

Three undrafted MSU football players have reached deals with NFL teams

TO FIND OUT WHO SIGNED WITH WHICH TEAMS, VISIT STATENEWS.COM



Then-senior defensive tackle Justin Kershaw eyes Notre Dame quarterback Jimmy Clausen during MSU's 23-7 win Sept. 20, 2008. Kershaw has signed with the Carolina Panthers.

The State News

skeleton KEYS

Forensic anthropology professors help local police stations debunk cases



PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. NORM SAUER

Doctors Norm Sauer, right, and Todd Fenton examine a bone in their laboratory. Sauer and Fenton have spent nearly 10 years working together on various cases and have led MSU in becoming one of the country's best forensic anthropology schools.

"It's critical — there's no way law enforcement could fund this by themselves. "We rely on universities to study for us."

Det. Jeff Pauli, Monroe County Sheriff's department

By Kyle Feldscher
THE STATE NEWS

Dr. Norm Sauer describes forensic anthropology in simple terms. "Most of the work that we do is looking at bones," he said. However, the value from the supposedly simple work Sauer and fellow forensic anthropologist Dr. Todd Fenton do in their fourth floor East Fee Hall laboratory is invaluable to the various law enforcement agencies they assist.

Working independently and together for more than 30 years, Sauer and Fenton have made MSU a national leader in forensic anthropology. In dozens of cases per year,

Sauer and Fenton have become go-to guys for police investigators who need help identifying bodies.

"One of my favorite parts (of being in forensic anthropology) is working with law enforcement," Fenton said. "It gets us working with different entities in the real world."

Cold case

Most recently, the two assisted in re-opening a 27-year-old cold case in Monroe County. The body of an unidentified woman was found on March 31, 1982, after washing up on the shore of Lake Erie near the Monroe County Power Plant.

After nearly three decades, investigators from the Monroe County Sheriff's Department this year exhumed the body to compare the remains to a possible murder victim in Canton Township, whose remains were never found.

Michigan State police Trooper Sarah Krebs recommended the body be sent to Sauer and Fenton's lab to perform a facial reconstruction. Krebs, a former student of Sauer's and an MSU alumna, said she always refers to Sauer and Fenton to help with reconstructions.

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UNIVERSITY

4 TO 5 PERCENT TUITION HIKE DEPENDS ON STATE FUNDING

By Kayla Habermehl
THE STATE NEWS

The MSU Board of Trustees is debating a 4 to 5 percent increase in tuition for the 2009-10 year, citing uncertainty surrounding federal economic stimulus money and less than anticipated state funding.

The stimulus at one point could have provided MSU with about \$80 million dollars over a three-year period, MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon said last Friday during MSU's board meeting.

Simon said she met with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi earlier last week. Pelosi said stimulus money was supposed to be used for higher education, but since Michigan has not yet balanced its budget it may use stimulus money to fill in the gaps, Simon said.

Simon said she doesn't know how much money, if any, MSU will receive.

"That would put us at a competitive disadvantage than some of our peers where their states are in a more stable financial situation and they are using stimulus money to aggressively grow programs they see necessary for the state's future," Simon said.

The state's budget must be finalized by Oct. 1, while the university's budget must be finalized by June 30.

Provost Kim Wilcox said planning the university's budget — which includes tuition changes — entails a certain amount of guesswork in regard to how much money MSU will receive from the state.

"It is the case every year; we kind of take the leap of faith with the state," Wilcox said. "We make our best guess of what we think the state support is going to be and we build the budget around that. The president has committed to adjusting the best we can to keep it whole."

MSU Board of Trustees member Dianne Byrum said the university was hoping to minimize the tuition increase with stimulus money, and tuition rates were directly tied to state support.

But tuition isn't the only avenue the university is considering to maintain its quality, Byrum said.

"We're not just looking at tuition increases as means to balance the budget — all things are in consideration and all things are on the table," she said. "We want to make sure that we keep the high value of an MSU degree intact — that quality is very

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AUTOS

GM cutting more jobs, may declare bankruptcy

From staff and wire reports

General Motors Corp. laid out a massive restructuring plan Monday that will cut 21,000 U.S. factory jobs by next year, phase out the storied Pontiac brand and could leave GM majority owned by the federal government.

GM is living on \$15.4 billion in government loans and said Monday in a filing with the U.S.

Securities and Exchange Commission that it envisions receiving an additional \$11.6 billion. But if GM's restructuring plan can't satisfy the government by June 1, the struggling company could go into bankruptcy protection.

GM CEO Fritz Henderson said the company still prefers to restructure outside of court, but he acknowledged that the prospect of bankruptcy is more likely now that it was a few

"It's been devastating, but this is better than if (GM) were to go out of business. It's just been an awfully painful way to downsize."

John Revitte, MSU professor of labor and industrial relations

weeks ago.

"The task at hand in terms of what we need to get done is formidable," Henderson said. "But it can be done." MSU professor of labor and

industrial relations John Revitte said the moves, while helpful, are still painful to watch.

"All of the announcements are potentially helpful and will be beneficial to getting them over

the hump and avoiding bankruptcy," he said. "But these moves are disappointing because this giant keeps getting smaller and smaller."

GM said it would speed up six additional factory closings that were announced in February, although it did not identify the locations.

Lansing auto workers

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SWINE FLU
Area health officials are preparing in the event that swine flu makes its way to Michigan, page 3A



Weather

Showers

High 58° | Low 40°

Three-day forecast, Page 2A