

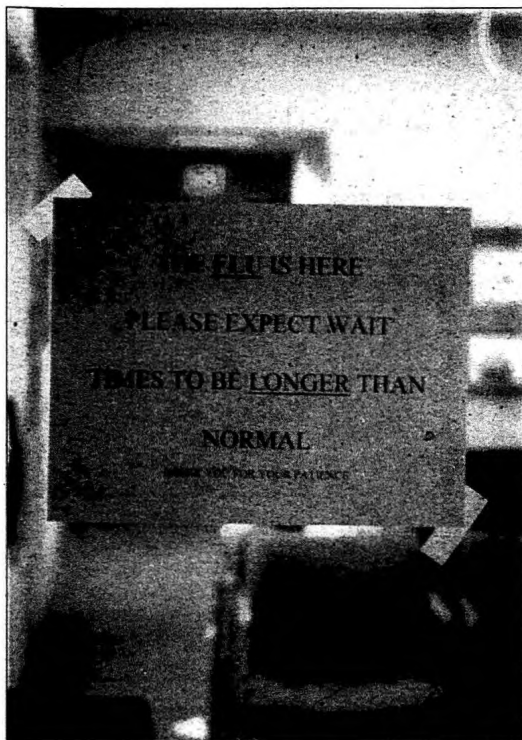
The North Wind



Recycled Percussion concert — page 9

Feb. 28, 2008 • www.thenorthwindonline.com • Volume 79, Issue 4

NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1972



Amanda Shellnut/NW Due to the increase in the infections of the flu in Marquette, area medical centers such as Lake Superior Walk-In Clinic are seeing many patients.

Clinics experiencing rise in patients with flu

by CASSANDRA STUROS
associate news editor

Although flu cases statewide have begun to drop, local doctors said they are seeing an increase in patients infected with the illness.

There has been a recent increase in patients with the flu at Marquette General Hospital (MGH) in the past few weeks, said John Wallace, infectious disease physician for MGH.

In fact, so many patients were coming in with the flu that a restriction had to be enforced for visitors coming into the hospital to prevent the illness from spreading, Wallace said.

"We put the flu restriction on when we're seeing so much influenza to keep visitors from bringing it into the hospital because it's very contagious and

easily spread," he said. "It can make people who are sick in the hospital already much sicker."

The number of deaths due to national pneumonia and influenza has been over the epidemic threshold for the sixth week in a row, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

Every year we have to guess about the next year's flu vaccine ...
— John Wallace, infectious disease physician for Marquette General Hospital

The flu may be causing more adverse effects this year because of the flu shot's lack of effectiveness, Wallace said.

"Every year we have to guess about the next year's flu vaccine because it takes awhile based on the strains that are circling around," he said. "Those strains

aren't always the ones circulating around the next year. Some years are better guesses than others."

The Health Center on campus has already seen several hundred flu cases this year as well, said Thomas Schacht, specialist in internal medicine and director at the Vielmetti Health Center.

Associate professor of biology Osvaldo Lopez is currently performing an influenza study and feels that the flu is at a high in Marquette.

"It seems to me that this [flu] season is pretty high; it seems that it is elevated more than normal," he said.

While doing the study on influenza, Lopez has seen an increased number of students with the flu participating recently. About 30 students have come in, Lopez said.

Some symptoms of the flu include fever, headaches, fatigue,

Please see **FLU** on Page 2

Students questioning religion have options

by ASHLEY BERKEN
news editor

During at least one point in nearly half of all American's lives, they leave their childhood religion for a new religion or leave religious groups altogether, according to a religious survey released Monday by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life.

The survey, which asked 35,000 Americans about their religion, also showed that 25 percent of adults age 18 to 29 have no affiliation with a particular religion.

College students are at the age where they start questioning their religious beliefs, said Paul Lehmborg, NMU English professor and Zen Buddhist priest.

"College students are not quite full adults," said Lehmborg who heads a small Zen temple in

Marquette. "For the first time, they're leaving on their own, and it's natural and healthy that they should examine and question the beliefs with which they've been raised. Many students will abandon the religion of their parents, but—especially when they have children—some

[Questioning beliefs] is all natural, and, for some, inevitable.
— Paul Lehmborg, English professor and Zen Buddhist Priest

of these same people will re-examine their beliefs and return to the churches in which they were raised. This is all natural, and, for some, inevitable."

One option for students with questions about the Bible or religion in general is the Lutheran Student

Movement's Web site, tiredofthiscrap.com.

The forum is a free-thought site that encourages visitors from any religion to post rants or questions of any kind, said junior accounting major Andrew Foster, the coordinator and co-founder of the site.

When compared to some other religious groups on NMU's campus, members of the Lutheran Student Movement considers their thoughts on religion to be liberal, Foster said.

"There's the religious life, which basically believes that abortion is bad, gays are going to hell and there's black and white ways to view things," Foster said. "There's no gray. There's God's way and there's the devil's way."

Foster said that his organization fails to fit into

Please see **FAITH** on Page 2



Chad Casper/NW



Amanda Shellnut/NW
NATIVE BEADS Katrina Arnold, freshman pharmacy major, is participating in a beading class in the Center for Native Studies Tuesday night. The class is being taught by Peggie Shelifoe.

FAITH
Continued from Page 1

this mold.
 "Our movement can see the gray and embrace the gray, as opposed to black and white," he added.
 Another group, Campus Crusade for Christ, considers itself interdenominational-Christian. Instead of opening the Bible up for interpretation, the group views the Bible as literally as possible, said Neal Glatt, senior marketing and Spanish major, and member of Campus Crusade for Christ.
 "If you are familiar with the Bible, there are specific points

that outline that the Bible is completely infallible the way that it is written," Glatt said. "If it is not accepted in whole, then it is not accepted period; this is written in the Bible."
 However, all members of Campus Crusade for Christ don't believe everything that Tired of this Crap is criticizing in their rants, said Dave Michels, adviser to Campus Crusade for Christ.
 "They are alluding to the fact that I believe things that are wrong," Michels said. "They are saying it in a way on their Web site that really isn't what I would call Christian. They are pointing a finger saying, 'You

say this ...' but that's not really what I say."
 An important concept for students that are questioning their faith, or are interested in a new faith, is that they shouldn't think that they only get one chance to change their minds, Lehmbert said.
 "It takes courage, I think, to question honestly, but your spiritual life will ultimately be the stronger for it," he said. "And whatever you decide now, these are not decisions that are made for all time, though they may seem so now. Your ideas will evolve, if only because different things are important to us at different points in our lives."

FLU
Continued from Page 1

a cough or sore throat, runny nose or body aches. While having these symptoms doesn't necessarily mean it's the flu, it could be symptoms of the common cold or other illnesses, said the CDC.
 It is very hard to distinguish the flu from other infections based on symptoms alone and a doctor's visit may be needed to indicate whether it's the flu or not. There are tests that can determine if an illness is actually the flu, as long as the test is done within the first two or three days of illness. A typical

case of the flu generally lasts between five and 10 days, according to the CDC.
 The best way for students to prevent the flu is with the shot, but very few students actually get it and it would be in their best interest to do so, Schacht said.
 "Students would be well advised to get immunized; they're not at a high risk for complications," he said. "Young people generally fair well, but [the flu] is also a misery that you don't need to experience."
 If students choose not to get the flu shot then they should at least practice good hand wash-

ing techniques, try to stay away from crowds and keep their distance from those people who have the flu, which usually remains infectious within five to seven days of exposure, he added.
 He advised students with the flu or symptoms to take cough syrup, stay well hydrated and get extra rest if possible.
 "Cough syrups do just as well [as other medicines] with a cup of tea and a nap," he said. "There are some antiviral medicines but the [improvements] are small. Prevention still remains the best way to handle the flu."

Map Key

On Feb. 16, graffiti was found sprayed on a directional cube at Norwood Apartments. The case is still open.

On Feb. 16, a minor was found in possession of alcohol in Lot 27. The student was referred to the Dean of Students Office.

On Feb. 18, a credit card was stolen from a room in Halverson Hall and then used. The case is still open.

On Feb. 21, a parked vehicle was vandalized in Lot 46. There was a large dent made around the trunk area. The case is still open.

CAMPUS CRIME MAP



BRIEFS

Local

Wii contest to be held at GameStop

The March 8 release of Nintendo Wii's "Super Smash Bros. Brawl" video game will kick off round one of a national GameStop competition made up of four rounds. This competition will include the Marquette store and stores all over the United States. According to the official rules on GameStop's Web site, those who want to compete must register with the GameStop Tournament Director no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of the tournament. Contestants will be paired off in order to compete against each other in a process of elimination. Round one winners will be announced the winner of their district and will be eligible to compete in round two. According to GameStop.com, the grand prize winner will receive a plasma TV, a Wii system, a Nintendo game library and \$5,000 in cash. Winners of rounds 1-3 will also receive prizes. Eight semi-finalists will be flown to California to compete in the final round on April 12. Those who wish to participate in the competition can attend the midnight launch party on March 8 at GameStop on US Highway 41. The line to get in is expected to start around 9 p.m., said assistant manager Carmen Ciccone. Ciccone added that the store will temporarily close to prepare for the tournament and will reopen between 10-10:30 p.m. More information on the competition and the rules can be found at <http://www.gamestop.com/smash>.

— Carrie Carlson

Campus

Bookstore holds picture contest

The NMU Bookstore is holding a contest where Northern students can enter photos of themselves on spring break dressed in NMU apparel. Paul A. Wright, assistant manager at the bookstore, said students should be imaginative but cautious with the photos they enter. "Photos should be tasteful, creative and original," he said. "It doesn't matter where you are or what you are doing, but be safe and please keep all activities legal." Wright added that the bookstore has the right to refuse any photo. All photo submissions must be received by March 14. First place will receive a \$100 gift certificate to the bookstore, second place will receive a digital camera and third place will receive an NMU hooded sweatshirt. Print photos must be at least 4"x6" in size and digital photos must be at least 640 x 480 pixels and 72 dpi so that they may be printed. All digital submissions must be sent to bookstor@nmu.edu with "photo contest" in the subject line, according to the contest rules on the NMU Bookstore Web site. Any photographs submitted will be posted for viewing in the bookstore but will not be returned. Photos entered may also be used for promotional purposes, Wright said. The decision of the judges is final, and the judges will consist of NMU Bookstore personnel, Wright added. Rules are posted in the bookstore or at www.nmubookstore.com.

— John Becker

Campus

North Wind brings home awards

The North Wind participated in the Best of the Midwest college newspaper convention and placed in three separate competition categories. The paper finished sixth overall in the Best of Show division for a four-year college tabloid newspaper. Curt Kemp, sports editor, took first place in the editorial/commentary category and seventh place in the sports story category. The Best of the Midwest is a three-day college newspaper convention, held this year in Minneapolis. "As the name implies, the convention drew the best student papers from all around the Midwest and it's great to know that the North Wind—and its writers—can compete against such a large and varied group of publications," said Kyle Whitney, interim editor-in-chief. Over 300 students and advisers from around the Midwest attended the conference, which is sponsored by the Associated College Press.

— Claire Abent

Did You Know?

Judge Judy earned a salary of \$28 million in 2007, while the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court made \$208,100.

— Forbes.com



Julia Woehrer/NW

Chinese Fulbright Scholar Master Han Jingsheng leads a workshop in Whitman Commons. Starting March 11, Master Han will be teaching a health promotion class on martial arts.

