Student Designs Program to Help Young Kids
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A Positive Mindset
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Michigan Football
Spring Game
Sports, pages 7-8

By RICKY LINDSAY
Editor-in-Chief
@RLindz35

For the first time in three years, multiple parties will be running for the top two positions in Student Government — president and vice president.

Mazen Hammoud and Montana McCray of Students Serving Students, Naas Sobh and Kevin Landwehr of Voices for Victors, and Michigan Action Party’s Fiana (Syeda) Arbab and Malak Nasser are running for president and vice president.

Student Government elections will be open April 6 at 9 a.m. and end April 7 at 11:59 p.m. Students will receive a link from their respective president, while McCray, Landwehr and Nasser are running for vice president.

Student Government elections will be open April 6 at 9 a.m. and end April 7 at 11:59 p.m. Students will receive a link to vote via their UM-e-mail. Voting will not be available from 12:30 a.m. on April 7.

The Michigan Journal sat down with each party’s presidential and vice presidential candidate to preview the election.

Students Serving Students

For Hammoud and McCray, the focus of their party — Students Serving Students — is in the name.

“We wanted our party name to represent what we’re actually going to do, and that is serving the students,” McCray said.

“Why would we do coffee hours every month or twice a month… when we could put that money towards capital improvements?” Hammoud asked. “Buying stuff for students… advertising athletics, getting people to go to games… there’s a lot of ways to spend money on this campus, and I think improvements?” Hammoud asked. “Buying stuff for students… advertising athletics, getting people to go to games… there’s a lot of ways to spend money on this campus, and I think advertising needs for students.”

According to Hammoud, the two decided to run because “we get their tuition dollars; we’re going to make sure they get what they pay for.” Hammoud is a third-year student and is majoring in digital forensics. He has been in Student Government for three years, participating as a senator, treasurer, and vice chair of the rules and ethics committee. He is also involved with the Student Association of Michigan.

McCray is in his second year at UM-Dearborn and is a supply chain major and information technology management minor.

Both are members of Phi-Tau chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon. McCray has served on TKE’s recruitment and philanthropy chairs. He is also involved in the Supply Chain Association. McCray has no prior involvement with Student Government, and his outsider’s view is why Hammoud wanted him to run.

According to Hammoud, the two decided to run because he believes Student Government’s focus has shifted. He feels the organization “spends more time advertising itself than advertising needs for students.”

“I don’t plan on having it empty because they’re necessary to function… We can’t do everything,” he said.

Voices For Victors

Sobh and Landwehr weren’t ready to close the door on several Student Government projects years in the making. It’s a reason why they’re running for president and vice president.

The Michigan Journal is an event that takes place every year at the University of Michigan-Dearborn for the purpose of showing the unique experiences that Greek Life can offer.

Members of different chapters compete against each other through playing different games. The winning fraternity and sorority are announced during Mock Rock, which is Greek Week’s last event.

“Greek Week is exciting because we know that we win or lose, we had fun participating together,” said Jessica Hallgath, president of Alpha Omega Epsilon and an engineering major. “I love that it is a time when all the chapters involved get to take a break from their regular activities and participate in something as a whole Greek community.”

The tradition has been around since the 1980s, when Greek Week was funded through UM-Dearborn Student Government. Today, Greek Week is a general Greek Life plan.

Kristin McDonough, the assistant director of the Office for Student Engagement, said that the hard work and planning by the chapters during Greek Week have been strongly prominent throughout the years.

“Our Greek Week is unique because, on a lot of campuses, you’ll see that maybe there’s one event a day. And for us there’s quite a few events that are packed into the week, and most of them are competition-based in some way,” McDonough said.

Greek Week continued on page 2

Off to the Races

Three Parties Running for Student Government’s Top Spots

Greek Week Returns to Campus;
Phi Mu, Delta Sigma Phi Winners

By MARIA KANSO
Staff Reporter

Greek Week is an event that takes place every year at the University of Michigan-Dearborn for the purpose of showing the unique experiences that Greek Life can offer.

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From left to right: Mazen Hammoud and Montana McCray (Students Serving Students), Naas Sobh and Kevin Landwehr (Voices for Victors) and Fiana (Syeda) Arbab and Malak Nasser (Michigan Action Party). They will compete against each other this week in Student Government elections at UM-Dearborn.

