

Hitting Close to Home



SEAN COOK/THE STATE NEWS

Business and law graduate student Samir Patel stands outside the fences of the partially demolished Lansing Craft Centre, a specialized General Motors assembly plant that closed in 2006. Patel was offered an internship with GM in Detroit in December and accepted the offer understanding that its future was uncertain given the economic conditions. In February, Samir's internship was rescinded by GM and he is now taking a summer class in its place.

By Meredith Skrzypczak
THE STATE NEWS

Some students are learning to expect the unexpected as the automotive industry, a foundation of Michigan's economy, crumbles around them. The impact of the bankruptcies at Chrysler LLC and General Motors Corp., has not passed by MSU and instead is hitting hard on the lives of students.

After accepting an internship offer from GM, Samir Patel, a business and law graduate student, felt secure about his plans for the summer.

"When I got the offer I thought, 'Yes, I have an internship, now I don't have to worry about it,'" Patel said.

In hopes of fulfilling an internship requirement, Patel attended a career fair in September and interviewed with GM the

next day. The company extended an offer in November and Patel accepted in December, even though at that point, GM's future was unclear.

"I knew the trouble GM was in, but I knew that I didn't know what was going to happen in the economy in the future," he said. "I had something in my hand and I said, 'I'm going to take it right now.'"

He turned away offers from other companies as he accepted and planned on working for GM.

"It was the offer on the table at the time and I really didn't think about it for a couple of

weeks before I accepted it," Patel said.

In late February, Patel received a phone call and learned his internship offer had been rescinded. Patel said it might have been because of his limited work experience, which was in bankruptcy law, that cost him the job.

"I knew (losing the internship) was a possibility," he said.

"Since then I have been working for whatever I could. I never actually found another internship."

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Samir Patel, business and law graduate student

you oughta know

NEWS GM narrows down locations to build new factory

Detroit — General Motors Corp. has narrowed down the locations where it could build its new small car to factories in either Michigan, Tennessee or Wisconsin.

GM is considering plants in Orion Township, Mich., Spring Hill, Tenn., or Janesville, Wis., as possible sites. Those Michigan and Tennessee factories are set to end production this fall but will remain on "standby."

The Wisconsin plant shut down in April. GM originally planned to build a new small car in China. Last month it said it would build it in the U.S. as a union concession.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEWS Researchers surprised by juvenile delinquent study results

A study by a group of researchers, including a current MSU student, found a high prevalence of psychiatric disorders among juvenile delinquents after nine months of incarceration.

Researchers, who initially expected rates of psychiatric disorders to decrease over time of incarceration, were surprised at the results.

An MSU expert on adolescent delinquents challenged the validity of the percentage rates found by the researchers, saying they were overly high.

The findings indicate a need for treatment in juvenile delinquency centers, the researchers said. For more, see Page 3

BRITANNY SHAMMAS

NEWS Campus museum buys 17th-century painting

The Kresge Art Museum, which turns 50 this year, purchased a new painting, "An Estuary with Row and Sail Boats," by 17th century Dutch painter Jan van Goyen. The painting was purchased after being seen at TEFAF Maastricht, an international art fair in the Netherlands. The painting was purchased with funds made available from the Emma Grace Holmes Endowment.

Van Goyen, who was born in 1596, was thought to have made about 1200 paintings in his lifetime, said Susan J. Bandes, director of the Kresge Art Museum.

It will be on display through July 31. The museum will close for the summer and will reopen on Sept. 8. For more, see Page 3

DANIEL LUSCOMBE

FEATURES New Stardeath and White Dwarfs album hit and miss

The latest album "The Birth" by Stardeath and White Dwarfs sounds similar to Pink Floyd and would appeal to fans who prefer music that isn't mainstream. Their music would be appreciated by those who care for that genre of music and aren't more interested in something fast and upbeat. It's classified as alternative and sounds like it belongs in the 1970s. The laid-back approach the band takes shows in the amount of effort they put into the not-so creative song lyrics. While the CD has more negative aspects than it does positive aspects, the vocals and instrumentalists are talented. Despite the good qualities the band has to offer, this album is best left on a shelf. For more, see Page 8

KRYSTLE WAGNER