Fulbright scholar to teach martial arts class

by JACI BJORNE
contributing writer

A Chinese Fulbright Scholar arrived at Northern this semester to instruct a martial arts class and help students and the community with self-healing.

Master Han Jingsheng is a martial arts instructor, therapeutic massage healer and doctor of tuina, a traditional Chinese medicine.



As a Lehmburg Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence, Master Han is one of 800 teachers and professionals given the opportunity to come to the United States. The grants are awarded to individual scholars to conduct research, give lectures or both at universities in the United States, according to the Fulbright Scholar Program Web site.

The award is competitive and one must have a host in the United States to send a letter to the scholar's country ensuring that the scholar actually has an individual assisting them in the States, according to the Web site.

Z.Z. Lehmburg, an NMU professor, was the host Master Han needed to attain the Fulbright grant. She brought him to Northern for this semester to teach the martial arts class and give lectures to the community. Lehmburg met Master Han while traveling with students to China in 2006. She will act as his translator until his departure in May after

the end of winter semester.

"I was inspired by how well my students and Master Han got along with each other in China," Lehmburg said. "I noticed a mutual attraction between them; the students were curious about and interested in traditional Chinese medicine and Chinese martial arts, while Master Han was curious about and interested in the American culture and people."

Lehmburg also said she thought having Master Han come to NMU would be a great experience for both him and the university.

While at Northern, Master Han has written two articles about martial arts and Chinese medicine.

This will be very good for our society and it will be interesting.

— William Gasper,
NMU student

Starting March 11, Han will teach HP295Q Martial Arts in the Berry Events Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 7:40 p.m. This class will focus on the art of yiquan.

In an article written by Master Han and his brother, Han Jingyu, they said, "Summed up, [yiquan] could be called man's pursuit of a healthy mind and body... aimed at training and cultivating the practitioner by developing the natural instinctive abilities of the human body and mind."

Master Han has also been giving lectures to NMU classes and to residents of the Marquette area.

NMU students have been working closely with Master Han in preparation for his lectures and classes. These students have been conducting an independent study by translating these lectures into English.

Master Han is teaching the students many different aspects of Chinese culture, said Ellisa Clumpner, junior undeclared major. She is one of the students participating in Master Han's studies.

"I'm learning a lot of new vocabulary as well as culture as Master Han explains to me Chinese philosophies, martial arts, acupressure and their relationships," Clumpner said.

Master Han has also had his lectures and speeches translated by NMU student William Gasper.

He said he thought that Master Han's teachings could benefit more than just individual students.

"Chinese medicine has a lot of things for us to learn," Gasper said.

"This will be very good for our society and it will be interesting."

Master Han said he feels that he has had quite a different experience than his life in China before he left.

"I feel pretty good here. This is a very quiet and peaceful environment," he said, through a translator. "The only inconvenience I have experienced is living without a car, and also the language barrier."

Students can still register for HP295Q Martial Arts with Master Han. The class will only be offered this semester while Master Han is at NMU.

Students encouraged to create "green" idea

by TREVOR PAULUS
contributing writer

Northern Michigan University is currently accepting entries for The Big Green Idea, a competition aimed at making Northern a more environmentally-friendly campus.

The student with the best ecological entry will receive a 32 GB iPod Touch.

Open to currently enrolled students, the competition requires a one-page summary explaining students' ideas on how to make Northern "greener." The entries can either be practical or fantastical, but the winner will be selected based on originality, feasibility and potential impact.

The contest is sponsored by the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP), an organization dedicated to providing perpetual improvement to colleges and universities.

The idea behind the project is to get students involved in making their community a more environmentally-friendly place, said Jim Cantrill, a speech communication professor and AQIP Sustainability Committee member.

"We want to increase students'

awareness," he said. "We want to get them involved as more engaged students."

Cantrill said that students don't need to enter the competition in order to make a difference in the environment.

"Ultimately, going green begins at home," he said. "It's as simple as reducing our water consumption, recycling material and being cautious with what we consume and how we consume it."

Ideas are not limited to individuals and AQIP hopes to get submissions from groups as well, Cantrill added.

Senior business major John Bobrowski said he was open to the idea of a "greener" campus. He said he hadn't heard of The Big Green Idea, but thinks that it is a promising plan.

"In the area NMU is located, a more environment-friendly campus would be ideal," he said.

Andy Volpe, a junior human-centered design major, said he is considering entering the competition.

"I think it is a big step that Northern needs to take toward this idea of sustainability," Volpe said. "Becoming sustainable is something that will make Northern really stand out."

Peter Pless, a human centered design professor, said the project will benefit the Marquette community.

"The Big Green Idea is an important endeavor," Pless said. "I think it's definitely important as a community that we really understand and research what we're doing and what types of materials we're using in order to create a more sustainable type of environment."

Northern has a great opportunity as a university to really make sustainability its flagship, Pless added.

"Going green means more than just recycling paper," he said. "It is incredibly crucial that people begin to look at the bigger picture."

Cantrill said he encourages individuals or groups to submit their ideas no matter how big or small they might be.

"People may not think that their ideas are worthy of consideration," he added. "But empires are built on ideas out of people's minds."

Submissions must be e-mailed to aqip@nmu.edu by March 24. More information can be found on AQIP's Web site at www.aqip.org.

marquette music scene

Thursday, Feb. 28

Northland Pub:
Reynolds Recital Hall:

Billy Alberts, 8 p.m.
Jazz Band Concert, 7:30 p.m.

UpFront & Company:

View From Everest, 10 p.m.

Vango's:

Jim & Ray, 8 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 29

UpFront & Company:

Trailer Hitch, 10 p.m.

Saturday, Mar. 1

UpFront & Company:

Trailer Hitch, 10 p.m.

Monday, Mar. 3

Lagniappe Cajun Creole Eatery:

Fast Eddie's Blues Band, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar. 4

Northland Pub:

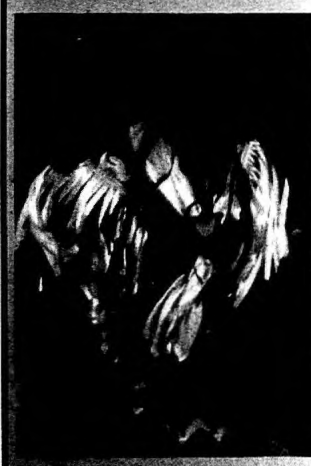
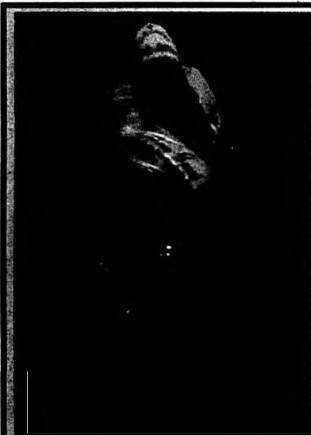
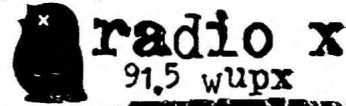
Chris Valenti, 9 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 14

Matrixx — Skyboxx:
UpFront & Company:

Wisecrack, 10:30 p.m.
Nudge, 10 p.m.

prepared by



POW WOW

The Northern Michigan University Native American Student Association invites you to the 16th annual "Learning to Walk Together" traditional pow wow

Admission is FREE to NMU students.

\$5 for a weekend button/\$3 for a daily pass (general public)

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Grand Entry Times

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1 p.m. Sunday

Can you volunteer?

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www.nmu.edu/nativeamericans

This event is presented by the Native American Student Association of NMU and is made possible by the support from the following NMU departments: Academic Affairs/Office of the Provost, Center for Native American Studies, College of Arts and Sciences, College of Professional Studies, the English Department, Equal Opportunity Office, Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Committee, Graduate Studies/Continuing Education, the Multicultural Education and Resource Center and the School of Education as well as the Keweenaw Indian Community. Special thanks to Chris Kibit and the Culinary Arts Program.

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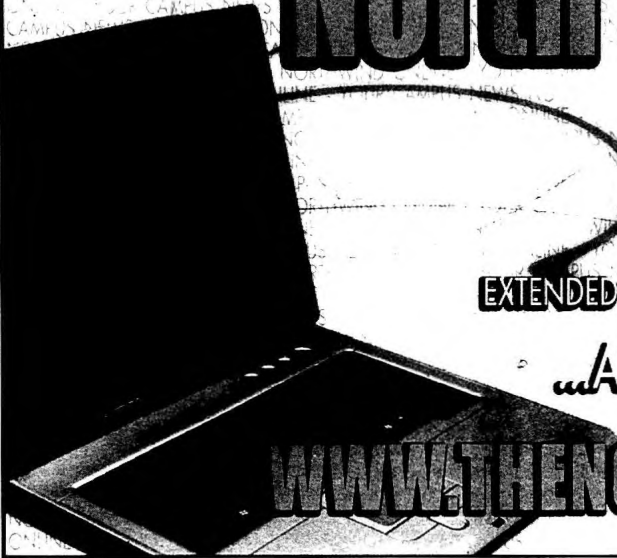
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Editorial

Clinton losing points

More than one month has passed since the Michigan primary on Jan. 15, but Sen. Hillary Clinton—the winner of that contest—is still looking for her unjust reward.

Democratic Party rules state that only Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada and South Carolina can hold nominating contests before Feb. 5. Knowing the regulations, Michigan advanced its primary date in an attempt to gain national attention for the event. The rules panel of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) then made the decision to strip Michigan of all delegates. Florida, which held its primary on Jan. 29, lost its delegates, too.

It's not as though Clinton even had much opposition in the Michigan contest. After the state violated party rules, Sens. Barack Obama and John Edwards pulled their names off the ticket. As the only front-runner on the ticket, Clinton promptly defeated "Uncommitted," 55.3 – 40 percent.

At the time, the results didn't matter in the slightest. But even though Clinton had no problem with the Michigan penalty when it was assessed in early December, her tune changed in the weeks after she won the contest. Recently, it has changed even more dramatically, as she has watched her delegate lead over Obama steadily slip away.

Clinton said on Friday, Feb. 22 that she was planning to pressure the DNC about the delegates from Michigan and Florida, which she also won, in hope that the decision would be overturned. The truth, however, is that the former first lady is wildly overstepping her bounds.

In a tight race for the Democratic presidential nomination, it is clear that Michigan's 156 delegates could make or break the next Democratic nominee for the presidency of the United States.

The fact is that Michigan broke the rules laid out by the DNC and the state is paying the price for that choice. If the party goes back on its word at this point, it will be unfair to all involved. Obama, who removed his name in an apparent show of respect for the DNC decision, would be wronged.

Even more importantly, however, the primary voters in the state of Michigan would be cheated. With only Clinton's name on the ballot and with seemingly no delegates at stake, it's difficult to believe that every Obama voter turned out just to cast an uncommitted vote. If it utilizes the Michigan primary results to hand out delegates, the Democratic Party would honor the results of a slanted election.

This country doesn't need another electoral scandal this year. It simply needs people—and states—that will respect authority and face the consequences of their actions.

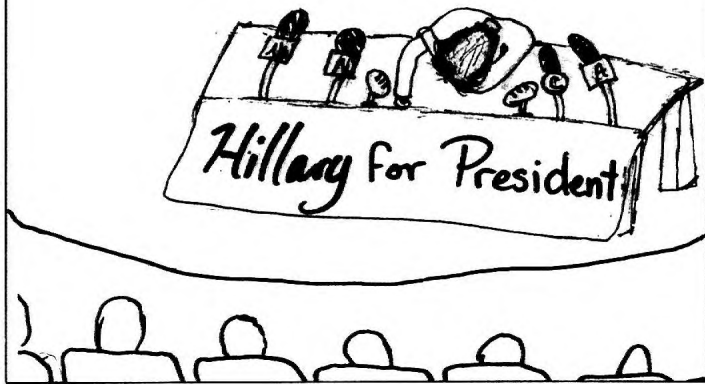
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Please. Can't I just have the delegates?