The women of Phi Mu celebrate after winning Greek Week on Friday, April 1 in the UM-Dearborn Fieldhouse. Phi Mu also won Mock Rock, which was the final event in Greek Week.
Student Government Election Preview continued from page 2

“We like the direction it’s headed in,” Arbab said, and we’ve always had goals and projects we’ve been working on the last couple years that we’ve kind of not ready to give up yet,” Sobh said. “We’ve both had several leadership roles within Student Government, so I feel this would allow us to do more with it and to continue all the good work that’s been put in place already.”

Sobh and Landwehr, third-year students at UM-Dearborn, each boast three years of Student Government experience.

Sobh has served as a chair of appropriations and chair of public relations. He is currently a representative on the Board of Student Associates and running to retain his director position.

Landwehr is the chair of appointments and state representatives for Students for Justice in Palestine and a member of Delta Phi Epsilon. She is running for vice president of clubs and organizations.

Both Arbab and Nasser have four years in Student Government. Arbab said, “These are leaders we know have seen and known for diversity… it’s not just in-house, our friends.”

Arbab and Nasser have four main visions if elected: make campus more transparent in communication between students, faculty and staff and administration, increase student engagement, make campus greener and fighting for student workers’ rights.

There are several ways they hope to achieve these visions: a uniform 25 cent raise per semester and surveys for student workers, recycling bins separated by items and an event calendar that is linked through students’ U-M email.

As far as transparency, one example Nasser gave was the possibility of having something like an open board to be involved in student decisions, something she said is an issue for students.

“All they do is justify their tuition increase in one way or another,” Sobh said. “We want them to be able to be open to us and tell us, ‘This is how much we’re getting in student tuition, this is how much we’re getting from alumni donations and these are our.nothing but a way for us to campus to remain functional and to operate unless we raise student tuition.” And unless they can prove that, we shouldn’t be compliant and accept that, accepts that one email from administration.

Both Arbab and Nasser have been involved in Student Government for two-and-a-half years.

They are running for president and vice president for Student Government for two-and-a-half years.

“We’ve chosen people that make it easy to have been gazing or getting ready to take on those positions the same way we’ve been getting ready for this big step for us,” Sobh said.

“I think it’s really important because each of our e-board members has the experience and have the background in their given department and new ideas to benefit students,” Sobh said.

“We have the experience to continue hosting and planning programs to the Fairlane Center to UM-Dearborn, to do local events such as Inclusion Week, as well as bringing local and state representatives to campus and hosting our own local events. Also with that, we have enough new ideas and have been a part of enough different areas on campus… to bring new ideas. And we think that will be beneficial for students,” Landwehr said.

Arbab and Nasser have been involved in Student Government’s sexual assault and public safety committee.

Arbab serves as chair of Student Government’s sexual assault and public safety committee.

Arbab, a biology major and mathematics minor, is the director of internal affairs for Students for Islamic Awareness. She is a chairwoman on the Student Government’s student and academic affairs committee.

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They are running for president and vice president for the Student Government, and a facilitator for them.

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Things I’ll Miss About UM-Dearborn

A few weeks ago, I had a nice conversation with one of my mom’s coworkers, a University of Michigan-Dearborn graduate, who gave me advice when researching the university many years ago. We talked about my impending graduation, and she told me that she missed UM-Dearborn. It made me wonder this: what would I miss about UM-Dearborn?

Since then, I’ve compiled a mental list of things that I would miss about UM-Dearborn, and in true journalistic fashion, decided to share it via a column.

So, here goes.

I’ll miss the UM-Dearborn campus. Since I visited on a tour way back in the summer of 2010, I’ve always enjoyed how small the university is. You truly are a person and not just another face. Over the past five years, I’ve enjoyed running into people that I know personally and through student involvement, and seeing people in 2016 that I took classes with during my first semester.

I’ll miss the UM-Dearborn Fieldhouse. Many nights of my college career have been spent in this building. Besides the University Center — where I’ve spent most of my time — it’s like a second home. I’ve watched some great athletes and teams take the court or ice here, and have conducted many interviews for stories. While others may look at the Fieldhouse as a building that keeps them dry or warm when walking from its parking lot to CASL, I look at it as something else. Hockey coach Chris Haitley said it best during a signing day in 2014: “this is your Yost.”

