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CRIME

## E.L. explosion under police investigation

By Britany Shammass  
THE STATE NEWS

An apparent man-made explosion that occurred at about noon Tuesday near the corner of Michigan Avenue and Center Street is under investigation by the East Lansing Police Department.

Police are searching for the person who put an explosive device in the parking lot between Cron Management, 117 Center St., and Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave.

The one employee inside Cron Management was not injured, but the building suffered about a couple hundred dollars in minor damage to its exterior, East Lansing police Sgt. Scott Wriggelsworth said.

The explosion produced a "very loud bang," East Lansing police Chief Tom Wibert said.

"It was pretty loud," said Amanda Chmielewski, who was working at Harrison Roadhouse when she heard the explosion. "Like a firework, I would say." Police are investigating the explosion as an intentional act, Wibert said.

The device used is unknown, Wriggelsworth said. It could be a bomb or firework, he added. "It wasn't a freak of nature," Wriggelsworth said.

Wriggelsworth said he was unsure whether the device was homemade or purchased. Wibert said police have no suspects but are searching for the person or people responsible. Police initially believed the explosion to be electrical, but Consumer's Energy confirmed there was no gas leaking in the area, Wibert said.

"It was definitely not something like a car backfiring or a gasoline leak or anything like that," he said. "We're collecting evidence and actually actively looking for anyone who did this."

Anyone with information should call the East Lansing Police Department at (517) 351-4220.

# Weeding out the issue

Medical marijuana draws debate throughout state as patients seek it



KATIE RAUSCH/THE STATE NEWS

**Danny Trevino, owner of Hydroworld Hydroponics, 700 W. Barnes Ave., in Lansing, answers a student's question while teaching a free class on medical marijuana at his store. Trevino, who conducts the classes in two-hour sessions throughout the course of three days, told his students he was committed to teaching as many people as possible how to obtain the legal permits required to grow and provide medical marijuana.**

"What I wish is that there were a more formal way to handle the actual drug."

Tom Wibert, East Lansing police chief

By Zane McMillin  
THE STATE NEWS

With the automobile industry in shambles, Danny Trevino said Michigan needs a new identity. To him, that identity is medical marijuana. "There are two other states that are going to capitalize (on it) in the country," he said. "It's either going to be Michigan or California. Michigan deserves it. We have nothing, and medical marijuana is a nice way out."

The 37-year-old owner of Hydroworld Hydroponics, 700 W. Barnes Ave., in Lansing, is offering three-day medical marijuana growing classes at his store free of charge.

After people kept coming into Trevino's store, asking him how to produce medical marijuana, he decided to start holding classes.

"It just blew up from that point on," he said. "I just got busy as hell. I also post billboards up all over. It lets people know what I'm about."

Since starting the classes in January, Trevino has taught hundreds of potential medical marijuana patients and care-

givers how to grow pot using fake plants, while educating them about the law and its stipulations.

"It's been excellent," he said. "The classes are fun and really effective. They can even call me for help as they're growing their stuff."

Although Proposal 1 passed and growing marijuana for medicinal purposes is now legal, officials throughout the state still are debating how to effectively implement medical marijuana.

East Lansing police Chief Tom Wibert said he is not opposed to medical marijuana when people obtain it legally, but there are many unanswered questions about the issue.

"What I wish is that there

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EAST LANSING

## CITY COUNCIL APPROVES RESURFACING OF MT. HOPE

By Kate Jacobson  
THE STATE NEWS

Mount Hope Road might soon see an \$800,000 face-lift after the East Lansing City Council approved a state-funded revitalization at Tuesday's meeting.

The City Council approved a bid from the Michigan Department of Transportation, or MDT, to reconstruct the road from the city's eastern limits to its western ones at its 7 p.m. meeting Tuesday at City Hall, 410 Abbott Road.

The stretch of road that would be resurfaced would range from the west bridge over US-127 to the east, almost to Farm Lane.

East Lansing's director of public works, Todd Sneathen, said MDT placed a bid to do the Mount Hope Road project with federal stimulus money.

City officials and MDT wanted to quickly move the project along to avoid problems with fall move-in and sporting events on campus.

"We've been working with MDT to try and move this along so we don't have a conflict with MSU," Sneathen said.

The first leg of construction will close Mount Hope Road west of Harrison Road. Sneathen said MDT is projected to begin construction July 27, but it could begin anywhere from late July to early August.

The \$16 million City Center II project also was discussed at the council's meeting. The project's developer, Strathmore Development Company, asked for a 90-day extension to acquire the remainder of funding for the project. The new deadline would be Sept. 31.

This will be the fourth extension the developer has asked for since October 2008.

Strathmore President Scott Chappelle said he still characterizes the project as moving forward, but because of the poor economy, has not been able to acquire all the funds necessary for the project.

"In Michigan specifically, (the markets) continue to deteriorate

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UNIVERSITY

## Global experience now vital to student mind

By Kayla Habermehl  
THE STATE NEWS

Global education initiatives remain more important than ever, despite a sluggish economy, university officials said.

And although study abroad participation is projected to be about 13 percent less than last year, an international experience can add flare to a résumé.

"I think in today's environment, (international experience) is something you can't do very well without," said David Griffith, John William Blything Endowed Chair in Global Marketing at MSU. "All businesses understand the world is a global marketplace."

Initial data from the MSU Office of Study Abroad for the 2008-09 year shows about 2,700 students are participating or plan to participate in study abroad. The number won't be finalized until August, but is lower than last year by about 400 students.

Despite that, international internships have increased about 12 percent, from 181

in 2007-08 to 202 in 2008-09, according to the Office of Study Abroad.

Marketing junior Molly Mann is participating in the Marketing and International Comparative Dimensions of Business in France, Italy and Belgium program this summer and said studying abroad is a good way to get credits while experiencing other cultures.

"I think just noticing the cultural difference between countries is important, especially if I decided to go into international business," Mann said. "We also do a lot of group work and presentations which will help me in the future."

Griffith said a student's area of study affects where the student should focus.

"(Students) need to think long-term (about) what job they want and where their career is going, then select the language and market where they're going," he said. "To me, it's a personal decision based on career goals because that becomes more valuable to the employee and more to the individual."

These experiences can be study abroad, an international internship or courses at MSU, Griffith said.

Provost Kim Wilcox said students' international experiences and education can help Michigan progress into the future by adding ideas from around the world.

"When we were founded in 1855, it took a day to travel 20 to 30 miles — now we can go around the world in a day," he said. "In 1855, most of the commerce was local; most of the influences that shaped people's lives were local. Commerce is now international."

"We have to be engaged with the broad world," Wilcox said.

Although the economy has caused participation in MSU programs such as study abroad to decline, the effect was not as much as expected, said John Hudzik, vice president for global advancement and strategic projects at MSU. Hudzik, who also is president of the National Association of Foreign Stu-

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## ON TO GAME Seven



Ali Daneshvar, left, and Tim Methric, right, both medical students, react alongside fellow fans and bargoers at Dublin Square Irish Pub as the Detroit Red Wings miss a close goal on the third period, sealing their loss in Game 6 of the Stanley Cup finals. The Red Wings lost to the Pittsburgh Penguins 2-1.

KATIE RAUSCH/THE STATE NEWS

For a video of fans reacting to the Wings' 2-1 loss to the Penguins, visit [stateneews.com/multimedia](http://stateneews.com/multimedia).