Susan Page
 opinion@thenorthwind.org

Letters to the Editor

Waterboarding should be called torture

The claim made by Carson LeMahieu (Feb. 21), that waterboarding is not a form of torture, deserves to be challenged. LeMahieu, like Bush, acknowledges the restraining force of moral standards so absolute that they can render worthless whatever good consequences result from violating them. Both refuse to say waterboarding is torture because both see torture as a moral absolute.

LeMahieu said that waterboarding is not torture because it "carries very little risk of major injury or death." But this suggestion shows a complete misconception of the torturer's craft. Insofar as a technique risks killing or permanently injuring a victim, it is a poor one. If the subject dies, or can no longer speak because his tongue has been cut out, or can no longer hear because his ears have been severely damaged, he can no longer surrender his most valuable possession: his secrets.

The torturer trades not in death and injury, but in fear and suffering. From his point of view, the best technique is that which can quickly and repeatedly create a mixture of the most extreme forms of fear and suffering. Waterboarding fits the standard perfectly: within seconds, a subject is overwhelmed by the fear of imminent death and the intolerable feeling of suffocation. After the briefest of interludes, the procedure can be repeated again and again without, I suspect, the law of diminishing returns kicking in very quickly, if at all.

Jim Greene,
 Marquette resident

Coulter should remain far from Northern

Let me begin by saying that my belief in the right to free expression and in the beauty of diversity in opinion, especially those of the political kind, is strong. However, there are times when the argument to grant such freedom without any rational and reasonable guidelines is, simply, wrong. The right to freedom of speech is one of the most endeared to me and is one of the reasons to feel proud of being an American.

That said, I am writing this to protest inviting Ann Coulter to NMU. She should not be a reason to have a campus event, especially one that is supported by dollars paid by people who reject having them used in that way.

I am not only offended by Ms. Coulter's bigotry and repulsed by her deliberate selection of words to only arouse a crowd's attention, I am deeply saddened that those who invited her did not

examine her public pronouncements carefully enough (I would be crushed if they had and found nothing wrong).

Ms. Coulter's attitude can only inflame those who have (rightly or not) developed a fear that we are not launching a war on terrorism, but on Islam itself. It is clear to me that Ms. Coulter cannot make a distinction between a Muslim and an Arab, so I know that she doesn't have the capacity to make a distinction between a Muslim and a fundamentalist extremist with a political agenda and a dark soul. There are so many conservative Republicans with far more scholarly stature and intellectual integrity to choose from. Unless we do not care about smearing the reputation of good Republicans just to pack a crowd.

Mohey Mowafy,
 health professor

For more letters to the editor, please visit www.thenorthwindonline.com.

web poll question

How do conservatives viewed on campus?

- They aren't looked at any differently than other students.
- Everyone knows it's better to be liberal at college.
- I have two words for you: Ann Coulter.
- Conservative, liberal, who cares?

web poll results

Do you think waterboarding is torture?

- Absolutely. It should never be used no matter what.
 15 votes
- Yes but sometimes it is necessary to save lives.
 18 votes
- No. Waterboarding is not as bad as it's made out to be.
 0 votes
- No. We should use it whenever we think we can obtain information from it.
 2 votes

Letter Policy

Letters to the Editor must include full name, year, major and a phone number for verification. Please limit letters to 350 words or less. All letters may be edited for grammar and may be cut due to

limited spacing. Letters can be submitted via e-mail to opinion@thenorthwind.org or mailed to Room 2310 University Center, Marquette, MI 49855.

Comments on www.thenorthwindonline.com

are urged to be expanded into letters. Anyone desiring to have a letter printed from a comment on the Web site can contact the opinions editor of The North Wind.

Court ruling unappealing

For What It's Worth



by Jackie Stark

Recently, the Supreme Court ruled in an 8-1 vote that people who are injured by some Food and Drug Administration-approved medical devices cannot sue for damages in state court.

In a Supreme Court that is continuously providing right-leaning rulings, this is one both Democrats and Republicans can disagree with.

This newest ruling means that if your father is injured because the FDA-approved balloon catheter used during his heart surgery bursts, you cannot hold the company that made the catheter responsible. This is what happened to Charles Reigel, who sued after a balloon catheter burst during his angioplasty. The claim was that the device's design was faulty.

The case made it all the way to the Supreme Court, where it was ruled that damages could not be brought against Medtronic, the company responsible for the catheter.

Justice Antonin Scalia, the second most senior justice on the court, wrote for the majority in this case. He stated that federal law preempts any liability under state law for any medical devices that have been FDA-approved for market use.

This ruling makes Justice Scalia seem as though he actually has faith in the FDA, which makes me question his judgment all the more. The FDA has been approving faulty products for years. It has approved drugs that cause irreversible harms to their recipients, food that has been recalled countless times and medical devices that are less than stellar.

The FDA either needs to be seriously revamped or it needs to be scrapped in favor of a government agency that will actually protect people from harmful food and drugs, a job the FDA has been failing at for years.

And though the ruling states that the only products which cannot garner any lawsuits are ones that pass Stage III FDA testing, I'm still left less than happy. Stage III is the most rigorous testing that is applied to any FDA-approved product. But using the term "rigorous" in connection with the FDA is more of an oxymoron than anything else, like "jumbo shrimp" or "pretty ugly."

If President Bush can make public schools accountable for their intellectual outputs, why not hold all government agencies accountable for their respective outputs? How about if new legislation is passed which states that if the FDA approves more than X number of harmful products, its workers receive a pay cut? Maybe then its employees will actually start paying attention to the products they call safe. Maybe then, people who receive a prescription for arthritis medication won't later have to deal with heart problems, or people who undergo an angioplasty

won't have to worry about a faulty medical device being used during the procedure.

However, legislation of this sort will most likely never be passed into law, so American citizens have only one recourse: Sue the company that gave them the harmful product.

I agree that removing a person's right to sue will help lead in the fight against frivolous medical lawsuits. However, taking away a person's ability to sue a company for damages incurred because of a faulty product is taking away that person's only way to ensure those damages won't happen to someone else. It is also taking away that person's only way to receive any sort of retribution for harm that should never have come to him in the first place.

Frivolous medical lawsuits are a problem in America, and they need to be addressed. But taking away the right to sue is only going to allow companies to make faulty products with no financial consequences.

The FDA needs to shape up and start doing the job it was formed to. And in the meantime, the Supreme Court needs to stop limiting the options Americans have to ensure they are not taken advantage of.

Shane Nyman and Josh Snyder/NW



Republican voice unheard at NMU

Staff Column



by Cassandra Sturos

Contrary to some of the beliefs running rampant on college campuses, conservatives are not all crazy Bible-bangers about to rip on your way of life. In fact, more often than not I have had my way of life ripped into rather than the other way around. Try not to balk, but yes: I am a conservative.

I can't speak for every conservative out there and while my ideals may differ from others, the issue at hand is this: College campuses are known to be liberal. However, this lean to the left shouldn't equate to ignorance with mainstream conservative views.

Just to clarify, as a conservative, I was not about to grab my picket sign and march at Heath Ledger's funeral because he played a gay man in a movie. By no means am I going to go blow up an abortion clinic and I certainly will not start preaching to you to go to church.

So why is it that if I even utter the words, "I am a Republican," I get the same reaction as if I had just told someone I had gonorrhea?

Most people who find out I am a Republican have a reaction along those lines: gasping, sneering or simply saying something completely based on assumption, such as, "Oh, so you're rich?" I did not grow up anywhere near Park Avenue, and I like to go one further and tell people that my dad is part of a union. At this point, the jaw drops even further. One person actually laughed and

responded, "You're kidding me. How?"

"You're all close-minded," is something I have commonly heard in reference to being a conservative, but how do you know I'm close-minded just by being aware of my political affiliation?

Once it's discovered that I am indeed conservative, it seems there's no doubt that I am simply a close-minded, money hog only interested in overseas oil.

The truth is, I don't care where my oil comes from and I certainly don't think we are in Iraq to obtain it.

On the other hand, I am for same-sex marriages. I'm pretty sure that doesn't exactly sit on the conservative track, but I agree with it. I also believe there is no problem with the word "God" being said in the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools either, or being present in our government period.

I understand that I am in the minority here at NMU and I accept that. The only thing I am still struggling with is the fact that my views are constantly looked down upon. How can you judge my views when all you have to go on is an assumption of what I believe?

In fact, I welcome any opposing views. If you want to openly discuss the idea of abstinence programs being taught in American schools, by all means, let's talk about it. You may think it's preposterous; I think it's fabulous.

All it comes down to is this: Don't berate and belittle me for having an opinion if I am more than willing to listen to yours. My opinion is just that, an opinion. I can respect yours, so please respect mine and in the future, whether you hear someone is conservative, Republican or even liberal, try to refrain from the eye-rolling. It is wholly unappreciated.

SOUND OFF

What are your plans for spring break?

— Compiled by Julia Woehrer



Rachael Kelly
junior, art and design

"I will be visiting L.A. to check out possible career venues."



Zach Gray
senior, outdoor recreation and leadership management

"I'll be heading to the British Virgin Islands to sail with my family."



Katie Wilkins
senior, graphic communications

"I'm staying in Marquette and working to save money. Boring, yes. But a smart choice in my current financial situation."



Ben Wielechowski
grad. student, English

"I'll be on a trip to Ecuador to visit some friends."



Stephanie Felton
sophomore, athletic training

"I'm heading to Ireland with my roommate to visit a friend."

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January Volunteer of the Month

The NMU Volunteer Center and Casa Calabria would like to congratulate January's Volunteer of the Month, Jessica Karasiewicz. She is a biology/pre-med major from Belmont, MI. Jessica has been a volunteer for Science Olympiad, the Patient Attendant Program on the Youth Psych Ward at MGH, Portage Point Nursing Home, an International Service Learning Medical Trip in Nicaragua, Medical Care Access Coalition, and has been an Operating Room Visitor's Lounge Secretary. She also started a program called Elder Errands, which benefits elderly individuals that are in need of assistance. We would like to congratulate Jessica for all of her wonderful commitments to servicing the campus and the community, and award her with the NMU Volunteer Center Volunteer of the Month for January!

If you know a volunteer who should be recognized, please e-mail volctr@nmu.edu.
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Photos courtesy of Recycled Percussion

Above: Justin Spencer of Recycled Percussion. Spencer performed on the Feb. 22 episode of "Last Call with Carson Daly" with John Popper of Blues Traveler.

Recycled Percussion brings their unique blend of rock and hip-hop to NMU

by SHANE NYMAN
features editor

Music fans feeling unfulfilled by the performers on this semester's calendar may find a pleasant surprise buried amongst trash cans and old pipes in Vandament Arena.

Recycled Percussion, a unique four-piece group from New England, will bring their high-intensity percussion, rock and hip-hop concoction to Northern on Wednesday, March 12.

"We use garbage cans, 30-gallon drums, five-gallon pales, old fire extinguishers, oxygen tanks, scuba tanks, various types of metal that we cut, pipes, kitchen pans — anything that we like the tone of," said Recycled Percussion's Todd Griffin, who performs under the alias DJ Pharaoh.

