

The State News

Karaoke making a comeback on campus

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SEAN COOK THE STATE NEWS

ACCIDENT

STUDENT DROWNS AFTER SUV PLUNGES INTO RED CEDAR

By **Robin Carpenter**
THE STATE NEWS

Lansing — An MSU student died after drowning and suffering from severe hypothermia Tuesday when his sport utility vehicle went off a Lansing bridge ramp and into the Red Cedar River.

Jeremy Watson, a 21-year-old interdisciplinary studies in social science and health studies junior, died after the Mercury Mountaineer he was driving went off a cement ramp leading to a bridge guardrail and plunged into the Red Cedar at about 12:30 p.m., Lansing police said Wednesday.

An autopsy completed Wednesday confirmed the cause of death, Ingham County Medical Examiner Dean Siemko said.

Watson's roommate, 20-year-old economics junior Shawn Wilfong, suffered a broken rib, bruised lung and minor facial lacerations from the fall, said Brent Sielinski, president of Kappa Sigma Fraternity, of which Wilfong is a member.

Wilfong, the only passenger

in the car, was released from the Sparrow Hospital Wednesday afternoon, a hospital official confirmed.

Before the crash, Watson and Wilfong were driving to the Goodwill Retail Store, 6250 S. Cedar St., in Lansing, to get clothes for MTV Night, a Greek Week dance competition, Sielinski said.

The car was heading south on Cedar Street when it swerved off the four-lane road, catapulted into the air and landed in the middle of the Red Cedar, police said.

"I heard a loud bang and all of the sudden I had seen a car in the air," said Ismael Guajardo, an employee at the Kwik Car Wash in Lansing, located a few hundred feet north of the river.

Lansing police Chief Mark Alley said there is "preliminary information" about what caused Watson to swerve the car, but he did not specify what type of evidence police have.

Tuesday night, Lansing police Sgt. Del Kostanko said a tire was flat when the car was pulled from



CHELSEA MCGORSKI 1/31

the river a few hours after the crash. It is not known whether the flat tire contributed to the crash.

After the car plunged into the river, an off-duty Lansing police officer and Lansing resident Ryan Kowalk jumped into the river to help Watson and Wilfong.

"When I arrived, (Wilfong)

was already on the roof of the vehicle and it was obvious he was in distress," said Kowalk, 30, who suffered minor abrasions and lost his wedding ring during the rescue attempt. "Once he started the fact that his roommate was in the

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Friends warmly remember 'J'

By **Kyle Feldscher**
THE STATE NEWS

During a life cut short, Jeremy Watson impacted the lives of friends with his infectious personality and ability to make them laugh.

Known as "J" to friends and family, the 21-year-old interdisciplinary studies in social science and health services junior was a charismatic person whose personality drew people in, friends said.

Communication junior Brayton Groh, a former floor mate and close friend, said Watson's impact on him was immediate and long lasting.

"I knew from the minute I

met him he was a very welcoming guy," Groh said. "He was extremely funny and intelligent."

Groh lived with Watson on the seventh floor of Hubbard Hall during the 2006-07 school year. The pair, along with other members of the floor, became fast friends. Groh said Watson, who was just a year away from graduating, was a promising student.

Watson died Tuesday afternoon after he lost control of his Mercury Mountaineer and collided with the base of a guardrail on the Cedar Street bridge over the Red Cedar River in Lansing, The Ingham County Medical Examiner reported the cause of death as drowning and extreme hypothermia.

MSU Student Terrace

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20 YEARS IMPACTING MSU'S AIRWAYS

Impact Flashback host Lindsay Gluf, an interdisciplinary studies in social science and human resources and society senior, gives a 20th birthday video message to Impact, while telecommunication, information studies and media master's student Jon Whiting films her Tuesday night at Buffalo Wild Wings, 360 Albert Ave.

JOSH RADTKE/THE STATE NEWS



By **Nick Krzinski**
THE STATE NEWS

It's a year shy of being legal, but that didn't keep MSU's student radio station from holding its birthday party at the bar. Impact (89-FM) celebrated two decades on the air this week, as staff held a party on Feb. 24 at Buffalo Wild Wings, 360 Albert Ave. "Impact tries to give the students what they want," said Jeremy Whiting, the Impact's station manager. "You're never more than three or so songs away from something you know. We try to be different from not only typical commercial stations, but the typical college, indie-rock stations as well." Although it's getting a bit long in the tooth, Impact's staff strives to keep it's success an everlasting one, said Shannon Awrylo, the station's program director and first-year nursing student.

Calling Holden Hall home

The radio station's home in the basement of Holden Hall appears the way one may expect from watching "Frasier." One room contains the host of a show that is being broadcast with his or her guests at large, outstretched microphones. Another room — adjacent to the host's area — accommodates the engineering studio that edits the sound.

Whiting, a telecommunication, information studies and media master's student, said the goal of Impact is to provide quality, com-

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BASKETBALL

Freshmen carry Spartans in win

By **Alex Altman**
THE STATE NEWS

MSU men's basketball head coach Tom Izzo was looking for a complete game. He'd have to settle for a quality start.

Freshman **MSU 62** forward Delvon Ro scored 10 points and freshman guard Korie Lucious added 12 — career-highs for both — as the freshmen fueled No. 9 MSU to a 62-54 victory over Iowa Wednesday night at Breslin Center.

Izzo remarked throughout the week that he wanted his team to put together a complete game on both ends of the court. He said his team's defensive effort had been much better the last couple games, but the offense splattered

in spurts.

At times against Iowa, the Spartans struggled at both ends of the court.

Iowa, which trailed by as many as 12 points, came within a couple field goals on separate occasions in the second half. But each time Iowa knocked, MSU slammed the door shut with big plays on the other end.

Lucious answered Iowa guard Jake Kelly's pointer with a trey of his own that put MSU back up by nine with 13:33 remaining. After Kelly nailed another jumper with 8:27 left that trimmed MSU's lead to a second half-low five points, MSU senior center Goran Stank sunk two clutch free throws to quell the Hawkeyes' momentum.

Stank finished with nine points and four rebounds for the Spar-

More Online...

For post-game interviews and a photo gallery from the Spartans' win, visit stateneews.com.

tars, who received little help from its starting guards.

Sophomore guard Kalin Lucas finished with a season-low four points on 2-of-6 shooting, while his backcourt partner sophomore Durrell Summers — who went down with a lower leg injury two minutes into the game and didn't play the entire second period — went scoreless.

Izzo said after the game Summers appeared to have sprained his ankle, adding he didn't think the injury was serious.

Freshman forward Draymond



ANGEL WRIGHT/THE STATE NEWS

Freshman forward Delvon Ro reacts from the bench to a call made on the court during the first half of Wednesday's game against Iowa at Breslin Center. The Spartans were ahead 32-22 at the half.

Green added four points for the Spartans, meaning MSU's three freshmen — Green, Roe and Lucious — accounted for more than half of MSU's scoring.

Kelly finished with a game-high 20 for the Hawkeyes (14-14 overall, 4-11 Big Ten), who shot 45 from the field, including 28.6

percent (6-of-21) from 3-point range. MSU out-rebounded Iowa 23-9.

With the win, MSU (22-5, 12-3) extended its lead over Purdue in the Big Ten standings to 1.5 games. The Spar-

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MAKING THEIR MARK
The Lenten season has begun following Ash Wednesday, page 3A

SO LONG, SENIORS
MSU hockey closes out its regular season this weekend, page 6A

Weather
Snow Showers
High 43° | Low 32°
Three-day forecast, Page 2A