I’ll miss the long walks on campus. I’ve never been a fan of the parking situation at UM-Dearborn, but I believe you have to make the best out of it. And since I didn’t want to get here early in the morning, I would always park in the non-premium spots (in front of CASL and the UC) and prepare to walk. Some of my spots over the years included the parking garage, the CASL annex, the Henry Ford Estate and the Fieldhouse. And those walks to either CASL or the UC have been, well, long, but a great opportunity to think. It’s also nice exercise. What can beat that?

I’ll miss the second floor of the UC. When you’re against the whole “coming to class and leaving right away” thing, you gotta find a place to spend your time. And since the McKinley Cafe portion of the UC is a zoo during the university’s peak hours, the second floor was my choice. And it worked out quite well with being involved. You have so many people on the same floor, so many things to do and hangouts that not many folks know about. What more do you need? That leads into the next thing…

I’ll miss the faculty members that have crossed my path over the years. Some are from the Fieldhouse and some spend their days in the UC. And others are profession and administration. There are too many to list, but I’ve enjoyed either working with them or learning from them.

I’ll miss Mondays. Most people view the day as this horrible thing. But for me, Mondays during the school year have been the easiest past three years; it’s production day for the Michigan Journal. It’s a day where all the hard work from the week pays off in the form of a printed newspaper, where you spend hours inside the Journal’s office alongside some talented people, all for one common goal. While we’re at it, I’ll miss the place where the magic happens: the Journal’s office. I’ve been blessed to have access to an office since my first day of classes, and there’s just something about the Journal’s office. It’s a special place to me.

But most of all, I’ll miss my experiences and time at UM-Dearborn. This university is the only one I applied to as a high school student. I didn’t want to go anywhere else. And once I arrived, I didn’t want to be anywhere else. I have so many memories from my five years here and have met so many great people. A lot of people use the “There’s no place like home” saying when talking about the Ann Arbor campus, but I certainly feel it with UM-Dearborn.

A Positive Mindset

As a freshman going into university, I wasn’t sure what I wanted to do with my life, and I still don’t know what to do with my life. I picked something I was genuinely interested in, and did not think about the practicality of implementing the degree into life after graduation. In fact, I did not think at all about life after graduation. It seemed so far away, and now that graduation is rapidly approaching, I am getting nervous to step out into the real world.

I was not taught to find the best-paying job, or the highest ranking job in society. I was taught to follow my dreams and fulfill them. That was the meaning of success when I grew up. The mindset you have will change everything. If I am constantly panicking about my future, it will not help me very much. If I am actively trying to build my career up with a confident and positive mindset, that will definitely help me in my future.

Never give up on your dreams, as cheesy as it sounds. Even if that first job is not your dream job, it will happen eventually with persistence and determination. A positive mindset changes everything, and I truly believe that.

By RICKY LINDSAY
Editor-in-Chief

The Michigan Journal is hiring editors for the 2016-2017 academic year!

If interested, please email three writing samples and your resume to:
umd.mj.editorinchief@gmail.com
Jordan Smith’s Debut Truly is Something Beautiful

BY SARAH STURGE
Guest Writer

Season 9 winner of The Voice, Jordan Smith released his debut album Something Beautiful on March 18. The Voice fans and Jordan Smith fans, this was a much anticipated day. The album reached the top spot on iTunes by March 22. And there’s good reason why.

For the most part, the songs alone make the album. They are a true representation of Smith’s vocal abilities and range. His debut album embodies his personality and spirit.His debut album embraces the title of the album, along with making the message of the album abundantly clear.

“Kirk Franklin. In that song, along with all of the others, Smith really shows off wide vocal range and stage presence, but also his personality and his spirit. His debut album embodies his beliefs and transports you on an emotional journey. The combination of uplifting songs and his smooth voice truly elevates the tone of the album, along with the message of the album abundantly clear.

With three songs having the word Beautiful in the title: “Beautiful,” “Beautiful Things,” and “You Are So Beautiful,” and every other song with a deep emphasis on loving yourself, loving life or life being beautiful, it’s not hard to understand what Smith wants us to take away from his album— that you need to be yourself, you need to love yourself and that life and all its wonders living to your full potential.