Griffin has been a part of Recycled Percussion for the past two years, although the group began more than 13 years ago in New Hampshire as a talent-show act for Justin Spencer.

The band's founding-father, who pounds the makeshift drum sets made exclusively from recycled goods, wound up winning over audiences in school and decided to take the show out on the road.

"We do this full-time," Griffin said. "We travel eight months out of the year, and do a little over 200 shows a year on average."

The group performs in front of a wide variety of audiences. Griffin said 85 percent of their shows are at universities, while the remaining 15 percent is

made up of corporate events, award dinners and NBA or NFL half-time shows.

"We'll do a show one night and there will be 30 people and then we'll play an NFL half-time show and there will be 80,000 in the audience," Griffin said, whose band will play during the intermission of a Memphis Grizzlies basketball game four days before they visit Northern.

Although the group is named Recycled Percussion, there are more musical elements involved. Adding Griffin as a DJ two years ago, and then guitarist Jim Magoon last August, was part of the band's plan to have their sound appeal to a wider audience.

"When they started, they had just four drummers and that's all it was. They realized they were pigeon-holing themselves into a certain market and they really could broaden out," Griffin said.

Adding the electrically-driven beats and scratches of Griffin and shredding guitars of Magoon is what really inspired the theme for their current tour, *Man vs. Machine*.

"There's play between what two guys can do with a bunch of buckets and recycled items against two people that have all the technology they need, with myself and the guitar player," Griffin said. "We play back and forth on stage, kind of like a mock battle of sorts during the show."

Each year, the band re-writes and re-orchestrates its live show after visiting different junkyards and car yards. They find new objects that could be used, test new things and see what would

add something different to the show.

Unlike most contemporary bands, their main attraction is the percussion, so the two drummers — Spencer and Ryan Vezina — are out front, backed by the DJ and guitarist. And aside from the long list of cans and drums used in the show, the group also uses some more unconventional means to make music.

Recycled Percussion's performances also often feature the use of power-tools.

In years past, jackhammers have been used, and this year's

show includes metal grinders used on a 50-gallon drum.

"The guitar player sometimes does solos, but uses a drill

The guitar player sometimes does solos, but uses a drill instead of a pick.

**- DJ Pharaoh
Recycled Percussion**

instead of a pick," Griffin said.

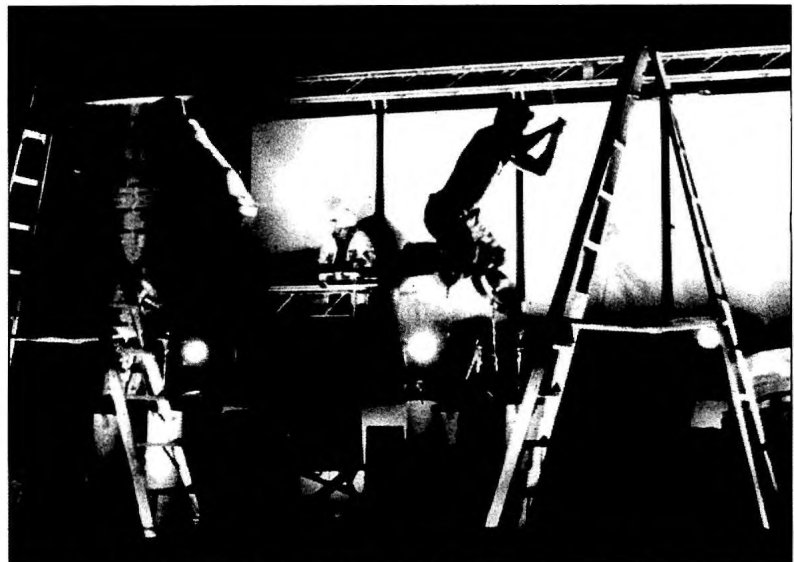
Recycled Percussion has been featured on different compilation albums, and has a five-song EP available from iTunes. The EP will also be physically avail-

able to buy at the show.

The group was nominated for several awards in the 2008 Campus Activities Magazine, including Best Music Group, Best Major Performance and Entertainer of the Year.

The event, sponsored by Northern Arts and Entertainment, begins at 7:30 p.m. on March 12 at the Vandament Arena. Tickets are free for students and \$3 for the general public.

For more information, visit the group's Web site at www.recycledpercussion.com or at MySpace.com/recycledpercussion.



Justin Spencer and Ryan Vezina fly through the air during a performance of "Ladders" on their 2007 Rock Your Junk Tour. Recycled Percussion plays over 200 shows each year, mostly at universities.

Student to spend break homeless on city streets

by JOSH SNYDER
staff writer

For one NMU student, spring break will be spent curled up on a cold, steel bench, hoping to get some rest, wondering if he'll be able to find breakfast in the morning.

As other students pile into their cars for a road trip or catch planes to far off locales, junior pre-medicine major Matt Boyd will be spending his spring break amongst the homeless in Chicago.

It all started last summer, when Boyd was at the SpringHill Summer Camp in Ewart, Mich. There, he had a chance to talk with a couple of ministers who had worked with the homeless. Since then, he hasn't forgotten the stories he'd heard. He made a decision to devote some of his time to the homeless.

"Over time, my heart started hurting for these people and their situation," Boyd said. "I started reading my Bible differently and I started realizing things."

And then, about a month ago, Matt Vissering, a close friend of Boyd's, asked him if he wanted to work with homeless people. Boyd jumped at the opportunity.

"This is something God wants me to do," he said.

For Boyd, his love for his fellow man is the reason he is spending his spring break with the homeless. He said he feels he should be doing more with his time, something more than simply donating money to a cause.

"I think it's important to live every day like you are madly in love. In the Bible, the greatest two commandments are love your neighbor and love God. Love isn't writing a check or saying hi to someone. I think it's about losing yourself in that passion for people and for God."

Boyd and Vissering plan on leaving March 2 for Chicago. Boyd will leave his car with a friend who works in the city. Once there, he will spend the week living on the streets of Chicago, listening to those who are less fortunate, helping them cope with their situation.

"Everybody's got a story," he said. Boyd added that it's very important for him to be able to give up the com-

forts of home in order to help those who do not have one.

"It's important not to be attached to things," he said. "I think I'm at a place in my life where I can give up everything in my life for five days."

"These people living on the streets of Chicago can't do that. After spring break's over, they're still living on the streets."

Although he will not be alone, Boyd did admit that he was a bit nervous about spending his nights homeless in such a large city.

Although being concerned is a concern, he worries more about his safety.

"To be quite frank, I'm really scared about it. I'm human like everyone else. Even though I believe in God, and I believe that Jesus died for our sins, it can be hard to take comfort in that when you're looking down the barrel of a gun."

Still, Boyd remains very optimistic that his time in Chicago will be well spent.

"I'm just going to go and live on

God's good humor," he said.

Despite his enthusiasm, many of Boyd's close friends are in shock that he is actually going through with his plan.

Some of them didn't believe him when he said he wanted to work with the homeless last summer, and now that he is doing it, many of his friends have called him crazy. But Boyd doesn't let it get to him.

"Yeah, I am crazy, but that's what happens when you're in love."

Even though many of his friends disapprove, they are still supportive of him.

"All of them said they would be praying for me," Boyd added.

Paul Johnston, resident director of West Hall and close friend of Boyd and Vissering, said he supports his friend's decision.

"I think it's awesome, it's something that a lot of people aren't willing to do. I think a lot of people might think about it, but it's something that a lot of people haven't followed through with. If people are actually concerned about homelessness or helping homeless people, they actually have to experience it and get to know these people. Not just pass them on the street, but get to know them."

Group lends helping hand to torn-up Tennessee

by JAMIE REED
managing editor

While a typical college student's spring break might revolve around teeny bikinis, cheap tequila shots and sandy beach towels, one NMU student organization sees spring break as an opportunity to do more.

Chi Alpha, a Northern campus ministry group, is gathering students for a trip to Tennessee to help victims of the February tornadoes. The group will leave Marquette on March 1, and return on March 8.

Dale Throentle, a graduate student and student leader of Chi Alpha, said the idea for the trip began when the group started receiving calls from the Volunteer Center.

"[The idea] came from students," he said. "We had a call from the Volunteer Center asking if there was anybody going to help out in the tornado area."

Deborah Heino, the group's adviser, said the organization's history and past trips made the journey to Tennessee a plausible and welcomed idea.

"We have gone multiple times to Biloxi, Miss., and worked in the Gulf

Coast after Hurricane Katrina," she said. "We kind of got the reputation on campus as the organization that will put together volunteer trips to help out after natural disasters. The Volunteer Center kind of got the ball rolling."

Throentle said that Chi Alpha is citing Nashville as the destination to give students unfamiliar with the area a sense of where they'll be going, which is actually Lafayette, a city near the state's capital.

"We're using Nashville as kind of the focal point to give people a reference point to where it is in Tennessee," he said. "It's actually about 60 miles east to Lafayette. If a student wants to know where we're going and we tell them Lafayette, Tenn., it's, 'Where in the world?'"

"We don't work on Sundays," he added. "So we were planning to actually go into Nashville as sort of a side trip so people can get the feel for Nashville."

Because Lafayette hasn't received a lot of volunteers, Chi Alpha will mostly be focusing on cleanup instead of actual reconstruction, Heino said.

"There is not going to be any repair-

ing homes," she said. "[With] the homes that were hit, it's a matter of tearing them down and rebuilding them. They were just totally destroyed. From what they've told me, Lafayette had the highest death toll in the state of Tennessee."

Students will pay for the trip out of pocket, with the help of donations collected from canisters around the community and a possible contribution from local churches. Heino estimated the cost at \$250 per student, including transportation, lodging and meals, but is working to get that number lowered.

The only member of Chi Alpha not heading to Tennessee is Ross Johnson, a freshman political science major and another one of the group's student leaders. Johnson said that although he won't be attending, he's putting his energy into other efforts that will hopefully benefit the trip.

"I am helping out with the efforts of getting out the donation cans," he said. "I've been posting up different posters and fliers up around campus and downtown Marquette. I'm trying to do my part even though I won't be going

there exactly. But I can at least help to get some people there."

And even though Chi Alpha is a religious-affiliated organization, Heino said she stressed that sermons and Bible studies won't be part of the trip.

"The one thing about our trips is that we always seem to have a lot of interest but a lot of times when [students] find out we're a campus ministry it kind of scares them away," she said. "I guess they think we might try to preach to them or beat them in the head with our religion or the Bible. That's not our intent. Our intent is to take people down who want to help others and give them the opportunity to serve others."

Throentle agreed and said that Chi Alpha is just looking for people who want to help, regardless of their religious beliefs.

"We don't care about your denominational background, we don't care about where you stand politically, all we care about is, 'Do you want to go and help?' And that's it."

For more information, students can contact Heino at chialpha@nmu.edu or dheino@nmu.edu.



Thriller 'Vantage Point' misses target



★★★★☆

by JOSH SNYDER
staff writer

One of my favorite movies of the past decade was 2000's "Memento." What was intriguing about the film was that the story was bland, but the presentation was excellent. It showed that filmmakers were willing to experiment with new ways to structure a narrative.

This aim of using new storytelling techniques was the idea rookie director Pete Travis had for "Vantage Point." The movie focuses on one event — an assassination attempt on United States President Ashton (William Hurt) as he is giving a speech in Spain. However, this event is shown from the perspectives of eight different individuals, including secret service agent Thomas Barnes (Dennis Quaid). Each character has a piece of information that together reveals a story rife with conspira-

cy, lies and betrayal.

