



The State News

MSU keeps going green with a film exhibition

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VETERANS UNITE, HONOR FALLEN PEERS



SAM RUIZ/THE STATE NEWS

Lindsey Malson Larkin, widow of 1st Lt. Adam M. Malson, grieves Tuesday afternoon during the Veterans Day ceremony honoring her late husband, as well as other veterans and fallen soldiers, which was held at Alumni Memorial Chapel. Malson was killed by a suicide bomber in February 2005.

By Thea Neal
THE STATE NEWS

Bennie Allen is bashful. He was sent to Japan during World War II at the age of 17 and survived a kamikaze attack by an enemy plane. If it wasn't for the bright writing on his baseball cap, it would be hard to tell that the cane-wielding 82-year-old had ever seen combat.

Each year, Allen travels from DeWitt to MSU for the Veterans Day ceremony, held by the Army and Air Force ROTC. He sits quietly in a pew at the Alumni Memorial Chapel, where the names of recently deceased soldiers are read, and the program shakes in his hands. But he's there for one thing: To remember the lives of the people whose wartime experiences he knows firsthand.

Future, past and present soldiers gathered Tuesday to celebrate Veterans Day, as well as the lives of Capt. Sean P. Grimes and 1st Lt. Adam M. Malson, MSU Army ROTC alumni who were killed in Iraq. But not a single per-

son was there to mourn; they were there to celebrate the lives of soldiers killed in duty.

Capt. Grimes

With a fist full of wrinkled tissue, Mary Grimes dabs at her eyes. She removes her glasses, exposing a somber face and pursed lips. As the mother of Sean Grimes, Mary serves as a reminder that when it comes to war, mothers sometimes outlive their sons.

Jay Diller, a veteran of the war in Iraq, said peers called Sean Grimes "polite and respectful," and the "natural leader" of his 1997 MSU Army ROTC class.

After graduating with a



SAM RUIZ/THE STATE NEWS

Kinesiology freshman Joshua Goethals, center, looks ahead while he and his fellow ROTC members stand in line Tuesday afternoon outside Alumni Memorial Chapel.

nursing degree, Sean Grimes served in Germany as a critical care nurse before being deployed to Kosovo as an assistant head nurse. He then served in Korea but was deployed to Iraq as a physician's assistant. He was killed by a roadside bomb on March 4, 2005, near Ar Ramadi, Iraq.

The largest section in Grimes' obituary is his awards. Ranging from a Purple Heart to

a Flight Surgeon Badge, he had managed to earn 14 medals and decorations for his efforts in less than 10 years.

1st Lt. Malson

Lindsey Malson Larkin's eyes are a certain seafoam green only seen in coral reefs. A former MSU ROTC member, she learned the ins and outs of the

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POLITICS

Mich. troubles important in fixing national economy

By Kelly House
THE STATE NEWS

With Michigan's lagging economy, struggling auto industry and highly sought-after water resources, the state's concerns also will be major concerns of President-elect Obama's presidency, experts said.

"First and foremost, the auto industry will be a major headache for him," said Craig Ruff, senior policy fellow at Lansing-based Public Sector Consultants.

Ruff said Obama's appointment of Gov. Jennifer Granholm and former U.S. Rep. David Bonior to his transition panel of economic advisers is an indication of his attention to Michigan's issues.

Obama will have to focus on Michigan because the state's woes represent a bigger national economic problem of home foreclosures, unemployment and declining income, Ruff said.

"Michigan's fortunes will be tied to the national economy," Ruff said. "Auto manufacturing, like insurance and like banking, has a large national workforce and it produces wealth for people throughout the country."

Megan Brown, a spokeswoman for Granholm, said the governor expects Obama to be a "partner" in addressing the state's economic issues.

Among the issues the governor would like to see addressed, Brown said manufacturing, investing in "new energy jobs" and making health care affordable to Michigan families top the list.

