

Start spring off on the right foot by getting organized

LIFESTYLE, PAGE 1B



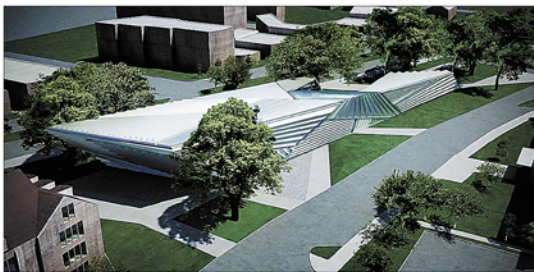
ANDREA ZAGATA | 5N

# The State News

University struggles to keep Broad museum under budget, on time

**CAUTION  
HARD HAT  
AREA**

(BUT NOT QUITE YET...)



DETROIT

## Auto plans rejected; Obama sets conditions

From staff and wire reports

President Barack Obama asserted unprecedented government control over the auto industry Monday, bluntly rejecting turnaround plans by General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC, demanding fresh concessions for long-term federal aid and raising the possibility of quick bankruptcy for either ailing auto giant.

Obama took the extraordinary step of announcing the government will back new car warranties issued by both GM and Chrysler, an attempt to reassure consumers their U.S.-made purchases will be protected even if the companies don't survive.

"I am absolutely committed to working with Congress and the auto companies to meet one goal: The United States of America will lead the world in building the next generation of clean cars," Obama said in his first extended remarks on the industry since taking office nearly two weeks ago. And yet, he added, "our auto industry is not moving in the right direction fast enough to succeed."

Obama, flanked by several administration officials at the White House, announced a short-term infusion of cash for the firms and said it could be the last for one or both.

Chrysler, judged by the administration as too small to survive, got 30 days' worth of funds to complete a partnership with Fiat SpA, an Italian manufacturer, or some other automaker.

GM got assurances of 60 days' worth of federal financing to try and revise its turnaround plan under new management with heavy government participation. That would involve concessions from its union workers and bondholders. The administration engineered the ouster of longtime CEO Rick Wagoner over the weekend, an indication of its deep involvement.

"Sixty days isn't going to solve everything," said John Reville, an MSU labor and industrial relations professor. "The administration is going to be waiting on a lot of details from both, especially Chrysler, and more plant closures are likely and it is definitely a disappointing thing to people in Michigan and the Midwest region."

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**TICKET TROUBLES**  
Students have problems buying Final Four tickets through SAF, page 3A



**Weather**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High 55° | Low 41°  
Three-day forecast, Page 2A



PHOTO RENDERINGS COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

By Justin Harris  
THE STATE NEWS

Winter is beginning to give way to warmth, but progress on MSU's new art museum — which was set to break ground this spring — remains frozen.

At the time of its announcement last January, projected cost for the building was about \$40 million. However, MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon said last week initial outside estimates for the entire project were about \$160 million — or roughly four times the original projected cost.

The problems are "based on confusion of competition," Simon told Residence Halls Association members. "I remain hopeful we'll get this thing done," she said.

Simon was traveling and was unable to comment further during the weekend.

The Broad Art Museum — a state-of-the-art facility set to be built at the Collingwood Drive entrance of campus — was announced last spring after London-based architect Zaha Hadid won an international competition to design the building.

Billionaire MSU alumnus Eli Broad and his wife Edythe donated \$26 million to the university to build the museum. Through other private donations, MSU said it would raise

the remaining \$14 million.

Simon told RHA that fundraising for the project is ongoing.

"If we get out of this economic crisis, the odds of raising money (are) much higher," she said.

**Bringing down the cost**

Although Simon raised the possibility for the cost of the facility exceeding earlier estimates, MSU's Associate Provost for Academic Services Linda Stanford said the museum will still be completed at or around the \$40-million mark.

"There were some issues with cost and making sure we had enough donations to make it happen," she said. "We're still close to that. It'll be close to \$40 million."

Stanford said the inflated budget estimate came after examining the feasibility of Hadid's winning design. The design had to be altered in order to make the project more cost-efficient, Stanford said.

All aspects of the design are being considered to lower costs, including the mate-

See BROAD on page 2A

CRIME

## Arrest made in sexual assaults

By Jacob Carpenter

THE STATE NEWS

A 28-year-old Lansing man faces up to 15 years in prison for two counts of sexual assault related to incidents that occurred within about an hour of each other on and near campus last week.

Benjamin Waltz has been charged with one count of second-degree criminal sexual assault, which carries a 15-year maximum prison sentence, and one count of fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct, which carries a two-year maximum sentence. He is being held on \$500,000 bond at the Ingham



Waltz

County Jail.

Waltz was arrested near Michigan Avenue and Harrison Road at about 1 a.m. Friday after police responded to the second of two assaults in the area.

The first victim, an 18-year-old female student, reported to MSU police that she had been inappropriately grabbed by a man at 11:45 p.m. Thursday as she walked near West Circle Drive and the Union, MSU police said. The victim was not injured.

She didn't report the assault until 1:30 a.m., about a half hour after Waltz's arrest. Her description of the suspect matched Waltz's appearance, MSU police Sgt. Florene McGlothlin-Taylor said.

The second victim, a 19-year-old female student, told police she was assaulted at the suspect at

about 1 a.m. as she walked to the door of a residence on the 300 block of North Harrison Road, East Lansing police Lt. Kevin Daley said.

The victim told police the suspect showed her a knife, made a derogatory remark and ripped her shirt before he fled, Daley said. The second victim later identified Waltz as the man who assaulted her, Daley said.

Immediately after the second assault, Waltz was arrested by MSU police as he walked along Michigan Avenue. A knife was found in his possession, Daley said.

"From the course of our investigation, it was determined that ours and (East See ASSAULTS on page 2A

LEGISLATION

## Bill in Senate could protect partygoers

By Chris Vannini

THE STATE NEWS

It's a common situation on college campuses — a student passes out after drinking too much alcohol. The student's friends have a decision to make: help the friend and risk receiving a minor in possession, or deal with the situation on their own.

A state Senate bill initiated by ASMSU aims to make the decision much easier.

A bill introduced by Sen. Liz Brater, D-Ann Arbor, last week would amend the Liquor Control Act. The current act mandates that any person under the age of 21 who is under the influence of alcohol be issued an MIP.

The proposed amendment would give communities the choice of letting law enforcement issue citations in medical emergencies.

"I've been afraid of incidents from U-M and MSU and other campuses where students have been with friends who have needed medical attention because of intoxication," Brater said.

"They were afraid of seeking help because fear of prosecution under minor-in-possession laws, so I'm trying to create a safe harbor for people that are acting as a good samaritan in seeking medical

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