The success of "Vantage Point" depends on how well it executes the technique of using different views of the same event. This is a mixed bag, as it does some things right and some wrong. Travis succeeds in keeping audiences engaged with small bits and pieces of information throughout the film. There is a constant sense of mystery as characters figure out what is going on and who is responsible. This is partially due to the film's shortened run time but also in part to some clever placement of information.

But the idea, while an interesting concept, quickly becomes annoying. Travis' persistent use of recaps during the film is exasperating. After seeing everything from a certain character's perspective, Travis does a very cheesy, fast-motion rewind of everything we've just seen. Keep in mind that "Point" isn't long nor confusing, so seeing the last 10 minutes of film rewind is pointless. And after seeing this five times, it gets really old and frustrating.

And then there are the loads of recycled shots. I understand that, given the nature of the film, we'd see a couple scenes a few times, but Travis reuses shots over and over again. He doesn't even attempt to add some variety — these shots are the exact same ones, and we see them at least five times. This alone came close to ruining the concept for me, but thankfully it's balanced out by the intelligent flow of information.

With a structure that only partially works, a lot of faith was placed on the story. Unfortunately, Travis settles for a standard, cliché conspiracy plot. I'm no

psychic, but I was able to see nearly every plot twist before it happened. And most of these surprises are so unbelievable that they just don't work.

The story's only upside is that it focuses solely on one event, with no back story to get in the way. This was a smart move, since movies are often bogged down by unnecessary information of characters' pasts. However, there is also no strong conclusion, which isn't so great. None of the characters' choices or actions have any lasting impact because we don't get to see what happens as a result of the assassination. It effectively makes the story pointless. But given the amount of absurd coincidences and plot holes, this could be a good thing.

"Point" is very well paced, possibly the one thing which kept me interested. The action kicks off right away and the intensity never stops. And even though the run-time is short, at 90 minutes, "Point" never felt rushed. The action helps keep the pacing in check. The car chases and gun fights are alright, but you will really have to suspend all belief to appreciate them. Nevertheless, they help move the film along.

"Vantage Point" has too many problems for me to recommend seeing it in theaters. But as a rental, I can see it being a nice, small distraction, something to keep you and some friends occupied for an afternoon. Unless you are absolutely desperate for an action film, wait for the DVD.



Photos from Yahoo! Movies

Forest Whitaker, Dennis Quaid and Mathew Fox are on-scene as an attempt is made on the president's life in rookie director Pete Travis' "Vantage Point," now in theaters.

Now on DVD

Strong drama sees weak DVD release



★★★★☆

by JOSH SNYDER
staff writer

To say Ang Lee is a strange director would be an understatement. Some of his works include "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," "Hulk" and "Brokeback Mountain." His ability to craft stories over various genres is a rare talent, and one that shines in his latest, "Lust, Caution." Unfortunately, this good film is held back by a less than stellar DVD release.

The story takes place in China, during WWII, when Japanese forces were in control of the country. The film focuses on a group of students who try to assassinate Mr. Yee (Tony Leung Chiu Wai), a

powerful Chinese politician who has joined the Japanese regime. They lure him into a trap by using one of their own, Wong Chia Chi (Wei Tang), as bait. She assumes a new role and slowly develops a relationship with Mr. Yee, becoming his mistress. However, Chia Chi begins to fall for him, complicating a situation that could jeopardize the lives of her friends, as well as her own.

"Caution" is a character-driven affair. For a near-three hour film, the story is not that intricate. But the focus isn't on the story; it's on the volatile relationship of Yee and Chia Chi. We see both of them struggling with their feelings.

Because of this focus, the pacing is sometimes slow, most notably in the beginning. Lee really takes his time developing characters, but if you make it to the end you will be rewarded. These are people that anyone can sympathize with, a testament to Lee's ability to create memorable characters.

Lee isn't a stranger to controversy, and "Caution" is no exception. The film was banned in some countries because of the sex scenes. Stateside, it's the second film ever to receive an NC-17 rating and still see a wide release.

The relationship between Yee and Chia Chi is completely explored, even during their most intimate moments, with an amazing level of attention and detail.

Yes, there are plenty of sex scenes in "Caution," and most of these scenes go well beyond anything released in any

Hollywood film. They're graphic and brutal, but more than just a way for Lee to show us this relationship. These scenes are integral to the story. They develop the characters while demonstrating the conflicts that each has to overcome.

While the film may be another excellent work from Lee, the DVD is anything but that.

There is one feature — a making-of that runs 17 minutes. The mini-documentary demonstrates the passion everyone involved had for this project. While there is some interesting information, it's hardly enough. It would be a pleasant complementary piece to a whole set of features, but on its own, it's quite pathetic.

There isn't even an audio commentary track, which has become a standard for DVD. It's baffling, considering the painstaking detail put into this film.

Another disappointment comes from the DVD's lackluster visuals. The video transfer is weak, unable to highlight the array of unique colors found in the sets and costumes. For a film that should be so pleasing to look at, it's surprising to see such a low-quality transfer.

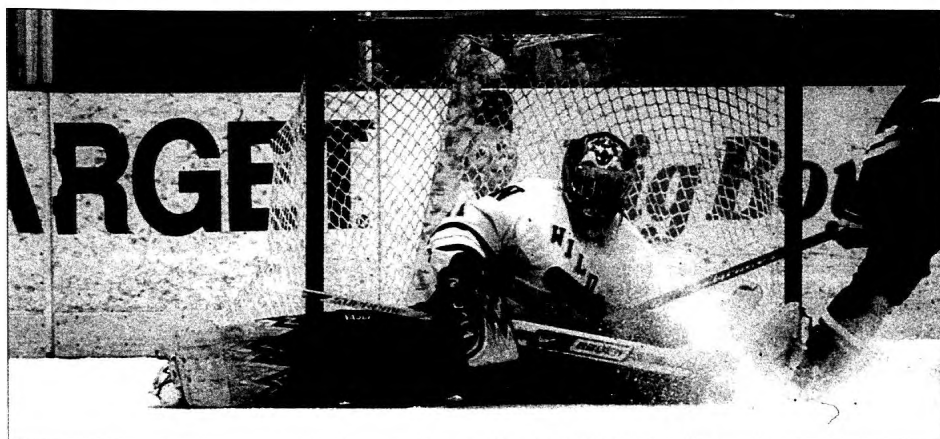
"Lust, Caution" is the perfect example of a good film with a poor DVD release. It's worth a rental, but only dedicated fans of Lee's work should purchase this featureless disc, otherwise they should wait for a double-disc collector's edition.



Photos from Yahoo! Movies

Tony Leung Chiu Wai and Wei Tang get dangerously personal in Ang Lee's "Lust, Caution." The film was released in theaters in September and is now available on DVD.

Wildcats clinch home ice with sweep



Spencer Bouchard/NW

Brian Stewart makes a save against the University of Nebraska-Omaha last Saturday. Stewart stopped 36 of 39 shots against him.

by KYLE WHITNEY
interim editor in chief

The Northern Michigan Wildcats picked up their third sweep of the season in thrilling fashion on Saturday with a 4-3 overtime victory over the University of Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks.

Just one night after a 6-4 drubbing of the Mavericks, the 'Cats came back from a 3-1 deficit to get the win.

"On Saturday, the good news was that we were able to be resilient," NMU head coach Walt Kyle said.

"We continued to work and to grind and to play from behind and I think that was really, really important for us and I was very pleased."

The win locked up a home series for NMU in the first round of the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA) Playoffs. On the weekend, NMU also tied their overall win total from last season and scored 10 goals for the first time since November 2005. Six different Wildcats scored goals during the series.

"You don't really think about it much, but, looking back on the weekend, it's good to get goals and to get guys feeling good," senior NMU forward Matt Siddall said. "We have three or four spread out, really strong lines and every night someone new is contributing. That's what we need."

Siddall had three goals and two

assists against the Mavericks, was the first star each night and was honored as the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA) Offensive Player of the Week. Freshman forwards Mark Olver and Jared Brown also stepped up offensively, as each scored two goals during the weekend.

"[The offense] was good, but we can't expect that all the time," Kyle said. "We were able to convert on some of our scoring chances, but I don't predict that we're going to score six goals or four goals on a ton of nights."

Saturday night was also Senior Night in the Berry Events Center and the evening belonged to Siddall and his fellow seniors, forward Andrew Sarauer and defenseman Blake Cosgrove. All three were on the ice for the start of the game.

Siddall said that he recalls past Senior Nights, but that it was strange to be honored on Saturday.

"It's a little bit surreal," he said. "You just remember every other year, sitting on the bench and watching the guys skate out and you don't really think, 'Man, that's going to be me one day.' The time definitely flew and it was pretty amazing."

According to Kyle, the hockey program has a saying: Tradition never graduates. And while the trio of seniors will be leaving the Berry Events center ice for the last time in just a couple of weeks, the

coach said that those players will always be a part of NMU hockey history.

"When we recruit guys, we always put an emphasis on character and the kind of people that we bring in," Kyle said. "These guys certainly all have contributed to the program in some fashion and they all continue to be a part of what we're doing, but they all are the kind of people that we want to come out of the program."

As the Wildcats prepare for the final series of the regular season—a home-and-home matchup with the Lake Superior State Lakers—they are one of the hottest teams in the conference.

NMU had a tough schedule to open the season and by Nov. 10 the 'Cats had accumulated a 0-7 record in the CCHA. Since that day, the Wildcats are 12-5-2 in the conference and are just one of four CCHA teams—including Michigan, Michigan State and Miami—to win more than 10 conference games in that span.

"That is impressive to me," said Kyle, who added that the early part of the year was spent trying to give valuable ice time to the younger players.

"When you're 0-7 in the league, guys are hearing some things around campus and around town that they don't like to hear," he said. "I give these guys a ton of credit for hanging in there and growing and developing. They've had an exceptionally strong finish since that point and we hope that we can continue to go with it."

NMU's possible visitors at BEC

For the first time in almost two years, the Northern Michigan Wildcat hockey team will host a first-round CCHA Playoff series in the Berry Events Center March 7-9.

After clinching the home series this past weekend, the 'Cats are now playing to determine their final positioning in the CCHA. With 26 points, they are in a four-way tie with Bowling Green, Ferris State and the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

NMU faces off against the LSSU Lakers this weekend, while Nebraska-Omaha has completed their CCHA schedule. Bowling Green takes on the No. 6 Michigan State Spartans and Ferris State will play the No. 1 Michigan Wolverines. The tough road that the other two teams must travel could open the door for NMU to slide up to fifth or sixth place by the start of the playoffs.

"Anywhere up there—fifth or sixth—would be quite an accomplishment for us, in my opinion," NMU head coach Walt Kyle said. "We started 0-7 in the league, so to be able to finish in the top half of the league would be great."

The Wildcat skaters, many of whom have never played in a postseason game in Marquette, are looking forward to the second season.

"Obviously, every team in the league is a real good team, so whoever we end up playing, it will be a good game," said sophomore Alan Dorich.

If the Wildcats can finish the season in fifth, they will host the Western Michigan Broncos in the upcoming best-of-three series. Other possible first round opponents are Alaska, Ohio State and LSSU. The 'Cats hold a combined 5-3 record against those four teams this season.

"Playoff-wise, you have to pick your poison and it doesn't make a difference who we play," Kyle said. "We have to play our game in order, and our house in order, and have success in the playoffs."

There are 13 underclassmen on the NMU roster and they are not yet well-versed in college playoff hockey. Despite the fact that there are just three seniors on the team, those players will be looked to for leadership heading into playoffs.

