

THE BEE'S KNEES

ABOUT THE HONEYBEES

There are about nine different species of honeybees that are native to Europe and Africa. They are believed to have been introduced to the Americas in the mid-1600s. Honeybees live in colonies and must make enough honey throughout the warm weather months in order to survive the cold winters.



A colony consists of the queen bee — the mother of all the members of the colony — and between 10,000 and 30,000 females, with zero to a couple thousand males. The male members of the colony are called drones.

In the United States, \$150 million in honey is produced by bees each year.

Fun bee facts

- They have five eyes.
- They can fly about 20 mph.
- If they lose their stinger, they will die.
- They have been around for 30 million years.
- The average beehive contains about 50,000 bees.
- They have two pairs of wings.
- Bees contribute to the economy directly by helping to fertilize crops such as fruits, nuts and vegetables. Through this, they add about \$15 billion to the U.S. economy each year by improving crop yield.

Bees at MSU

Associate entomology professor Zachary Huang has been studying honeybees for more than 20 years, according to an article published by The State News.

According to the article, bee populations have been decreasing across the country and in Michigan.

"Since 2006, about 25 percent of the honeybee population has been lost in our country and we don't know why," Huang said. "Beekeepers are opening up their hives and the bees are simply just not there."

Research is continuing as to the possible causes for this disappearance.

Bee terms

An Africanized honeybee is an aggressive and wild bee often referred to as the "killer bee."

Bee larvae, eggs and pupae are collectively known as a brood, the immature forms of bees.

For a look at an MSU alumnus' work to save bees, check out page 4B.

SOURCE: TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY'S DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY, THE STATE NEWS

FACES + PLACES

HELLO, MY NAME IS
Sarah Scheidt

Being an athletic person most of her life, Sarah Scheidt was looking for something to do when she began at MSU.

She found the perfect activity when she discovered the MSU Women's Ultimate Frisbee club.

"I was just interested in Frisbee because people played it around the dorms, tossing it around," the elementary education junior said. "And I saw the club and decided to play."

Now in her third year, Scheidt is a co-captain of the team.

The team practices twice a week for two hours at a time, doing warm-ups and drills before they scrimmage, she said.

"When you get to ultimate, it's still competitive, but it's just so much nicer," Scheidt said. "It's just a more laid back setting and it's more fun to play in that kind of setting. Everyone just wants you to play. It's a great environment to be around."

— Compiled by Sarah Harbison, photo by Sam Ruiz



Section B | The State News | www.statenews.com | October 22, 2008

Wednesday



Political theory and constitutional democracy junior **Andrew Gerlach** goes door to door Sept. 14 while campaigning for **Bob Alexander**, who is running for U.S. House of Representatives. Gerlach is Alexander's Ingham County field director.

PHOTOS BY SAM RUIZ/ THE STATE NEWS



More online

To see an interview with Gerlach, visit statenews.com/multimedia.

WORKING ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL



International relations sophomore **Brad Dennis** knocks on doors Sunday afternoon along Abbot Road while campaigning for a seat on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners. Dennis is running against District 10 incumbent **Mark Grebner**.



More online

For an interview with Dennis, visit statenews.com/multimedia.

Two MSU students take on commitment of campaigning in addition to school work

By Sarah Harbison
THE STATE NEWS

As if being a student didn't promise enough sleep deprivation, throw in another full-time job: Campaigning. With 13 days to go until Election Day, many MSU student campaigners are feeling the crunch of the last month of campaign season. It's not exactly a 9-to-5 job with cushy office perks. In order to convey their message to voters, campaigners must be on their feet and at the doorsteps. For students, this is a balancing act between their job and passion and the logistical aspects of an education. For two MSU students, the campaign trail has taken a local turn and along the road, they've each had their ups and downs.

Campaigning for students, by students

After covering all the floors of West Holmes Hall, Brad Dennis was just about done campaigning for the day Thursday.

He, along with a volunteer, hopped into the elevator on the sixth floor ready to head out. There, he saw someone wearing a McCain-Palin T-shirt and offered him some information on his own campaign.

Even on an elevator, Dennis is always on the job. The international relations sophomore is running on the Republican ticket for the 10th District

seat on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

Democratic incumbent Mark Grebner is running against 19-year-old Dennis for the seat.

Dennis, a Fenton native, said he is most interested in local politics and now considers East Lansing his home.

"I vote here and participate in local politics and this is the area that is going to be affecting me for the next decade," he said. So I think it's valuable to not only myself, but the rest of the students that are planning on living here for the next four to 10 years, to

get involved and to make sure they know what's happening around them, to make sure that they are not just standing by as somebody else makes the decisions that are going to affect their lives."

It's a campaign with little funding and a lot of hours. Dennis said his goal is to speak to each student who lives in the dorms and off campus within the district at least two times before Election Day.

"It's a good opportunity to get around and to meet all the different stu-

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