

March Madness begins at noon today  
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LIZ KERSJES | SN

# The State News

## ENFORCEMENT

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY RESULTS IN 20 ARRESTS

By Kyle Feldscher  
THE STATE NEWS

Police on and off campus reported a relatively simple St. Patrick's Day, despite the holiday keeping their departments slightly busier compared to last year.

East Lansing police Chief Tom Wibert said on Tuesday. He said considering the large crowds celebrating the holiday in downtown East Lansing, the number of arrests illustrate what was a smooth day for officers.

"There were a lot of people out and about, but most of them were being good," Wibert said. "Compared to how many were out there, (the 20 arrests) were pretty good."

Wibert said East Lansing bars usually are filled to capacity soon after opening on St. Patrick's Day, with about 4,000 people waiting in line as early as 6:30 a.m.

By that time Tuesday, fewer than 1,000 people were waiting to enter area bars, he said.

The number of people arrested for alcohol-related crimes was higher than last year's double dose of St. Patrick's Day festivities, with the weekend of March 14-17 resulting in 16 arrests. However, this year represented a significant decrease from St. Patrick's Day 2007, when 36 people spent the night in the East Lansing jail for alcohol-related crimes.

MSU police Sgt. Florene McGlothian-Taylor said campus police also experienced a relatively slow day.

"It was nothing out of the ordinary," McGlothian-Taylor said. "Nothing that we wouldn't have on a Thursday or Friday night."

Favorable weather conditions were a major reason East Lansing bars didn't see their normal crowd of partiers, Wibert said. Temperatures reached highs just shy of 70 degrees, leading many revelers to keep their celebration outside and in the residential areas of East Lansing.

"It was so nice that people stayed in the neighborhoods and wanted to stay outside," Wibert said. "It was a beautiful day."

Mike Berkowitz, president of Spartans Against Drunk Driving, or SADD, said his group's partnership with the ELPD went off without a hitch. Police and SADD set aside a section of the ELPD on St. Patrick's day, and Berkowitz said, "We were just making sure people got a safe ride or walk home and got a pretty positive reception."

This year was the third time SADD worked with the ELPD on St. Patrick's day, and Berkowitz said it was the best yet.

"Without knowing the stats — it seems to have gone better," he said. "It's likely that less people were going out because it was a Tuesday. On Saturdays (the past two years), it seemed to draw a huge crowd."

## For band and basketball



PHOTOS BY NICK DENTAMARO/THE STATE NEWS

Barry Greer, 23, conducts Spartan Brass at the last MSU men's home basketball game. Greer, who has Down syndrome, has been directing the band alongside John T. Madden since he was 6 years old. Leo Greer, Barry's father, took his then-6-year-old son down to the court during halftime and introduced himself and Barry to Madden. "Barry, I'm gonna play you a song," Madden said. For the 17 years since, Barry has been enamored with the band and directs alongside Madden.

## Spartan Brass leader is MSU basketball team's biggest fan

By Jacob Carpenter  
THE STATE NEWS

For 17 years of MSU basketball games, Barry Greer has directed the Spartan Brass, jeered opponents with the Izzone, given high fives to players before games and offered coaching tips in the locker room after the buzzer. And he does it all with Down syndrome, a genetic condition that causes a mental disability.

When MSU faces Robert Morris on Friday in the opening game of the NCAA Tournament, Breslin Center's jack-of-all-trades likely will be relegated to a tan leather chair in front of a

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Marching band director John T. Madden smiles at 23-year-old Barry Greer during the last home men's basketball game this season.

For a video of Barry Greer's father, Leo, discussing his son's passion for the band and MSU basketball team, visit [stateneews.com/multimedia](http://stateneews.com/multimedia).

## EFFICIENCY

## Stimulus may help rental properties save energy

By Allison Bush  
THE STATE NEWS

Students could keep some money in their pockets and off their utility bills next winter if East Lansing receives money from the \$787 billion stimulus package to improve energy conservation in rental properties.

The stimulus package allocates \$3.2 billion for an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, and the city is awaiting word on how much it will receive, said Tim Dempsey, community and economic development administrator for East Lansing.

"One of the things we've talked about is supporting a program that does energy conservation for rental properties — helping landlords go in and replace insulation and water heaters," Dempsey said.

Fred Bauries, an East Lansing resident and owner of three rental properties,

### Possible E.L. stimulus grants

#### Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

**Purpose:** grants to assist communities in implementing energy efficiency and conservation strategies

**Examples:** reducing fossil fuel emissions, reducing total energy use, improving energy efficiency in buildings

#### Community Development Block Grant

**Purpose:** grants to provide communities with resources to address community development needs

**Examples:** providing decent housing and suitable living environments, opportunities to expand economic opportunities

SOURCES: U.S. COUNCIL OF MAYORS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

said the potential grant money could give property owners who upgrade the energy standards of their properties an advantage in attracting renters.

"I try to stay ahead of the curve, but I think students are much more sensitive to what the utility costs are than what they used to be," he said.

Bauries said although he replaced the windows in one of his rental homes last year with energy-efficient windows, there

are always improvements to be made.

"If the government wants to pitch in, that would be fine with me," he said.

International relations senior Alex Walker, who lives on Durand Street, said although energy conservation would not necessarily sway his decision in renting a house, insulation would be a factor to consider.

"In our house, insulation is a big deal," he said. "My room is

way cooler than the rest of the house."

Walker said students already pay a lot of "outrageous" charges, so paying less for heat would be helpful.

In addition to the energy efficiency and conservation grant, East Lansing expects to receive about \$160,000 in stimulus money for its Community Development Block Grant program, which is used for projects that create a suitable living environment. This money also could be used for rental rehabilitation, said state Rep. Mark Meadows, D-East Lansing.

"Not every rental is owned by a millionaire, and they are sometimes owned by folks that just have one rental and are just scraping by," he said.

However, Dempsey said the city has been focusing on using the community development money for owner-occu-

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## COUNCIL

## Grad student group elects new president

By Kayla Habermeil  
THE STATE NEWS

The annual Council of Graduate Students election dissolved into a heated debate during the questioning of presidential candidates Wednesday.

Allegations of misconduct — which were not discussed publicly — were voiced during the questioning of incumbent candidate for president Manish Madan and challenger Rachel Naegele.

Vice president for internal affairs Paul Curran announced he had conducted an internal investigation on Madan's activities as president and compiled a report, which was given to the council.

Naegele, previously the vice president for university relations, was eventually elected to the office of president.

Numerous council members expressed concern and anger that the report wasn't released until the election. Curran said he wanted to wait until it was complete. "It was something I've been piecing together for a month," Curran said. "I only got it together."

Curran compiled the report at the request of several representatives.

"I was given (the report) two minutes before the meeting. It was short and pointy, and with the recommendation that I withdraw or it would be brought out," Madan said.

After the report, which was not made available to the public, was presented, the council went into a closed session citing discussion of personnel matters. No member of the council spoke of who the specifics of the report while the group was in open session.

Marie Kaigler-Reese, a representative from the School of Journalism, said during the meeting she was appalled the allegations had come up in the way they did. She later withdrew her candidacy for the positions of vice president of university relations and treasurer.

"I can't be part of this organization anymore," Kaigler-Reese said during the meeting. "I cannot deny the dishonesty that went on here tonight."

Despite not being re-elected, Madan said he would continue to work to help move the council forward.

The council finished the elections Wednesday. Its next meeting is scheduled for April 15.

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A student housing group is purchasing a Co-op that was struggling with financial problems, page 3A

**Weather**  
Mostly sunny  
High 42° | Low 22°  
Three-day forecast, Page 2A