"We need to lead by example," senior forward Matt Siddall said. "It's not always going to be words and it's not always going to be talking in the room or chirping up. Sometimes you've just got to shut your mouth and you've got to go down there and you've got to play."

— Kyle Whitney

Squiers and Luehmann set records

by CARSON LEMAHIEU
assistant sports editor

Leslie Luehmann and Krista Squiers put in record-breaking efforts last weekend as they competed in the Stevens Point Invitational in Stevens Point, Wis.

Luehmann broke her own record as she won the long jump with a distance of 18-feet-1.5 inches. The distance also put her on the provisional list to compete at the Division II National Championships. Luehmann set the previous school record of 17-feet-11.75 inches on Feb. 11 in the NMU open at the Superior Dome.

A provisional cut is a time or distance an athlete has to make in order to be considered for a spot at the national championships. NMU head coach Tom Barnes said that once an athlete is on the provisional qualifiers list it depends on how many athletes get accepted to compete in the National Championships. Barnes said he thinks Luehmann is ranked around 19th on the list currently.

"She has a real good shot at going to nationals, and she's going to get about six more attempts to improve on her

jump this weekend at conference," Barnes said.



Squiers

Squiers placed sixth in the weight throw with a distance of 48-feet 8.75 inches. Squiers had previously held the NMU record with a distance of 46-feet 9 inches.

Northern took only two athletes to this weekend's meet to give the rest of the team a

chance to rest before the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference



Luehmann

(GLIAC) indoor championships.

Barnes said he had Squiers and Luehmann compete this weekend because he wanted to give them an additional chance to make a qualifying distance.

The GLIAC indoor championships are this Friday and Saturday in Findlay, Ohio. NMU will face tough competition in the GLIAC meet.

"Hopefully by the end of the weekend we can have some more provisional qualifiers after conference," Barnes said.

From Golden State to green and gold

by GORDON BEEDLE
associate sports editor

From the ocean beaches, to the Golden Gate Bridge, to the snowy mountains, California is home to many unique sights. The 31st state is also home to four athletes who wear NMU's green and gold.

Phil Violett

West of Lake Tahoe is the small town of Brownsville, home to the only NCAA skier to stop University of Alaska-Fairbanks' then-undefeated Marius Korthauer in 2008 - Phil Violett. Violett, a junior, has helped the 'Cats claim four of the top 10 individual spots in the Central Collegiate Ski Association (CCSA).

The blonde-haired Californian, who would look more comfortable on a surfboard than two skinny nordic skis, talks the way you'd expect him to, with the gnarly accent of a California native.

Although he doesn't appear to be the most traditional skier, Violett finished third in final CCSA points, behind NMU's Martin Banerud and the top-ranked Korthauer.

Violett said growing up in Brownsville, a town near the mountains with a population of a little over 1,000, was perfect for his thrill-seeking mentality. He would ski or snowboard nearly every weekend. In the summer, his time was spent wakeboarding on Lake Tahoe.

He also enjoys surfing and rock climb-

ing, but the snow has always been the setting for his passions.

Violett got started skiing with his brother, Zach, who raced for the University of Alaska-Anchorage from 2001-2004.

After racing throughout his prep career, Violett met with NMU head coach Sten Fjeldheim in 2004 at the NCAA Nationals in California during his senior year of high school.

"A lot of people you talk to don't think of California as a skiing community, but it definitely is," he said. "They think of the beaches - and it's not like that where I am from. We get a lot more snow there than [Marquette]."

After the meeting, Fjeldheim turned to his assistant coach, Jenny Ryan, and said he really wanted Violett on his team.

Fjeldheim said he brought the most positive attitude of any athlete he has ever coached.

It was Fjeldheim who made Violett decide to come, but the atmosphere on the NMU ski team is what has made him stay.

"The chemistry is great and it's just like one big family," Violett said.

Now Violett has taken pride in being a Wildcat, as he and Fjeldheim, and the rest of the NMU ski team, are riding the wave into the CCSA national race in Bozeman, Mont. this coming week. But the blonde California boy with a big smile will always call the snowy mountains his home.

Nate Engel

Just a few hours south of Brownsville, in the heart of wine country, is a small town called St. Helena. This town, with a population of more than 6,000 is home to USOEC Greco-Roman wrestler Nate Engel.

Engel's father runs a life insurance firm for his day job and he recently started his own winery on the side. But, before the father-son duo were crushing grapes they were grappling on the mat. His father, still actively participates in wrestling competitions.

Engel's dad got his son started at the age of four. Wrestling stayed with Engel, and it was his favorite sport in high school, later becoming a passion.

After graduating from high school, Engel went to wrestle at Missouri Valley College, but was unable to finish his senior year due to injury.

Once healed, Engel began wrestling again, and after being invited to the 2006 Sunkist International Tournament by USOEC wrestler Spenser Mango, Engel placed third and was introduced to USOEC wrestling coach Ivan Ivanov.

Ivanov told Engel he would put him on a conditional trial, to see if he could make the USOEC.

In January 2007, when the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics All-American stepped off the plane, he had only seen snow once before. When he saw the snow on the ground at the airport, he knew this atmosphere would be different.

"There was so much snow and I thought, 'What am I getting myself into?' and I wanted to turn the plane around and come back," he said.

On Monday, Feb. 25, the wandering warrior, and the rest of the USOEC wrestling team traveled to Hungary to compete in the Hungary Grand Prix, on the hopeful road to the Olympics. For this grappling grape crusher, he hopes to wrestle in either the 2008 or 2012 Summer Olympics.

Collin Ito

Another Olympic trainee who prides the bear flag and has traveled to the U.P. oasis of NMU, is weightlifter Collin Ito.

Ito is from Vista, a suburb of San Diego, and he started his sporting career in eighth grade. He said he played other sports, but didn't feel they fit him. Then, his gym teacher, whose husband had been a power lifter, started him in the sport. From there on out, he has been lifting ever since.

When it came time for Ito to graduate high school, he felt his future was uncertain. He applied to the USOEC and said it was either that, or stay home and go to community college.

He decided to make NMU his home away from home.

"It's nice here. I like all the nature and stuff and the cold doesn't really bother me," Ito said. "I love the cold. When I go home, I usually have my window open and the fan always on."

Despite loving the weather, he said he will always call San Diego his home because of his family.

For now, Ito calls a dorm room on the third floor of Meyland home, and is training to make the Olympics in 2012. The next competition for the weightlifting team on their Olympic gold rush is in the National Championship, which is hosted by another Californian resident - the Governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger.

T.J. Miller

The final of the four Californian 'Cats is the hockey team's tallest defenseman, T.J. Miller.

Miller, one of the captains on the team, is originally from Placentia, in northern Orange county, within driving distance to Anaheim and Los Angeles.

The sophomore got his start playing roller hockey at age eight and moved to ice hockey when he was 11. He played all through high school, then went to play juniors in British Columbia, where he met Walt Kyle in 2005 and signed to play for Northern.

Ever since the L.A. Kings signed the great one, Wayne Gretzky, in 1988, hockey has been big in the Miller family.

Even with the Ducks bringing home lord Stanley this past season, Miller is still a diehard Kings fan, he said.

Miller added that some of his teammates joke about his blonde hair and surfer boy image, but he is not ashamed of his roots.

"A lot of guys on the team give me some crap about playing hockey and being from California, but I like it," he said. "I've got a pretty laid back attitude and everybody kind of says it's the surfer boy type of attitude."

Staying true to his spirit, Miller has created his own surfing safari in his bedroom. He said when he was home, he and a friend went to a surfing competition and bought a lot of posters. Miller hung the posters on the walls of his apartment to remind him of home.

"It creates a different atmosphere so when I go back [to my apartment] I can just think about home," Miller said.

Whether you live near a sandy beach or a snowy mountain, home is certainly wherever you decide to make it.

For these four athletes, it's the Golden State and the green and gold University of NMU.



Coach leads team through troubled waters

by CARSON LEMAHIEU
assistant sports editor

Standing on the edge of the PEIF pool, NMU head swimming coach Bob Laughna claps his hands vigorously while cheering his swimmers on as they cut through the water back and forth to finish their work-outs for the morning's practice.

Laughna may seem like any of the countless other NCAA swim coaches, but he is a unique coach — and a fascinating person.

Laughna lost most of his hearing when he contracted meningitis at a year and a half old.

"I can hear five vowels but no consonants," Laughna said. "I'm lucky because I can read lips and with a hearing aid, I can use a telephone."

After becoming deaf, his parents sent him to an oral residential school where he learned to communicate better.

He was first introduced to life at NMU when he was recruited to play on the men's basketball team by legendary NMU coach, and later NBA coach, Stan Albeck. Laughna went on to play with the team for three years before graduating in 1969.

"I enjoyed being on the team," Laughna said. "It was fun."

After graduating from NMU, Laughna enrolled at Eastern Michigan University where he graduated in 1974 with a master's degree in deaf education. He also earned a second master's degree in administration/supervision from Cal-State Northridge in 1985.

Laughna said he loved his time in the Upper Peninsula, and even though he left for school and work, it always remained a special place for him. He was offered an opportunity to return in 1986 and began working as an assistant with the NMU swim and dive team.

"I'd always wanted to come back to the U.P. The job opened up and I took it," Laughna said. "I haven't left since."

Laughna worked as an assistant for three head coaches during his 20 years with the team, including NMU Sports Hall of Famer Anne James. Laughna said he learned valuable experience in teaching swimming and running practices, as well as how to handle the team.

"It was great. I've learned a lot from the coaches I've assisted for, and I've learned a lot from all the swimmers and divers we've had. I learned a lot about training methods and how to understand the sport," Laughna said. "It hasn't been easy but it's been fun and I'm glad I had the opportunity to coach for so long."

One unique coaching job that Laughna has held is head coach of the United States Deaf Association National Swim Team. Laughna said he applied for the job on a whim.

"I was reading an article and saw they were looking for a coach. I knew I was a long shot, but I applied anyway. I didn't hear from them for about six months," Laughna said. "One day they called (then NMU head coach) Anne James and offered me the position. I was shocked."

As coach of the Deaf Olympics team, Laughna competed in the World Invitational Meets in Canada in 1991 and

Russia in 1992. He later led the United States team in the World Games for the Deaf in Bulgaria in 1993, Denmark in 1997 and Italy in 2001. His latest major world coaching experience was in 2003, when he was selected to coach for the Deaf Pan-America games in Argentina.

"It was a great experience. We had athletes who set world records and won championships," Laughna said. "I got to work with lots of swimmers from bigger D-I schools like Texas Tech, Texas A&M, California. We also had a lot of swimmers from other countries—it was a real challenge but it was fun."

After 20 years working with the NMU swim program, Laughna got his chance to lead the program this August following the departure of previous head coach Jon Wilson. Only a few weeks before the start of this year's season, Laughna took over and began his era as head coach. Laughna said it was an honor to be selected to take over the program.

Sophomore swimmer Sarah Van Oss said that, though Laughna had been involved in the program in the past, many of the girls on the team didn't know him well before the start of this season.

"I didn't know what kind of coach he was going to be, if he was going to be good or bad, if he was going to be strict. I was a little bit hesitant but I went into it with an open mind," Van Oss said.

Her questions about Laughna were soon answered.

"He ended up being great," Van Oss said. "I love him as a coach. He is a nice

We don't think of him as deaf — to us he is just Bob."