At the same time, some of Obama's decisions could be harmful to the state, Ruff said. Any policy to raise citizens' taxes — regardless of their income level —

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ASMSU

New bill promotes leniency in alcohol-related emergency

By Thea Neal
THE STATE NEWS

Your friend had too much to drink. You tipped a few back as well, but someone should get help. Concerns about your being slapped with a minor in possession charge might have prevented swift action, but no more — at least if talks between ASMSU and area police are successful.

The Good Samaritan bill passed by ASMSU's Student Assembly in October proposes that police, if they agree, would be unable to give students under 21 a minor in possession ticket for assisting in emergency situations involving alcohol.

MSU police Sgt. Florene McGlothlin-Taylor said the bill could be feasible for police and students.

"I don't think that's an issue with our department," she said. "We encourage students to call the police because it's more of an issue or concern that the person they are calling about is getting the assistance that they need. Their health is of the immediate concern."

Student Assembly passed the

Good Samaritan bill by consent, but has no authority on campus or in East Lansing to put it into action. ASMSU is MSU's undergraduate student government.

At a student government conference, Kyle Dysarz, Student Assembly vice chairperson for external affairs, said he was inspired at a conference to create the bill. It was recently implemented at Ohio State University, and Penn State University also is working to put it into action. Dysarz doesn't want to put a time frame on when the bill could be enacted on campus and in East Lansing.

"It's not something that I think will be a quick process," he said. "It's something we'll really be working on the rest of the year and potentially into the summer."

ASMSU plans to meet with both the MSU and East Lansing police departments, as well as Olin Health Center. Olin officials are open to the proposed ordinance's ideas. Health educator Rebecca Allen of Olin's Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs pro-

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EAST LANSING

Beetle causes removal of more than 200 ash trees

By Allison Bush
THE STATE NEWS

One of the most destructive predators in Mid-Michigan can barely be seen from five feet away.

The emerald ash borer, a beetle that is only about half an inch long when fully grown, is expected to cause the death of most ash trees in East Lansing within the next three years, said Dave Smitley, a professor of entomology at MSU.

"Right now in East Lansing, almost all of the (ash) trees are infested," he said. "(And)

unfortunately, it doesn't look like we'll be able to stop the spread to other states — it's been found in Ohio, Illinois and Indiana."

However, Smitley is conducting research in East Lansing to develop a method to treat infested trees.

"We can't stop the beetles from spreading, but we can save individual trees," he said.

For ash trees with a diameter of less than 15 inches, a homeowner product can be purchased to help protect ash trees, he said. Larger trees need an injection by an arbor-

ist, but the injection only will last up to three years, whereas the homeowner product must be used yearly, he said.

The city of East Lansing just cut three limbs from 115 ash trees in the city to help assist MSU with its research on this beetle, said Dave Smith, environmental specialist for East Lansing. There are about 850 ash trees along the streets of East Lansing, and 250 have been removed because of the emerald ash borer, he said.

"We continue to do tree planting, but pretty quickly, the number of trees we remove

is going to far outstrip our ability to replace them," Smith said. "There's going to be a time period where we just can't keep up with tree planting."

The emerald ash borer was originally found in Mid-Michigan in 2002, said Leah Bauer, an adjunct associate professor of entomology at MSU and a research entomologist with the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service. Since then, there has been much research done on this beetle, including research on its natural predators.

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SHOPPING

Retailers brace for a difficult holiday season and implement different tricks to make a profit, page 3A.

Emerald Ash Borer

Exotic beetle native to Asia
Discovered near Detroit in 2002

Probably got to Michigan through wood packing material used in cargo ships from Asia

Has killed more than 40 million ash trees in southeastern Michigan

Has most recently spread to Wisconsin, Missouri and Virginia in summer 2008

SOURCE: EMERALDASHBORER.INFO



Weather

Showers
High 52° | Low 43°

Three-day forecast, page 2A