It’s been eight years since their debut LP, The Age of Understanding. “Bad Habits” was the first single to notify fans about the comeback of TLP. The official music video hit YouTube on Jan. 28, and it looks like something straight out of the mind of Quentin Tarantino. margins the word would even see it for one of his, this isn’t an April Fool’s joke. Thank you, music gods. Miles Kane, a fellow English musician with a sound parallel to Turner’s, joins him on lead guitar, vocals and song writing for The Last Shadow Puppets. Zach Dawes of Mini Mansions is the group’s bassist, while James Ford of Simian Mobile Disco plays drums and produces the records.

Turner is also a member of The Last Shadow Puppets and Mini Mansions. Zach Dawes of Mini Mansions is the group’s bassist, while James Ford of Simian Mobile Disco plays drums and produces the records. The Last Shadow Puppets. Zach Dawes of Mini Mansions is the group’s bassist, while James Ford of Simian Mobile Disco plays drums and produces the records.

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Keys N Krates

Royal Oak Music Theatre
April 2

Charlie Puth

St. Andrew’s Hall
March 29

Bringing the Concert to You
Student Designs Program to Help Young Kids

By TERRY LAKINS
Student Life Editor

Code313 is a program designed to get young kids interested in technology by teaching them coding. Alexis Thompson, a University of Michigan-Dearborn student, said the reason she started this was to get young kids interested in tech and fight under-exposure, especially for kids in Detroit’s inner-city schools with cut programs and dwindling budgets.

"The kids are not in environments they can learn in, whether the school system is broken and/or the building itself is in shambles," Thompson said. “These are the kids we are targeting because these are the kids being left behind.”

A day in the program starts off with a segment called “Person of the Day,” where a guest speaker is brought in. The speaker can include someone well known in the technology world, an entrepreneur, a scientist or someone local who can directly relate to the kids’ experience. In the next portion, the instructors pick a quote, teach the kids about it and relate it to problem solving and coding.

The program includes both computer work and hands-on activities to build the lesson. For example, if the students are building a webpage, they ask the kids to draw and plan out what they want and then relate it to coding. During this time, the instructors, which includes Thompson and other volunteers, will work with the students one-on-one during the coding and provide them extra help if needed.

“We want them to understand that they are going to mess up, it’s okay to mess up and how to work beyond that,” Thompson said.

The instructors also send refresher quizzes to the students through email to help them remember past lessons and keep them consistent with future lessons. Occasionally the kids will be introduced to simple robotics, where they learn about building, electrical and mechanical workings. Thompson said they occasionally do this to give the kids a different perspective.

“We want to show them by using robotics, there is more one way to code,” Thompson said.

Thompson also said future goals of the program include wanting to engage the kids further into robotics by having their first robotics team, which can participate in a worldwide competition for robotics. Another goal is they want to partner with the STEMinista Project, which is a program that helps interest middle school girls in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) program.

Marc Brown, the co-president of this program, said his own aspirations for tech and wanting to work in Silicon Valley led to his partnership with Thompson in designing Code313. Brown said with tech being so large and important, starting young is important because kids are the future in Detroit.

“For me, it’s about making an impact in the community,” Brown said. “Get them involved in what’s going on in their backyard and let them help about what’s going on in Detroit.”

If anyone is interested in volunteering or wants more information, contact Thompson or Brown at code313.info@gmail.com or visit their Facebook page, Code313.

PSP’s Pink Party a Success For Breast Cancer

By TERRY LAKINS
Student Life Editor

Greek Life organization Phi Sigma Phi hosted its annual pink party on April 2 at Boomers Bar and Grill in Allen Park to spread awareness for breast cancer.

The party raised over $3500 for the breast Cancer Awareness Foundation. T-shirts, event tickets and raffle tickets were sold for the foundation and a Logitech speaker system and a Detroit Lions’ Calvin Johnson autographed football card, among other prizes, were donated to the event from active Phi Sigma Phi members.

Sultan Abouhamden, the public relations person for PSP, said they are trying to give back to the community while breaking the stereotype of the typical frat guy.

“The fraternity has been doing this six years now,” Abouhamden said. “It’s a good cause that contributes towards valuable research and prevention for breast cancer.”

What’s Happening This Week?