**— Sarah Van Oss
NMU swimmer**

person, he is great to talk to, he's easy to communicate with, even with his hearing impairment and he really knows what he is doing with our training."

Junior swimmer Emily Olson said the team has been most impressed with the commitment and dedication that Laughna has shown to improving the team.

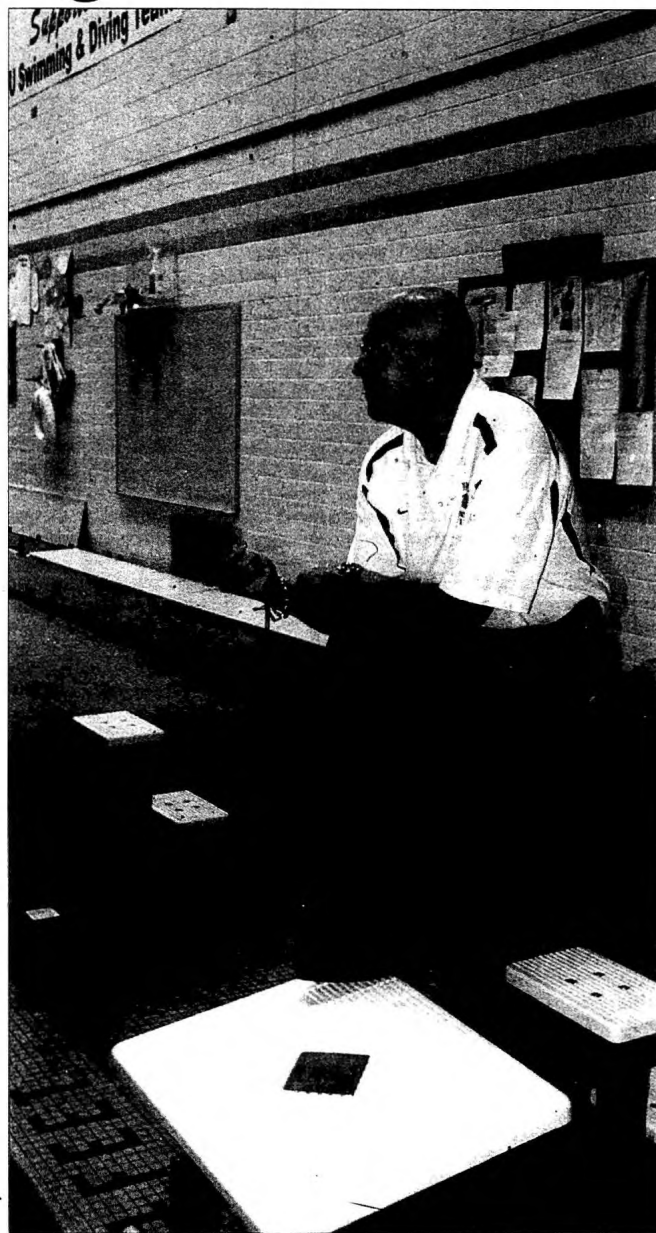
"The thing we like best about him is we know he cares about us and doesn't care about moving up or getting a better job," Olson said. "He just wants us to succeed at swimming and at school."

One thing that the swim team has had to deal with is how to work with a coach who is deaf. Members of the team said that despite small communication problems, his hearing impairment has very little effect on how Laughna acts as a coach.

"Sometimes there are communication problems. Like sometimes I would ask him a question and he would answer 'yes' when it wasn't a yes or no question," Olson said. "I think I learned more because of it. I picked up a little bit of sign language and it made it so when he was talking to me I really had to listen to what he was saying."

"We don't think of him as deaf — to us he is just Bob," Van Oss added.

Laughna said one of the best memories he has of this past season was spending winter break in Marquette with the swim team. The swimmers spent two weeks in Marquette living out of hotel rooms in the Country Inn and Suites, so they could continue their training uninterrupted during the break. To help build team unity, Laughna made home-cooked meals for the entire



Swim coach Bob Laughna watches over the PEIF pool during a recent practice. Laughna has gone above and beyond as a coach, even making home-cooked meals for the team.

team every night.

"I figured that the team needed something to eat," Laughna said. "And if I didn't make them something, they might starve."

Laughna made many meals for the team including lasagna, tacos and many on the team's favorite dish, Thai chicken.

"The Thai chicken was amazing," Van Oss said. "He told us that it was one of his favorite meals, so it was really nice that he was able to share that with us. To be able to share one of your favorite foods with your team is real special."

Olson agreed that Laughna's cooking was a memorable part of the season that showed just how much he cares about the team.

"He's a really good cook," Olson said. "He would make chicken and they were just little individual chickens for everyone."

The swim team's season came to a close last weekend with an eighth place finish at

the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) championships. Laughna now faces the daunting task of assembling a recruiting class with no guarantee that the program will exist more than a year from today, due to an ageing pool.

"With our pool situation and our geographical disadvantage we naturally have trouble recruiting every year," Laughna said. "With no commitment from the university, it's very hard. I'm still hoping that one day the university will give us a firm commitment and say 'Yes, next year you will have a new pool.'"

Until that day, Laughna will keep fighting for the program and swimmers that he cares so much about.

"Everyone likes Bob and everyone respects him," Olson said. "He is a great coach and perfect for our team."

Although the NMU swim team has a clouded future, Laughna will continue to cheer on his team, no matter what the outcome.



Spencer Bouchard/NW

Spencer Bouchard/NW

Spencer Bouchard/NW

Spencer Bouchard/NW

It was a really weird feeling, because after the game was over, I thought, 'This is the end.'

— Ryan Reichel

You wish you could have done some things better, and you have some regrets. But it's time to move on.

— Darren Jones

I've had a good ride, and a lot of good teammates. I guess I just move on now.

— Jake Suardini

I got to skip all of pre-season, so that was pretty good. I got the VIP ride, I guess.

— Mike Polfus

Four Northern seniors finish careers

by CURT KEMP
sports editor

The NMU men's basketball team finished out its season Saturday, losing 68-60 to Lake Superior State University at the Berry Events Center.

The loss puts the team's final record at 7-20, with a record of 6-12 in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC).

Saturday's game at the Berry also marked the celebration of NMU Senior Night. Four seniors from the men's team — Ryan Reichel, Darren Jones, Jake Suardini and Mike Polfus — were honored in a pre-game ceremony.

When the ball was tipped to start the game, each of the four seniors remained on the floor — starting as a group for the first time all season. For Suardini, who averaged 35.8 minutes in all 27 games this sea-

son, the inclusion in the starting lineup was nothing new; but for Polfus, who averaged 6.6 minutes in 15 games this season, the extra minutes were appreciated.

NMU head coach Dean Ellis not only put the four seniors in at the start of the game, he left them in for the majority of the game.

"I'm proud of our four seniors," Ellis said after the game. "I let them know, 'As long as you're out there playing and we have a chance to win, you're going to play.' And we did."

LSSU's biggest lead of the game was only 10 points. With the game's closeness, Ellis chose to leave his seniors in — to the tune of 40 minutes for Suardini, 39 for Reichel, 32 for Jones and 29 for Polfus. Every senior played the entire 20 minutes of the second half.

Polfus finished with six points, going 2 for 5 from beyond the arc. Reichel tacked

on six points himself, and added four rebounds. Leading the team in rebounding were Jones and Suardini, each with six boards. Jones aided the Wildcat scoring with 10 points.

"It would have been a great ending had those four seniors who played the last 20 minutes found a way to win," Ellis said. "And they were close enough. They had a chance. I guess the dream ending would have Mike Polfus making a three at the buzzer to win by one."

Suardini would tie the game at 58 apiece in the game's final minutes with a layup, but it was LSSU that had the dream ending. The Lakers finished off the 'Cats with six straight points after Suardini's layup, en route to the win. Suardini led the team in scoring with 21 points. LSSU's Mark Morse was the game's leading scorer with 23.

The LSSU win kept the Lakers in con-

tenion for the GLIAC playoffs, and their two-point win at Michigan Tech on Monday solidified their slot in the conference postseason. It is the first time LSSU has reached the GLIAC playoffs since 2002.

Despite not picking up the win, Ellis said he was impressed with the effort from his seniors.

"I'm just happy the four seniors got to do what they were able to do out there," Ellis said. "You get in the game and you try as hard as you can, and you do what you can to try and win, and you can't ask for much more than that."

Ellis also gave a final nod to his senior leading scorer, Suardini.

"Jake carried us," Ellis said. "Our record surely isn't what anyone wants it to be. But Jake's leadership, and his ability to keep the team up and positive all year was something special."

End of the road for women's b-ball

by CARSON LEMAHIEU
assistant sports editor

NMU seniors Allison Carroll and LaShawn Lambert's collegiate basketball careers came to an end last Saturday, as the women's basketball team closed its season with a 64-79 home loss to Lake Superior State University (LSSU).

Head coach Troy Mattson said he knew going into the game that LSSU would be a tough match-up for his team.

"There are two teams that have really given us problems in the past, one is Hillsdale College and the other is Lake State," Mattson said. "They pound the ball down inside and then they have long athletic guards that give us trouble on offense."

With the loss, the Wildcats finish their season with a 9-17 overall record and a 4-11 record in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

(GLIAC). The Lakers improved to 11-14 overall and 7-10 in the GLIAC. Both teams failed to make the GLIAC post-season conference tournament.

During the game, the 'Cats struck first and built an early lead, but the Lakers battled back and went on a 12-0 run with 11 minutes left to secure a 10-point lead. The 'Cats battled back but couldn't close the deficit to less than five points.

"They don't run plays all the time, they just keep moving and throw the ball around a lot," Mattson said. "It proves you don't have to run a lot of plays to be a good basketball team."

The 'Cats were led in scoring by junior Kelsey Deacon, who scored 18 points. Allison Carroll pitched in a 16 point and six rebound effort to round out her career at Northern.

Carroll is leaving NMU at the end of a four-year career in which she scored 1,424 points and grabbed 545 rebounds.

"Allison was a great player for us," Mattson said. "If you look at how many points she scored and how many rebounds she had, you see how good she was. We just didn't get the wins while she was here."

With the season over, the Wildcats' focus turns to next year's season; a season in which Mattson said the team will rely on a strong senior presence and contributions from incoming freshmen.

The Wildcats relied heavily on contributions by this season's three juniors, Deacon, Cassie Hegbloom, and Cassie Rushford. Deacon was the second highest scorer on the team this year, averaging 12.3 points per game. Hegbloom averaged 4.1 points and 4.4 rebounds per game as one of the starting forwards for the 'Cats. Rushford contributed 3.5 points per game and added key depth to the team.

Next year's seniors will be joined by a strong class of future freshman, which

includes three early signees. The incoming athletes are two high school players, Lauren Beeler and Brynn Larsen, and a junior college transfer, Jaclyn Davey.

Beeler, a forward from L'Anse, averaged 18.9 points, 9.8 rebounds and three blocks per game in her senior season. She was a first team all-conference and All-U.P. Class D selection and an honorable mention selection to the all-state team last year.

Beeler has scored over 1,000 points in her high school career.

Larsen, a guard from Oconto Falls, Wis. averaged 15.5 points, 5.2 rebounds and 3.4 assists per outing during her junior year. She was a three-time first team all-conference selection.

Jaclyn Davey, a 6-foot-1 inch center, is a sophomore transfer from Sauk Valley Community College. In her sophomore year at Sauk Valley, Davey averaged 8.6 points and 7.4 rebounds per game.

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TODAY, FEB. 28

Skill Builder: "The Art of Sushi" will be presented between 3-4:30 p.m. in the Back Room of the University Center.

