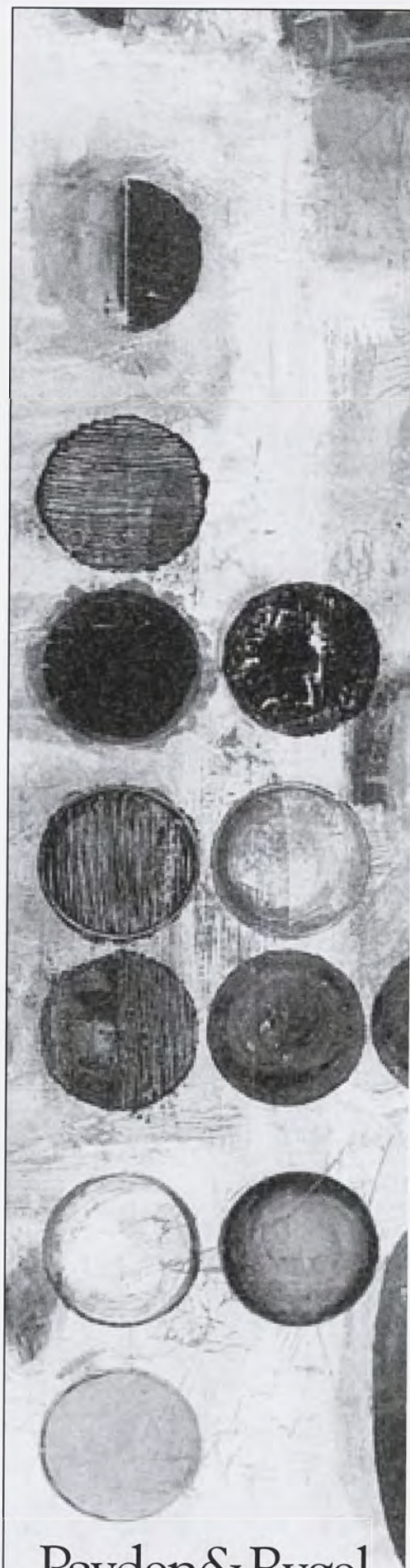
Ellina Stein

Matthew Mikus

Defying gravity, Staff Designer Brendan Prost attempts to jump over a raging bonfire. Staff members bonded at Uncle John's Orchard in November.



Alissa Lane



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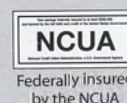
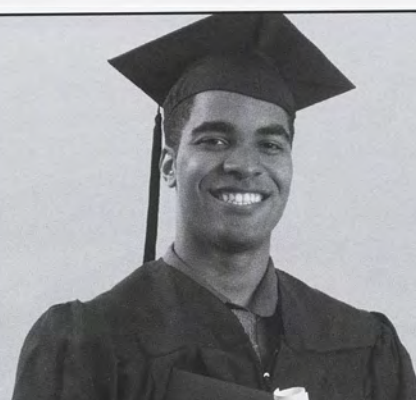
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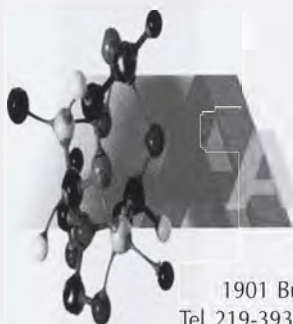
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

My experience at the Red Cedar Log started when I realized that being a chemistry major just wasn't going to cut it for me. I changed my major to journalism and met Jeff Proulx, who encouraged me to apply to the Red Cedar Log as a staff photographer. My life hasn't been the same since.

After my first year on staff, I became the Photography Editor for a semester and the next semester became the Editor-in-Chief. What a humbling experience. It was not easy, and I couldn't have done it without a close group of friends and family.

I want to extend my first thanks to Vicari Vollmar, my design editor, who helped me realize that the right decisions are rarely the easiest. Her care for her three designers and sacrifice for the production of this book is greatly appreciated. Words cannot express how much I'm in debt to you.

Alissa Lane, my photography editor for three semesters- thanks for always being there when I needed to talk to somebody. You are a true friend and I can't wait to see where life takes you.

My content editor, Laura Dzik, has had a difficult job all year. Though you started as the assistant, you quickly adapted when we needed you the most. I am in debt to you, and I hope you always stay in touch.

