

## 10 tips for a safe and healthy sex life

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JOSH RADTKE AND GABRIELLE MOORE/THE STATE NEWS

# The State News

## DEATH

## Friends mourn student death; cause uncertain

By Kyle Feldscher  
THE STATE NEWS

The mysterious death of finance senior Kevin Boskey has had those who were close to him searching for answers as they remember a friend who brought smiles to their faces.

Boskey, a 21-year-old Farmington Hills native, was found dead Friday at his home on Woodmere Avenue. He had been sick on Thursday, staying in bed most of the day, his roommate Tim Mitch-

ell said. Mitchell, a finance senior, said Boskey had complained of fatigue on Thursday and looked sick, but nothing serious seemed to be wrong. When Mitchell opened Boskey's door on Friday to hand him a magazine, he said he immediately knew his friend had died.

Mitchell described Boskey as a naturally upbeat person who could make anyone laugh. "He was a real happy-go-lucky kind of guy and the funniest guy I've ever known," Mitchell said. "If you met him one time, you'd remember him."

Boskey's death does not appear to be suspicious and no

criminal activity is suspected, East Lansing police said Monday afternoon.

Ingham County Medical Examiner Dean Sienko said an autopsy was completed Saturday but no cause of death has been determined.

"We've been particularly keen on looking for a bacterial cause and there has been no indication of that," Sienko said. "More tests are forthcoming."

Psychology senior Matt Figurski lived with Boskey during their sophomore year. Figurski said Boskey was the type of person he was proud to call his best friend.

"It's not fair though, because he had so many best friends,"

Figurski said. "Literally everyone loved him. He had no enemies."

Figurski had been friends with Boskey since the two were junior high students in their hometown of Farmington Hills. He said he's experienced mixed emotions, from shock of Boskey's death to laughing about stories he and friends have recalled about Boskey.

"It sinks in more and more every day, and I just miss him more and more as it sinks in," Figurski said. "I realize how much I loved him and how much he meant to me."

Mitchell said he and his roommates, along with other friends, are coping with the loss by reliv-

ing their friend's sunny outlook on life.

"He really liked making everyone laugh and was just the life of the party," Mitchell said. "As cliché as that sounds, he really was the life of the party for us. He was just such a good guy." Tom Scott, an accounting senior, was Boskey and Figurski's suitemate during their sophomore year and met Boskey during high school. He said he was still shocked at the surreal experience of losing one of his closest friends.

"I don't really know what I'm going to do yet," Scott said. "I'm just going to try and learn from this and I know I'll always be thinking of him."

Figurski said he is looking forward to Boskey's funeral, which he expects to be packed with people from all over Michigan, and the rest of the Midwest, sharing stories of their fun-loving friend.

"Part of the thing with Kevin is, what makes it easier is every story about him will be fun," Figurski said. "He was that kind of guy."

Efforts to reach Boskey's family were unsuccessful. Funeral services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Thursday at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Farmington. Visitations are scheduled for 4-9 p.m. today and 2-9 p.m. Wednesday at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington.

## ECONOMY

## AUTOMAKERS HAVE 1 WEEK TO PROVE VIABILITY

By Pat Evans  
THE STATE NEWS

A crucial deadline faced by Detroit automakers to present the federal government with plans showing they're viable has taken a backseat to the more than \$800 billion proposed federal stimulus packages, two MSU professors who follow the industry said.

The Feb. 17 deadline for General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC to submit long-term viability plans was set in December when Congress approved loan packages totaling \$13.4 billion that would help keep the automakers from going under.

Labor and industrial relations professor Richard Block said Congress and the Obama administration will be able to focus on working with the automakers once the verdict on the stimulus is reached.

"The administration is so focused on stimulus, and once that is passed they can turn to the automakers," he said. "The amount they're asking for isn't nearly as much as the banks and these would be loans, not gifts or bailouts."

GM has received \$9.4 billion and expects to get \$4 billion more, while Chrysler has received \$4 billion and is hoping to get another \$3 billion.