Event: The NMU Jazz Band will perform under the direction of Mark Flaherty at 7:30 p.m. at the Reynolds Recital Hall. Admission is free.

Film: "Noi Albinói" (PG-13) will show at 9 p.m. in JXJ 102. Admission is free to NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

FRI., FEB. 29

Event: Budo Taijitsu will meet from 6-8 p.m. in the Pioneer B Room of the University Center.

Event: Magic the Gathering tournament begins at 6 p.m. at Ultimate Game Zone on Washington Street. Fee is \$15.

SAT., MARCH 1

Event: Dreamscapes will be meeting from noon to 11 p.m. in the Pioneer B Room of the University Center.

Event: Magic the Gathering tournament begins at 1 p.m. at Ultimate Game Zone on Washington Street. Fee is \$6.

SUN., MARCH 2

Event: NMU Paranormal Research Team will meet from 5-7 p.m. in the Pioneer A Room of the University Center.

MON., MARCH 3

Event: Steppin' Out Dance Club will meet from 6:30-11 p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

Event: Four Shillings Short: Celtic, Folk and World Music concert will be performed at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room at the Peter White Public Library. Donations accepted at the door.

TUES., MARCH 4

Event: NMU International Dance Club will meet from 6:30-11 p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

WED., MARCH 5

Event: Budo Taijitsu will meet from 6-8 p.m. in the Pioneer B Room of the University Center.

Thurs., MARCH 6

Theatre: "Is This Reality? No," an original play, will be performed at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at the Peter White Public Library. Admission

is \$2 at the door.

FRI., MARCH 7

Event: The 2008 U.P. Builders Show will be from 5-9 p.m. in the Superior Dome.

SAT., MARCH 8

Event: The 2008 U.P. Builders Show will be from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Superior Dome.

Event: Auditions for solos in Handel's "Messiah" will take place at 1 p.m. in Choir Room 250 in the Thomas Fine Arts Building. Bring a prepared aria from "Messiah." An accompanist will be provided.

SUN., MARCH 9

Academic: Last day to withdrawal from ALL classes at a 25% tuition refund. The date only applies to full semester courses.

Event: The 2008 U.P. Builders Show will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Superior Dome.

Event: Lake Superior Theatre Auditions for the 2008 summer season will be held from noon to 3 p.m. at the Westwood High School Auditorium.

MON., MARCH 10

Event: The Darfur Experience Expo will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Academic Mall at NMU.

Event: Pre-School Craft Time, creative crafts for toddlers 2-7 years old and parents, will be from 10-11 a.m. at the Marquette Arts and Culture Center.

Event: "An Evening of Skating" sponsored by MERC will be open for NMU students from 6-8 p.m. at the Berry Events Center. Admission is free and hot cocoa and cookies will be provided.

TUES., MARCH 11

Event: The Darfur Experience Expo will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Academic Mall.

Event: Shinotsuka Tamotsu, consulate general of Japan, will present on Japan-U.S. Relations from 2-3:30 p.m. in the Michigan Room of the University Center.

Skill Builder: "Native American Voices of Leadership" will be presented from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Commons Room at Whitman Hall. This counts toward the Diversity Edge.

Event: Fiction writer and essayist Pam Houston will give a reading starting at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room at the Peter White Public Library.

WED., MARCH 12

Event: The Darfur Experience Expo will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Academic Mall.

Skill Builder: "Turning Your House into a Home" will be presented from 3-4:30 p.m. in the Back Room at the University Center. This counts toward the Leadership Edge.

Event: Darfur Experience Ski and Snowboard Competition will begin at 5 p.m. at Marquette Mountain. Registration forms can be picked up from TCF Bank or the ticket office at Marquette Mountain. Events are free to watch and lift tickets will be \$12.

Event: Recycled Percussion will perform at 7:30 p.m. at Vandament Arena. Admission is free to NMU students and \$3 for non-students.

Editor's Note: Send your organization's meetings or events to editor@thenorthwind.org or call The North Wind office at 227-2545.



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 Boxed in \$2.00
 Heading \$2.00

Help Wanted

Summer Camp Positions: Make a difference in the life of a child! Summer therapy camp for children with physical disabilities. Located on the shores of Lake Superior in Big Bay, MI. Positions available for Counselors, Waterfront, Instructors for Nature/Arts & Crafts/ Recreation, Nurses, Therapists, Food Service, and Auxiliary. Must be enthusiastic, responsible, and love children. June 8 through August 3. Salary, room & board, and experience of a lifetime provided. Call or write for application and information. Bay Cliff Health Camp, P.O. Box 310, Big Bay, MI 49808, (906) 345-9314, e-mail BayCliffHC@aol.com. Visit us at www.baycliff.org

Diversified Farm Seeks Intern/Apprentice 2008. Learn about organic farming, community supported agriculture, mushroom cultivation, chickens, pigs, cattle, alternative energy, alternative building, and lots more. Position is five days a week. Six hundred dollar stipend a month and housing are available. A positive attitude, enthusiasm and the desire to work outside is all that is required. For more information and an application please contact us. Seeds & Spores Family Farm 724 Greenfield Rd., Marquette, MI 49855 #249-2158 Jeff Hatfield & Jeff Chipdi. seedsandspores@miuplink.com

Tutor

Biology & Math Tutor. Available for ALL Undergrad Biology courses and Math up to MA 104. Flexible schedule, meet on campus, \$12/hr Contact Gerrit @ (906) 458-0908.

Missed Connection

Two Chicago Sisters were stuck in the snow near the Big Bay Rd. on Feb. 17 and I pulled you out. Please return the favor by telling your older sister I'd like to talk to her again. She can reach me at MarkinMQT@yahoo.com

Shout Outs

S.F. — I hope you are as good as I am building you up to be. — **Happy traveler**

Melissa — Honestly, I like your jokes. — **Big Daddy**

Daughter — Waiting for you to come home and go for coffee again. — **Pa**

Mom & Dad — Thanks for being my biggest fans. Love and miss you! — **Cassandra**

Curt — Have fun in the city with Joe Montana. I hope you do the dishes before you go. — **Shane**

Lisa-Loo — We need to have some serious bonding time soon. — **Your darling roomie**

Last Monday — Such a bad idea. — **Power Hour, Anyone?**

LRK — Yes, I'll look for the TV remote. Don't lose it again though. — **JDS**

Pa — I'll be home Tuesday. Coffee will abound. — **Daughter**

Ma — Happy Birthday!! — **Daughter**

Kevin — Let's be smart this weekend, and check for things like water pressure and mold. — **Jam**

Delia*s — Let's try not to screw this up too much. — **Customer**

Maddie and Rasta McDoogal — I miss both of you so much. Seriously. It's a problem. — **Mum**

Berken — I thank god for Freshman Seminar everyday of my life. What would I have done if I'd never met you? — **Jamreed**

Spage — Thanks for all the post its! I appreciate it. — **Jamie**

Rush — See you in July! or June. Or sometime this summer. — **Naming her cat Getty Lee**

Allie — I'm coming home for your skating program. Tell Mom and Dad! — **Sister**

Roommate — Mmmm homemade cookies. — **Sicko**

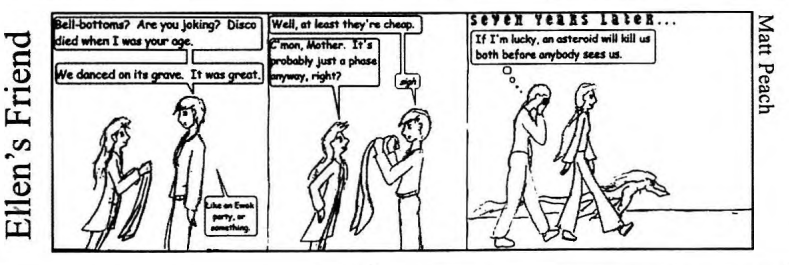
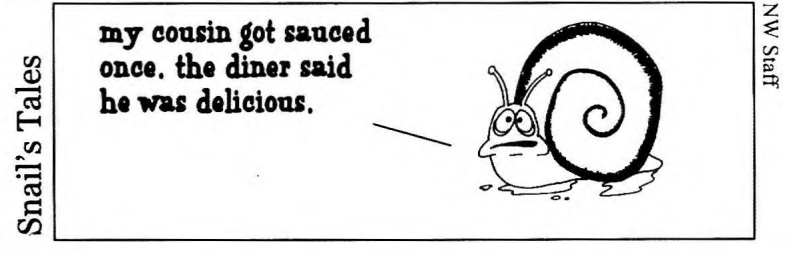
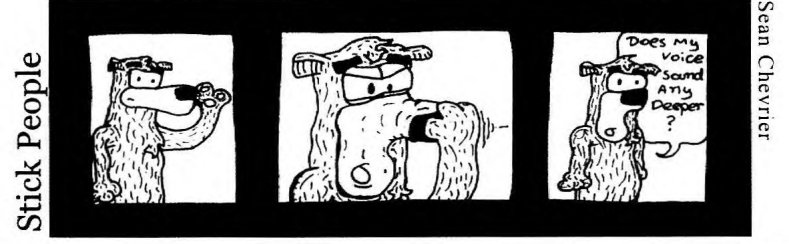
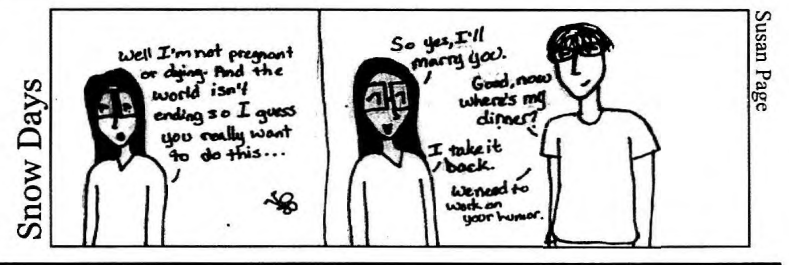
China — Here I come. — **Jackie**

Bo — Every time I see your Facebook post, it makes me smile. — **Creeped out by your oldness**

George Clayton — Your movie blows — **Gordon**

Jackie & EIC — Don't blame me, I'm like a kid left alone with crayons — **JDS**

Housewife with Trig skills — How did you learn to use a computer? And to spell? That's amazing! — **JDS**



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JP — Thanks for calling me pretty, you made my night — **Alli**

Katie — Don't die. I'm sure your tests went fine. Seriously, just breath. — **Alli**

Reed — Ninjas, guinea pigs and hairless cats... Thanks for making me laugh. — **Stark**

Staff — Have a good break. Go crazy. You deserve it. — **the NW**

Cheapoair Guy — You saved my butt. Seriously. — **Crazed lady**

Break — How about you actually feel like a break this time, instead of teasing me. — **Jackie**

Inspirations
 Spring Break
 Cab rides
 Oscar bets
 California
 Inappropriate office jokes
 The best movies of the decade
 Snakes eating dogs
 Post Its
 Illicit affairs

PRSSA

Presents:

The Darfur Experience

Mr. Wildcat
Competition

Watch contestants strut their
stuff for the title of Mr. Wildcat!

Come to WATCH or Sign up to be a contestant!

Tuesday, March 25th
at 7:30PM in JxJ 102

Entry Donation: \$3 with NMU student ID, \$5 without NMU ID
All proceeds are for Darfur victims

To enter to be a Mr. Wildcat contestant, you can pick up and drop off
your entry form at TCF Bank in the U.C. and return by March 15, 2008

TCF