Then there are my close friends, to name a few: Jeremy Teike, Nicole Fowlkes, Richard Blair, Brian Bonter, Ashlee Lechowicz, Andrew Struska, Lisa Ermak and to all those I neglected to mention- thank you for all of your support and the fun times we've shared.

Finally, I want to thank my family. Dennis, Eileen, Amy, and Josie. So many times I spent my hours dedicated to this book, but it was your love and support that got me through the rough spots.

And finally, Maggie, my lil' sister. I am so excited that you'll be a Spartan next year. One piece of advice, get out there and experience as much as you can! I'm not worried about your grades, I know you're going places. Love you all!





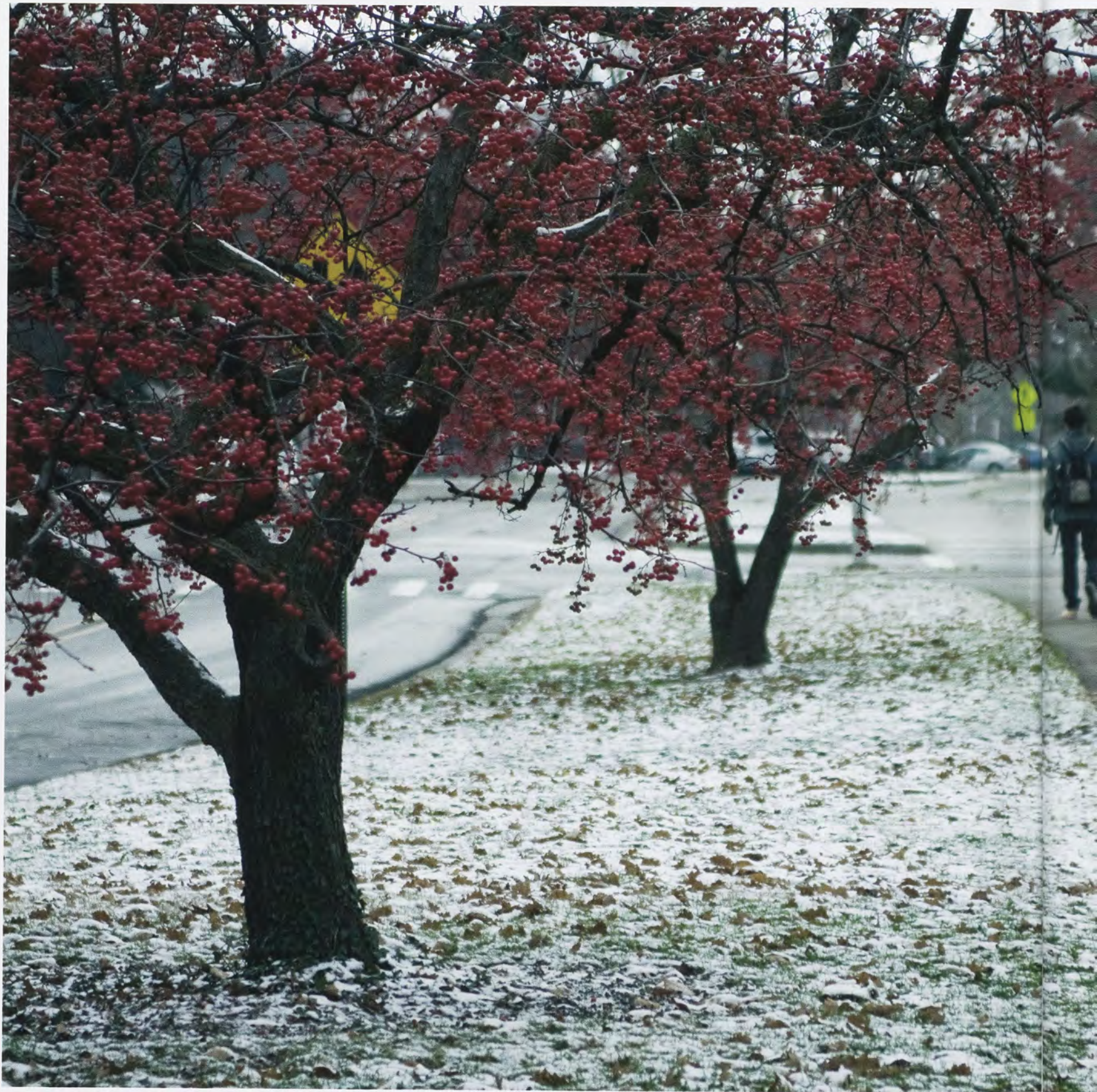


Mason Robinson

Another year over, another memory kept forever.