Wednesday

Grad Business Information Session
Time: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Location: Michigan Room FCS

Public Night at the Observatory
Time: 9:00 PM - 10:30 PM
Location: Observatory SLRC

Thursday

Writing for Applications & Employment
Time: 12:30 PM - 01:45 PM
Location: 1030 CASL

Social Science Research Colloquium: “Building China”
Time: 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM
Location: 2195 SSB

Friday

Financial Aid Friday
Time: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Location: 1183 University Center

ANTSHE Conference
Time: 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Location: CASL Bldg. & Univ. Center

Refer to event calendar at http://umdearborn.edu/ for more information on these events.
Mike McCray Looks to Make Big Impact After Dealing with Injuries

By JEREMY STOVER
Sports Editor

Big Play McCray

Mike McCray is known for his nickname and Twitter handle, but Mike McCray has yet to make many big plays during his time at Michigan. The senior linebacker out of Trotwood, Ohio will now look to change that as he is posed to a starting role in 2016.

With game one of last season out of the way he showed a shoulder to a serious injury, McCray is hungrier than ever to show off his talent that earned him a four star rating on recruiting out of high school.

"I feel great to be back out there," McCray said when asked how he feels to finally be back on the field. And he quickly responded with a "yes" when asked if he's hungry and ready to go.

The Wolverines lost key players at the linebacker position after last season including Joe Bolden, James Ross and Royce Jenkins-Stone. With a few open spots on the depth chart for starting linebacker, McCray has gotten off to a good start this spring.

Last week he improved his defensive coordination during the practice sessions and led all defensive players with seven tackles during the spring game.

Brown said on March 1 that he’s “really happy” with McCray and that “for the first time in his career, he’s showing me he thinks he’s one of our starters going forward.”

For someone who was once asked to come off the field and he knows what I’ve been going through," McCray said. “I just want to make big plays and show my teammates I can be a leader for our defense and get the team in the right position to make big plays.

You could tell McCray was happy to be back there. Just because it’s been awhile since I’ve been out there and he knows what I’ve been going through.

When Shane Morris lined up at wide receiver.

“Any position when you’re in a position battle, you want to think that about yourself,” Speight said. "If you don’t, there’s probably a problem with you.”

Speight played a conservative game on Friday in Michigan’s annual spring game.

He completed 5 of 9 passes for 46 yards and a touchdown. He also ran one in for a score in the game, something that was a bit of a surprise saying his game plan was not known for his scrambling abilities.

"People don’t really think of me as an athlete that I can run. I was able to show people that today,” Speight said.

Coming into the game, there were reports that the quarterback competition was a two-man race. It seemed different on the field as O’Korn and Speight seem to be the two that are vying for the starting job. Seeing that Speight is the frontrunner, for now.

Speight looked more comfortable, and while T.J. Wheatley is used predominantly as a blocking tight end and held his own against some of the older defensive players.

The biggest surprise of the night came when Shane Morris lined up at wide receiver.

"It’s not really a new position. Just in his defense, the nickel plays more of kind of a linemen. I’m definitely in the box a lot more and I’m definitely blitzing a lot more," Peppers said. "I guess he’s just trying to get me around the ball… just let my instinct and my awareness take over for me.”

During the middle stage of the game, Speight played a conservative game on Friday in Michigan’s annual spring game.

For making that happen.

Lehman: Speight Seizing Opportunity This Spring

By ERICK LEHMANN
Managing Editor

Opportunity This Spring

Of relief surrendering two runs.

Senior Abby Jewell survived only 1.1 innings after allowing five hits, two of which were for extra bases.

From there, though, the Wolverines would stall out. In the top of the first, the Wolverines picked right back up.

The entire team has had an excellent spring according to Speight, and he said the entire coaching staff is happy with the progress that each player and each group has made thus far.

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**SPORTS**

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**Speight, McCray Shine as Maize Defeats Blue in Spring Game**

By JERAMY STOVER
Senior Editor
@JackVanAssche

When the University of Michigan-Dearborn softball team took the diamond for its return from a bootleg run by quarterback Wilton Speight.

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But if the Wolverines haven’t strung together a full game yet, now is the perfect time.

The Wolverines need to get going quickly after the break if they want to salvage their season as the schedule is evaporating towards the end.

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Ty Isaac runs by a defender during the Spring Game. Isaac had a game high 83 all-purpose yards.