



# PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE TONIGHT

Visit [stateneews.com](http://stateneews.com) to view a live blog of the presidential debate at 9 p.m. tonight.



## The State News



ANGELI WRIGHT/THE STATE NEWS

Public administration and public policy junior and co-founder of Spartans for Medical Marijuana Kelsey Maniez lays inside of the group's float while waiting for the Homecoming parade to start Friday.

# Weeding out the issue

As Election Day nears, students, officials debate use of medical marijuana

"Marijuana helps you eat. When you have Crohn's disease, you should be eating a lot of food because your body is not able to take in the nutrition that it needs."

Josh Sattler, hospitality business junior

By Kelly House  
THE STATE NEWS

When Josh Sattler gets the munchies, he views it as a medicinal property of smoking marijuana, not a fattening side effect of getting high. The hospitality business junior has Crohn's disease, a chronic inflammatory ailment of the digestive system that causes ulcers in the bowels and can lead to drastic weight loss.

"Marijuana helps you eat," he said. "When you have Crohn's disease, you should be eating a lot of food because your body is not able to take in the nutrition that it needs." Sattler said smoking marijuana also eases the "crunching" abdominal pain associated with Crohn's.

Now a state proposal is on the ballot that would pro-

hibit individuals such as Sattler from being arrested for using the drug to alleviate their symptoms. Sattler said he plans to vote in favor of Proposal 1, which would legalize marijuana use for medicinal purposes.

The initiative would allow adult patients with a doc-

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### Medical marijuana

The initiative would allow adult patients with a doctor's approval to possess up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana and grow up to 12 plants for personal use.

The marijuana would have to be kept in a locked area.

Opponents of the proposal have said that existing pharmaceuticals, such as the synthetic Marinol, contain the same therapeutic properties of marijuana without the negative side effects.

### ECONOMY

## DOW DROPS 800 POINTS, CLOSES 370 POINTS DOWN

### From staff and wire reports

New York — Wall Street joined in a worldwide cascade of despair Monday over the financial crisis, driving the Dow Jones industrials to their biggest loss ever during a trading day. Even a big afternoon rally failed to keep the Dow from its first close below 10,000 since 2004.

The sell-off came despite the \$700 billion U.S. government bailout package, which was signed into law Friday after two weeks in which traders had appeared to count on the rescue as their only hope to avoid a market meltdown.

At its worst point, the Dow was down more than 800 points, an intraday record. The stock market rallied during the final 90 minutes of the

trading day, and the Dow finished down about 370 points at 9,955.50.

Ted Fee, an associate professor of finance at MSU, said the financial crisis in Europe and Asia is the primary reason for this latest stock market plunge.

Fee said overseas governments have been slower than the U.S. government to implement bailout plans, so the markets continue to slide.

"Once these rescue plans are in place is when the banks are going to start being willing to lend money again," he said.

Speculation among traders late in the session that the market's pullback had been severe enough to force the Federal Reserve into taking other steps to soothe the markets helped stocks rebound from their lows.

"If you can't say that we're oversold now I don't know what you say. You're at least

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### CRIME

## EX-MSU STUDENT BREAKS \$100K FRAUD PROBATION

By Abby Lubbers  
THE STATE NEWS

An ex-MSU student could face prison time for a probation violation in a 10-month-old fraud case, Ingham County Prosecutor Stuart Dunning said.

Bruce A. Parks, who was a student in MSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine, will be sentenced Wednesday at the Ingham County Circuit Court in Mason for a discrepancy in restitution payments to MSU. According to the court, that violated the terms of Parks' probation.

A hearing was held Oct. 1 and Parks, 42, was placed in the Ingham County Jail until his sentencing.

Parks was sentenced in July

by Ingham County Circuit Court Judge William Collette, who ordered him to pay restitution to MSU up to \$116,773. At the time of sentencing, Parks indicated that part of that sum was paid, and he still owed about \$20,000 to the university.

Parks' attorney, Frederick Blackmond, could not be reached for comment Monday.

Parks originally was charged in January with four counts of obtaining controlled substances by fraud. He was charged in April with four counts of using false pretenses to obtain \$20,000 or more, Dunning said.

Parks pleaded guilty to the first substance charge, and the

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### GETTING READY

YouVote and the University Activities Board work to register people to vote at the rock on Farm Lane. The groups tried to get as many new voters as possible by Monday's registration deadline, page 3A.



Weather  
Partly cloudy

High 67° | Low 53°

Three-day forecast, page 2A

### HOCKEY

## Spartans triumph in final period of exhibition game

By Alex DiFilippo  
THE STATE NEWS

When the Spartans scored three unanswered goals in the first period, it seemed to be time for the Western Ontario Mustangs to start warming the bus.

The Mustangs weren't ready to call it a game yet though, as they exploded in the second period and scored three unanswered goals to tie the game.

But MSU found a way to get it done in the third period — scoring the game winner with 6:37 left in the period to give the Spartans the victory in their last exhibition game, 4-3.

"(Tonight) was a pretty good test," sophomore forward Corey Tropp, who had a goal and an assist on the night, said.

"Every time we've been playing against each other, and it

was a good test to play against another team and see how we are," Tropp said.

MSU head coach Rick Comley said he wasn't frustrated with his team's performance and he knows this win is just a small step in the right direction for his young team.

"I'd rather (our players) get battered and tested right now and they will be better tomorrow because of today," Comley said. "Part of (what we are doing) is infusing talent, learning what talent can play in situations and then molding them."

The Spartans came out of the gates flying as sophomore forward Andrew Rowe ringed a shot off the post a minute and a half into the game. On the next shift, the Green and White

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Senior forward Nick Sucharski and Western Ontario forward Sal Peralta fight for the puck Monday at the MSU vs. Western Ontario hockey game.

GABRIELLE MOORE/THE STATE NEWS