Though some of us will be leaving, and some have many more years to spend here, we're all still part of something bigger.

We are the pieces of a university with over 160 years of tradition and excellence. We are Spartans, and we will always be Spartans. ■





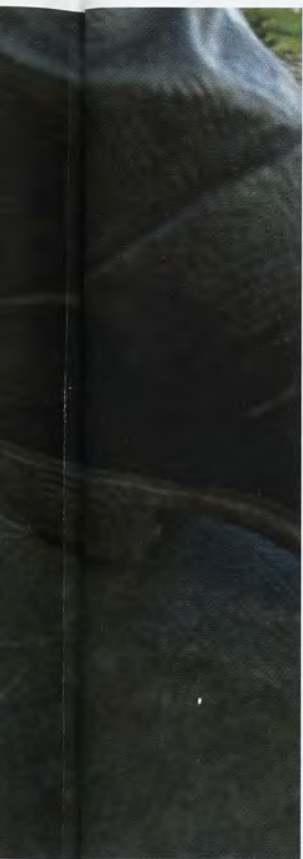
Ellina Stein

Ellina Stein



Alissa Lane





Mason Robinson



Mason Robinson







John Gelardi

TO THE CLASS OF 2010:

Congratulations on your graduation from Michigan State University! Of the many successes you will undoubtedly enjoy throughout your lives, this is one that will shine long after others fade. A diploma from this university requires personal dedication, service to one's community, and the support of peers and mentors along the way. Just as this milestone is one of many that will positively shape your life, so too are each of you integral parts of Team MSU.

Over the course of the last year, our school has again distinguished itself as an institution that truly strives to live out its mission of advancing knowledge and transforming lives. In addition to an administrative commitment to core values, our university has been strengthened by the dedication of individuals to academic and civic engagement. With the guidance of faculty and staff, students, especially those of this graduating class, have made important contributions to our legacy as a Land Grant University.

MSU has made its presence felt within East Lansing and around the world. During the last year, ground was broken to begin the construction of the Eli and Edythe Broad Museum of Art. A new recycling center opened that will help us to continue our leadership of universities worldwide that are striving to reduce their environmental footprint. MSU researchers abroad are using innovative solutions to fight poverty and global climate change. Collaborating across disciplines, Spartans are developing a holistic approach to address alternative energy that most efficiently uses every available resource. We have secured competitive grants from the National Science Foundation, Department of Homeland Security, Environmental Protection Agency, and others. Disadvantaged youth are engaged in meaningful extracurricular programs that expose them to culture and the arts. In our backyard and around planet Earth,



Submitted Photo

MSU is making a difference in the lives of people everywhere.

Within the classroom, Spartans have continued to distinguish themselves. Traveling around the world through one of the nation's largest Study Abroad programs, students have enhanced their on-campus education by immersing themselves in other cultures and learning environments. Seven Fulbright scholars are making education a reality for people in places such as Malawi, Hungary, and Taiwan. MSU alumni that have gone on to become Goldwater, Rhodes, Churchill, Truman, Marshall, Udall, Hollings, Gates, and Mitchell scholars represent some of the brightest students in the Big Ten and around the country. The MSU Debate team brought home high honors this spring as the winners of the National Championship.

On the field, too, athletes have individually and collectively exemplified what it means to have the heart of a Spartan. An impressive football record and a trip to the Final Four provided exciting moments of good cheer and camaraderie for Spartans everywhere. Off of the field, athletes from many sports gave of their time in service around the community.

As you prepare to write the next chapter in your own lives, I encourage you to reflect on the impact that you have made on Michigan State. Our university represents the synthesis of a diversity of talents working towards a common goal of advancing knowledge and transforming lives. I hope that wherever your lives should lead in the future, they continue to be marked by a commitment to these values. Best of luck for your continued success!

Sincerely,
Lou Anna K. Simon, Ph.D.
President

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