The two automakers have taken steps since receiving the first round of funding to prove they're worthy of going back for more. Chrysler last month agreed to partner with Italian automaker Fiat SpA, although the two companies still await government approval.

A partnership with Fiat would give Chrysler access to small car technology and markets outside the U.S., a key component to success in the current financial situation, said John Revitte, a labor and industrial relations professor.

"What something like this, we couldn't get away without going through more layoffs and factory closings," Revitte said. "But this should start the process going the other way."

Psychology sophomore Ryan Duffy, whose father works for Chrysler, said he is confident the Fiat partnership is a step in the

## RED, WHITE & GREEN



KATIE RAUSCH/THE STATE NEWS

Troy Walters, a criminal justice junior, is attending MSU as part of a ROTC scholarship program while still enlisted in the army. After serving four years in the United States and in Iraq, Walters re-enlisted to extend his tours but ended up at MSU instead. Walters said he would like to see a veteran center open on campus to help all service people. In the meantime, family continues to play an important role in his life. He lives with his sister Lindsay, left, and his parents, he said, raised him in a patriotic family.

## Tuition assistance program could draw more veterans to MSU

By Allison Bush  
THE STATE NEWS

Criminal justice sophomore Troy Walters, a U.S. Army veteran, spent a year in Iraq when he was 20, but he had always planned on coming to MSU afterward.

"The whole time I was in Iraq, especially in 2005 when the basketball team was in the Final Four, I was paying attention to that," he said. A recently introduced program could lead more veterans to look MSU's way. Last month, the university unveiled a new tuition assistance program, where Michigan's disabled veterans will no longer have to worry about paying for an education.

Veterans already receive assistance from the state and federal government, but the university will cover the rest of their undergraduate tuition expenses, including room and board, said Val Meyers, an associate director of financial aid at MSU. "It's great," Walters said. "I think they (MSU) need to get more involved."

There currently are about 270 veterans on campus, with 19 who have identified themselves as disabled.

In the long run, Walters, who does not qualify for the program, said he would like the program to cater to all veterans. However, it is a lot harder for disabled veterans to find employment, so they should be helped first, he said.

MSU is the only major university in Michigan that is offering such a tuition assistance program for veterans. The university expects to spend \$150,000 on this program for the 2009-10

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### Aid for veterans

MSU — Will cover undergraduate tuition costs for disabled graduates beginning in the 2009-10 school year.

Western Michigan — Will cover the first semester of returning veterans' tuition while they wait for their veterans benefits to catch up; charges in-state tuition in subsequent semesters regardless of hometown.

University of Michigan — Registrar's Office provides assistance to eligible students applying for their Veteran Affairs education benefits.

SOURCE: MSU, WESTERN MICHIGAN AND U-M MEDIA RELATIONS

## TECHNOLOGY

## MSU-endorsed download site shuts down

By Justin Harris  
THE STATE NEWS

Ruckus.com — once dubbed by MSU "the premiere digital entertainment network designed specifically for college students" — quietly and abruptly shut down during the weekend.

Targeted to college communities, the site offered free music downloads to students and faculty at participating universities, which included MSU. Songs were available with 30-day renewal licenses, but were not transferable to MP3 players or CDs.

On Saturday afternoon, however, the site was shut down, displaying a final message to its users.

"Unfortunately, the Ruckus service will no longer be provided. Thanks."

MSU was notified Monday by Ruckus' parent company, TotalMusic LLC, that the Ruckus service had shut down, effective immediately.

Jason Herskowitz, vice president of product management for TotalMusic, said the economy made it difficult for the service to continue.

"The overall state of the economy forced our investors into making some tough decisions," Herskowitz wrote in an e-mail to The State News.

The Ruckus program was promoted to MSU students as a way to download music free and legally to their personal comput-

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MISS CLASS? SO WHAT StudyBlue.com, which allows students to upload notes, is getting MSU's attention, page 3A.

Weather  
Cloudy  
High 60° | Low 46°  
Three-day forecast, Page 2A